

Adam Stern and The Sammamish Symphony Orchestra Launch the 25th Anniversary Season with Schubert and E.B. White on October 21 Featuring Renowned Actor Kurt Beattie

Press Release - September 25, 2016 - Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Sammamish Symphony Orchestra the 2016-2017 Season opens with Schubert's 8th Symphony, often referred to as his unfinished symphony. Incomplete it may be, but Franz Schubert's eighth symphony is still a perfect masterpiece; a miraculous combination of passion, darkness and beauty. Also on the program, Seattle-based actor Kurt Beattie, longtime artistic director of ACT Theatre, joins the Sammamish Symphony for a rare performance of Benjamin Lees' setting of *The Trumpet of the Swan* by beloved author E. B. White. Kurt Beattie shared, "*Adam has composed three scores for me. All of them superb, and all of them remarkably different. He has a knowledge of the repertoire that is second to none, and always brings forth forgotten gems.*"

Concert and Program Details

Two Performances

Friday, October 21, 2016 at 7:30 pm - Meydenbauer Theatre, Bellevue, WA

Sunday, October 30, 2016 at 2:00 pm - Eastlake Performing Arts Center, Sammamish

Franz Schubert – *Symphony No. 8, "Unfinished"*

Benjamin Lees – *The Trumpet of the Swan-Featuring guest artist Kurt Beattie*

Jean Sibelius – *Karelia Suite, Spring Song, and Finlandia*

Edward Elgar – *Elegy in memory of R. Joseph Scott*

About Kurt Beattie



Kurt Beattie has been creating theatre for Puget Sound audiences for over 40 years as an actor, playwright, and director. He served as Artistic Director at ACT Theatre for twelve years. Among the many productions he has directed at ACT include those with scores composed by Adam Stern; *The Pillowman*, *Double Indemnity*, *Art*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Beattie currently holds the title of Artistic Director Emeritus at ACT Theatre.

Photo Credit: John Ulman

About Adam Stern

Adam Stern has been leading the Sammamish Symphony Orchestra as Music Director and Conductor since 2015. Stern's unique programming combines beloved masterworks with must-hear rarities; his programs are not merely concerts, but true musical events. In September 2015 came word of two new appointments for Stern: Music Director of the Sammamish Symphony, and Assistant Conductor/Visiting "Pops" Conductor of the Oregon Coast Music Festival for the summer of 2016. Following Stern's OCMF debut, he was immediately promoted to Associate Conductor and permanent "Pops" conductor of the Festival. Stern has also served as Conductor for Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra since 2003. During his tenure he has brought numerous world, U.S., West Coast and Northwest premieres to the Puget Sound community.



Photo Credit: Sammamish Symphony

About the Sammamish Symphony

Celebrating 25 years this season, The Sammamish Symphony Orchestra performs on the Sammamish Plateau, in downtown Bellevue and various locations in the Seattle area. The Sammamish Symphony is committed to offering quality music at affordable prices for Eastside residents. The Sammamish Symphony Orchestra also performs two Summer Pops concerts free of charge. The volunteer ensemble provides opportunity for talented, dedicated musicians to perform with a full symphony orchestra. In addition, the Orchestra promotes involvement in the arts for young musicians who are given the chance to participate in classical and pops concerts and sponsors an annual Youth Concerto competition. For tickets and more information please visit the Sammamish Symphony Orchestra at <http://www.sammamishsymphony.org>