

## JACKSONVILLE SYMPHONY PAIRS WAGNER WITH RAVEL IN *DAPHNIS AND CHLOE*

Jacksonville, FL (February 6, 2019) --- On February 15 & 16, the Jacksonville Symphony will perform Wagner's *Parsifal* Prelude & Good Friday Spell with Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*.

**Who:** The performance will be led by Symphony **Music Director Courtney Lewis** and will feature both the **Jacksonville Symphony Chorus** and members of the **University of North Florida Chorale**.

The all-volunteer **Jacksonville Symphony Chorus**, under the direction of Donald McCullough, has been accompanying performances by the Jacksonville Symphony for more than three decades and includes many professional musicians, skilled amateur performers and college students on its roster. Some of the most recent performances by the Chorus have included distinguished works such as *The Dream of Gerontius* and Handel's *Messiah*.

The **University of North Florida Chorale** has been entertaining audiences since the university first opened its doors. This choir draws singers across campus from every field of study and from the Jacksonville community. Most recent masterworks performed include Elgar's *The Dream Of Gerontius* with the Jacksonville Symphony and the Fauré *Requiem*. Upcoming works include Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé* and Verdi's *Requiem* with the Jacksonville Symphony. Auditions are open to all UNF students and alums and take place the week prior to each semester. Chorale rehearses Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9:30pm.

**A Program Fit for Valentine's Day:** As different as the music of Maurice Ravel is from Richard Wagner's, the German's influence on *Daphnis et Chloé* is unmistakable. Music from Wagner's final, and by many accounts greatest, opera sets the stage for music from Ravel's grand ballet. These two works swim in resplendent themes and colors, and weave drama into music that needs no words.

Ravel's beautifully written ballet music *Daphnis et Chloé* embodies one of the greatest Greek romances, written hundreds of years ago. The original tale tells a classic love story of a boy, Daphnis, and a girl, Chloe. Orphaned at a young age, both are raised as shepherds. The young pair eventually falls in love but is separated by a series of dramatic events. But, our young couple has a happy ending that makes Ravel's piece the perfect musical event for Valentine's Day.

**When:** The performances will take place on Friday, February 15 and Saturday, February 16, both at 8 p.m.

**Where:** The concert will be held in Jacoby Symphony Hall at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts.

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

**Sponsors:** *Daphnis and Chloe* 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 Symphony 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 Orchestras. 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.