

## British Violinist Anthony Marwood Joins the Jacksonville Symphony in Requiem for an Angel

“For me, there are few moments in music that have such power and such a sense of joy, completeness, rightness and deep, deep love.” - Courtney Lewis

Jacksonville, FL (January 24, 2018) --- In a program full of emotion, the Jacksonville Symphony will perform English composer Benjamin Britten’s incredible *Sinfonia da Requiem* paired with fellow Englishman Edward Elgar’s remarkable Symphony No. 1. In between the two, the Symphony will welcome masterful violinist Anthony Marwood to perform Alban Berg’s Violin Concerto.

**WHO:** British violinist **Anthony Marwood** is known worldwide as an artist of expressive force. According to *The Guardian*, “the radiant intensity of Marwood’s playing had extraordinary emotional power.” Marwood is a solo classical violinist, performing with acclaimed orchestras around the world. He was born in London and studied with Emanuel Hurwitz at the Royal Academy of Music, David Takeno at the Guildhall School of Music and took lessons from Sándor Végh and Daniel Phillips at IMS Prussia Cove. He was named Instrumentalist of the Year by the Royal Philharmonic Society in 2006 and was the violinist of the Florestan Trio for 16 years. This year, Marwood was named Member of the British Empire (MBE), a British order of chivalry that rewards contributions to the arts and sciences, work with charitable and welfare organizations and public service. He is co-artistic director of the Peasmarsh Chamber Music Festival in East Sussex and performs annually at the Yellow Barn Festival in Vermont.

**WHAT:** Britten’s *Sinfonia da Requiem* was written by Benjamin Britten at the age of 27. In recent years, this work has emerged as one of the composer’s most powerful works full of orchestral color from beginning to end.

Berg’s **Violin Concerto** is divided into two movements, each with two contrasting parts. The violin concert was the last work that Berg composed. He entitled the work, “to the memory of an angel.” The angel was Manon Gropius, the daughter of Alma Mahler (widow of Gustav Mahler) and architect Walter Gropius. He wrote the work in an incredibly short amount of time and still managed to create a work that enraptures audiences with its intense emotional capacity.

Elgar’s **Symphony No. 1** is the emotional and musical climax of the concert. The spectrum of Elgar’s symphony encompasses doubt, confidence, anger and joy; a complete emotional journey through music. At its premiere on December 3, 1907, the English tabloid *The Daily Mail* said this of Elgar’s symphony: “It’s quite plain that here we have perhaps the finest masterpiece of its type that ever came from the pen of an English composer.”

“For me, there are few moments in music that have such power and such a sense of joy, completeness, rightness and deep, deep love. We end this concert of requiems not with death, but with life.” ~ Music Director Courtney Lewis

**CONCERTMASTER SEARCH:** During the extensive search for a new concertmaster, the Jacksonville Symphony will be bringing in seven candidates to perform with the Symphony during the season. For this concert, **Stephen Tavani** will take the stage with Courtney Lewis and the Symphony.

Violinist Stephen Tavani was recently appointed as the new concertmaster of the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, where he holds the Joseph and Marie Field Chair. As a soloist, he has performed with Carlos Miguel Prieto and the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, the National Repertory Orchestra, the American Youth Symphony, the Brentwood Westwood Symphony and others. Tavani recently has served as guest concertmaster for the Louisiana Philharmonic as well as concertmaster for ensembles including the Curtis Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra, the Colburn Orchestra and the Youth Orchestra of n Americas.

**WHEN:** This concert will be held at 8 p.m. on Friday, February 2 and Saturday, February 3, 2018.

**WHERE:** The concerts will take place in Jacoby Symphony Hall in the Times-Union Center for Performing Arts.

**TICKETS:** For more information or to purchase tickets, please call the Ticket Office at 904.354.5547 or visit [JaxSymphony.org](http://JaxSymphony.org).

**SPONSORS:** This concert is a part of the Florida Blue Masterworks Series.

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The Jacksonville Symphony is North Florida's leading music nonprofit offering live performances at Jacoby Hall in the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts and other venues throughout the area. In addition, the Symphony provides music instruction for youth and operates the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra. For more information about the Symphony, visit [JaxSymphony.org](http://JaxSymphony.org), like them at [facebook.com/JaxSymphony](https://facebook.com/JaxSymphony), follow them on @jaxsymphony, on Instagram at JaxSymphony and on YouTube at JacksonvilleSymphony.