

150th Anniversary of the Birth of Gustav Mahler

20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall

This year Butler University, in conjunction with a number of Indianapolis arts and cultural organizations, will present an extended series of events to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Gustav Mahler and the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Many of these events are free.

Because of your interest and connections to German/Austrian culture, we are taking the liberty of e-mailing you the attached news release (and in the body of this email below) which details this year's celebration of German Cultural Expression.

If you have any questions about the series, please contact us at Butler University, at 317/940-9653. You can also check on-line for updates to the schedule at www.butler.edu/jcfa .

Sincerely,
Peter Alexander
Dean, Jordan College of Fine Arts

* * * * *

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 14, 2009

*Butler University Presents The Mahler Project
Events to be held throughout 2009-2010 school year*

INDIANAPOLIS A Laban Movement Choir featuring more than 1,000 people participating in choreographed movement on the Butler Bowl football field will be among the first events in The Mahler Project, a yearlong program presented by Butler University and numerous Indianapolis arts and community organizations to honor the 150th anniversary of the birth of composer Gustav Mahler, commemorate the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and celebrate Germanic creative expression.

The University, the American Pianists Association, the German Consulate, Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis Opera, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Max Kade Center at IUPUI and WFYI-FM (90.1) all will participate in presenting music, dance, theatre and other performances, lectures, films

and broadcasts, most of which will be free and open to the public.

For more information, call (317) 940-9231.

³Vienna at the dawn of 20th century and Berlin in the 1920s were both vibrant arts centers that witnessed a burst of creative energy and an explosion of expressive possibilities,² said Peter Alexander, dean of Butler's Jordan College of Fine Arts. ³Artists such as Gustav Mahler, Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Kurt Weill, Bertolt Brecht, Richard Strauss and many others created works that were controversial then but have become acknowledged masterpieces.

³This was the period of Freud's Vienna and the Weimar Republic, one that still has tremendous appeal, impact and influence. The Mahler Project will explore art, music, dance and film from this period examining the arts in a social and political context that eventually led to two world wars and ultimately to the creation of modern Europe.²

The schedule of events follows. All events are at Butler unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Sept. 10

Leadership through the Arts Forum Lecture: Alessandra Comini
"The Two Gustavs: Mahler, Klimt, and Vienna's Golden Decade, 1897-1907"
7:30 p.m., Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

Free of charge

Awarded the Grand Decoration of Honor by the Republic of Austria for contributions to Germanic culture, and voted "outstanding professor" nineteen times by her students at Columbia and Southern Methodist Universities, Comini has published eight books in the fields of art history and musical iconography, concentrating on 19th and 20th century Vienna. Her publications range from Egon Schiele's Portraits (nominated for a National Book Award) to *The Changing Image of Beethoven: A Study in Mythmaking*. This evening's lecture focuses on the hurdles and prickly reception imperial Vienna afforded the works of its leading composer and painter and explores the interlocking history of both men with the aspiring composer Alma Schindler Mahler.

Saturday, Sept. 12

Dress Rehearsal: Laban Movement Choir

5-9 p.m. Butler Bowl (football field)

To participate, contact Cynthia Pratt at (317) 940-9345.

Saturday, Sept. 19

Laban Movement Choir Performance

6 p.m., Butler Bowl (football field)

Free of charge

In addition to the analysis of movement and his dance experimentations, Rudolf Laban was also a proponent of dance for the masses. Toward this end, Laban developed the art of "movement choir," wherein large numbers of people move together in some choreographed manner, but one that can include personal expression.

Sunday, Sept. 20

School of Music Ensemble Showcase Concert

3 p.m., Clowes Memorial Hall

Free of charge

The Butler Symphony Orchestra will perform Gustav Mahler's only tone poem, the rarely heard ³Totenfeier² (³Death Celebration²). The composer later reworked ³Totenfeier,² transforming it into the first movement of his second symphony, the Resurrection. The Butler Wind Ensemble will perform Mahler's only work for Wind Ensemble, ³Um Mitternacht,² with soprano Nancy Davis Booth, as well as ³Festive Overture² by Dmitri Schostakovich and ³Country Band March² by Charles Ives. The Butler Chorale, directed by Dr. Eric Stark, will also perform selected works.

Friday, Sept. 24

Poetry Reading by Norbert Krapf, Indiana Poet Laureate

³Buried Treasures: Recovering German Heritage Through Poetry and Music²

7:30 p.m., Robertson Hall, Johnson Room

Free of charge

Indiana Poet Laureate Norbert Krapf will recite his German roots poems and his American English translations of early Rainer Maria Rilke poems to the accompaniment of original and traditional music, including jazz, by his pianist collaborator Monika Herzig and friends. Claudia Grossmann, like Monika, a native of Southern Germany, will read the Rilke poems in the original German. Hosted by Butler Theatre.

Friday, Oct. 2 and Sunday, Oct. 4

Indianapolis Opera presents Ariadne auf Naxos

Oct. 2 at 8 p.m.; Oct. 4 at 2 p.m., Clowes Memorial Hall

Call (317) 283-3470 for ticket information

Music by Richard Strauss; Libretto by Hugo von Hofmannsthal. Performed in German with English supertitles. With singers Angela Brown, Jane Dutton, Rachele Gilmore and Arnold Rawls accompanied by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra conducted by James Caraher.

Pre-performance lecture begins at 7:15 p.m./1:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 3 and Friday, Oct. 23

Film at the IMA: ³The Rape of Europa²

Oct. 3 at 1:30 p.m.; Oct. 23 at 7 p.m., The Toby at the IMA

Tickets: \$9 public/\$5 IMA member/Students free with ID (available at door only). Purchase tickets at www.imamuseum.org/, by calling (317) 955-2339 or at the door.

³The Rape of Europa² (2006, dir. R. Berge, B. Cohen and N. Hewnham, 117 min, NR; shown in 35mm)

Denied admission to art school, Adolf Hitler used the theft of art as a weapon during World War II. This documentary, narrated by Joan Allen, examines Nazi looting of the great museums and private art collections of Europe in an attempt to obliterate cultural identities. The film's epic scope explores a descendant of painter Gustav Klimt's flight to regain a portrait of her aunt, Louvre staff members who packed and moved 400,000 pieces of art as the Nazis advanced and the ³Monuments Men² who plumbed salt mines to recover stolen art after the war. The Oct. 3 screening includes a post-film discussion featuring IMA associate curator Annette Schlagenhauff and chief registrar Kathryn Haigh. Presented in collaboration with the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Faculty Artist Recital: Mary Anne Scott ³Mahler S and More²

7:30 p.m., Eidson-Duckwall Recital Hall

Free of charge

Songs and arias by Gustav Mahler and his contemporaries, including Alma Mahler, Richard Strauss, Joseph Marx and Erich Korngold. With baritone Mark Gilgallon, accompanied by Rebecca Edie.

Wednesday, Oct. 7 - Sunday, Oct. 11

Butler Theater presents Bertolt Brecht's The Caucasian Chalk Circle (Der Kaukasische Kreidekreis)

Oct. 7-10 at 8 p.m.; Oct. 10-11 at 2 p.m., Lilly Hall 168

Tickets: \$10 general admission/\$5 student

Directed by Owen Schaub. The Caucasian Chalk Circle transforms an ancient Chinese tale into a parable for modern audiences. During the course of the play we follow the journey of a naïve servant girl as she raises a baby boy abandoned by its aristocratic mother in her haste to escape the consequences of a revolution. Pursued by those with only political and economic interests in the child, the girl is eventually caught and brought to trial before a corrupt but wise judge. Through the test of the chalk circle Brecht argues that resources, human or otherwise, should go to those that provide the best care.

Sunday, Oct. 11 and Oct. 18

WFYI TV 20-1

³Germans in America²

2-4 p.m

In a four-part television series, Germans in America recounts the story of German immigrants to the United States, using gripping stories about naive

settlers and successful farmers, about devout free-thinkers and political refugees, about the heyday of the German-language press in America, and about the founders of industrial dynasties in the new homeland. Sixty million Americans have their origins in German-speaking countries. As America's largest ethnic group, the Germans made a significant mark on America's cultural, business, and public life for centuries until their identity fell victim to feelings of shame and repression during and after two World Wars. But their achievements are still the basis for much of American culture.

www.germansinamerica.org

Sunday, Oct. 11

Butler Symphony Orchestra plays Mahler Symphony No. 4

3 p.m., Clowes Memorial Hall

Free of charge

The BSO will be joined by Butler soprano Nancy Davis Booth for a performance of one of Mahler's most celebrated works. The last movement musically depicts a child's vision of heaven, yet with dark overtones. Rounding out the program will be the beautiful Adagietto, from the fifth symphony, the composer's only composition for strings and harp.

Thursday, Oct. 29

Film at the IMA: ³Nosferatu²

7 p.m., The Toby at the IMA

Tickets: \$9 public/\$5 IMA member/Students free with ID (available at door only). Purchase tickets at www.imamuseum.org/, by calling (317) 955-2339 or at the door.

³Nosferatu² (dir. F. W. Murnau, Germany, 1922, 94 min, shown in 16mm)

Selected by the Village Voice as one of the 100 best films of the 20th century, ³Nosferatu² is one of the first horror films in movie history and a great early example of stylistic, rather than realistic, cinema. Based heavily on Bram Stoker's Dracula, Murnau's atmospheric, visually striking film follows Count Orlok (Max Schreck), a reclusive, grotesque nobleman with very vampiric habits. The bloodthirsty fellow wreaks havoc on a curious couple. There will be a short pre-film talk by Butler University Fairbanks Professor and Department of Media Arts chair Kenneth Creech, and Ensemble 48 will perform the live soundtrack. This program is presented in collaboration with the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Thursday, Oct. 29

WFYI TV 20-1

Film ³The Rape of Europa²

9-11 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 5

Film at the IMA: ³Metropolis²

7 p.m., The Toby at the IMA

Tickets: \$9 public/\$5 IMA member/Students free with ID (available at door only). Purchase tickets at www.imamuseum.org/, by calling (317) 955-2339 or at the door.

³Metropolis² (dir. Fritz Lang, Germany, 1927, 153 min, shown in 35mm)
Perhaps the most influential of all silent films, Lang's sci-fi masterpiece, written by his wife Thea Von Harbou, is set in the dystopia of 2026, when the populace is divided between workers who must live underground and the rich who enjoy a city of splendor. A man (Gustav Froehlich) from the upper class abandons his privileged life to join oppressed workers in a revolt. The film had by far the largest budget of any film to date, and has endured as a work of innovative cinematic innovation and imagination, from his modernist set designs to breakthrough special effects. There will be a short pre-film talk by Butler University Fairbanks Professor and Department of Media Arts chair Kenneth Creech, and Ensemble 48 will perform the live soundtrack. This program is presented in collaboration with the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Sunday, Nov. 8

Butler Choirs and Symphony Orchestra play Mahler Symphony No. 2 ("Resurrection")

3 p.m. Clowes Memorial Hall

Free of charge

(At 2 p.m., to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall (Nov. 9), people who were present at the event will discuss the experience in a pre-concert panel discussion.)

On the eve of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Butler Symphony Orchestra, Butler Chorale, University Choir and soprano Nancy Davis Booth will perform Mahler's second symphony, the Resurrection, a musical tribute to the rebirth of hope. A reception will follow the concert.

Monday, Nov. 9, 2009

20th Anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall

Monday, Nov. 9

www.Germany.info/withoutwalls

Thursday, Nov. 19

Lecture: ³German Immigrants and their Contributions to Cultural Life in Indianapolis²

7 p.m., Damenverein Room, Athenaeum (401 East Michigan St.)

Free of charge

During the second half of the 19th century, many immigrants from German-speaking countries arrived in Indianapolis and made a significant and lasting impact on the cultural landscape and civic life of Indianapolis.

Families such as the Vonnegut's, Lieber's and Frenzel's contributed much to

the economic growth of the city. Claudia Grossmann, IUPUI German program director, will highlight contributions of German immigrants to the city prior to WWI.

Friday, Feb. 12 Saturday, Feb. 13

Butler Ballet presents the annual Midwinter Dance Festival

8 p.m., Clowes Memorial Hall

Ticket prices range from \$28.50 to \$14.50.

Butler Ballet's annual mixed repertoire concert will include *Dark Elegies*, choreographed by Antony Tudor and first produced by the Ballet Rambert at the Duchess Theatre, London, in 1937. Set to Mahler's

Kindertotenlieder (*Songs of Childhood Death*), *Dark Elegies* is widely recognized as one of Tudor's seminal works that greatly influenced all contemporary ballet.

Saturday, April 11

Butler Wind Ensemble Concert

3 p.m., Clowes Memorial Hall

Free of charge

In honor of Holocaust Remembrance Day, the wind ensemble presents a concert of *Entartete Musik*, the so-called *decadent music*, banned by the Nazis.

In a huge exposition of propaganda, the Nazis vilified any music written by Jews, Blacks, Slavs and anything that smacked of jazz or jazz influences.

Under the brutal regime of the Third Reich, composers of Jewish heritage had to flee for their lives, and in some cases died at the hands of the Nazis.

The concert will include *A Little Three penny Music* by Kurt Weill; the *Concerto for String Quartet and Wind Ensemble* by Ervin Schulhoff; *La Creation du Monde* by Darius Milhaud; *Intrada* by Berthold Goldschmidt; and the *Symphony in Bb* by Paul Hindemith.

July 7, 2010

150th Anniversary of the birth of Gustav Mahler

July 7, 1860 May 18, 1911

OTHER RELATED EVENTS

Sunday, Oct. 4

American Pianists Association

Beethoven and Brew

5 - 8 p.m., with performance beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Rathskeller Biergarten, Athenaeum

\$50 per person; ticket includes beer tasting of eight German regional beers, dinner and live music played by John Salmon.

Tickets: www.americanpianists.org or (317) 940-9945

Saturday, Nov. 7

Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra

Beethoven Symphony No. 9

8 p.m., Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center, University of Indianapolis

University of Indianapolis chorus

Kathleen Hacker, soprano; Mitzi Westra, mezzo-soprano; Michael Sylvester, tenor; Thomas Schurich, baritone

Friday, May 21 at 8 p.m.

Saturday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m.

Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra

Mahler Symphony No. 2 (³Resurrection²)

Hilbert Circle Theatre

With the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir

Karina Gauvin, soprano; Susanne Mentzer, mezzo soprano

About Butler University

Challenging and enabling students to meet their personal and professional goals has guided Butler University since 1855. Today, Butler is a nationally recognized comprehensive university that blends the liberal arts with first-rate pre-professional programs. Butler is known for its vibrant campus, superior academics and dedicated faculty. The university enrolls more than 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students in five academic colleges: Business Administration, Education, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and Fine Arts. Located just six miles from downtown Indianapolis, Butler's urban setting affords students internship opportunities that provide excellent graduate school and career preparation.

####

Contact: Marc Allan

Work phone (317) 940-9822

Cell phone (317) 501-7999

Email mallan@butler.edu