

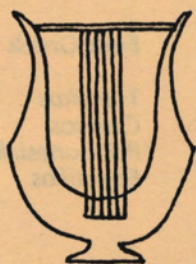
**The Hellenic Professional Society of Texas**

in cooperation with

**The Shepherd School of Music**

Presents

**The Houston Sinfonietta**



**Hamman Hall  
Rice University**

**Sunday, January 22, 1989, 3:00 p.m.**

## PROGRAM

**Aaron Copland**

**Fanfare for the Common Man**

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**

**Symphony No. 40 in G-minor**

*Allegro Molto*

*Andante*

*Menuetto*

*Allegro Assai*

## Intermission

**Ernest Chausson**

**Poeme for Violin and Orchestra**

Susan Chester, Soloist

**Nikos Skalkottas**

**Four Greek Dances**

*Tsamikos*

*Cretikos*

*Peloponesiakos*

*Epirotikos*



# The Houston Sinfonietta

Conductor: George Blytas

## Violins

Richard Baum, Concertmaster  
Tina Blytas  
Marcile Carbone  
Susan Chester  
Stephanie Coxé  
Carolyn Harkins  
Mary Hawthorn  
John Helton  
Mitzi Jones  
John MacBain  
Betsy Mims  
David Mitchell  
Jacob Shlyapobersky  
Bob Szentirmay  
Mary Uhrbrock  
Oscar Wehmanen

## Violas

Andrew Havelly  
Michael Jones  
Todd McCall  
Howard Williams

## Cellos

Mike Allexander  
Taki Blytas  
Joanne Hildebrand  
Plia Preston  
Randy Whitford  
George Robinson

## Bass

Brett Gensler

## Percussion

Bill Nail  
Monica Szopa  
Jack Westmoreland

## Harp

Debbie O'Donnel

## Flutes

Evan Bauman  
Heather Berkley  
Kelly Kimball  
Annette Lott

## Oboes

Julie Jacobs  
Ron Rothman

## Clarinets

Diedre Horne  
Mary Thro

## Bassoons

Betty Frederick  
Bob Hawthorn

## French Horns

Sylvia Crafton  
Joe Frantz  
Miriam Herrera  
Lorena Unger

## Trumpets

Carl Goshy  
Eric Kurry  
Warren Loomis

## Trombones

Mark Andrews  
Reginald Berry  
Bob Storey

## Tuba

Tommy Tuggle

## Notes about the Composers

**Aaron Copland** (1900- ) is one of the most influential American composers. He was the first of several Americans to study in Paris with Nadia Boulanger. Copland drew on elements of jazz, New England hymns and folk songs to achieve a uniquely American musical style. His *Fanfare for the Common Man*, for brass and percussion, was composed in 1942, during World War II. It is dedicated to all those who became part of that war, not always by choice.

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (1756-1791), one of the greatest composers of all times, wrote three of the greatest symphonies ever written in the summer of 1788: The symphonies in E-flat Major, G-minor, and C, now called "Jupiter". The *Symphony in G-minor* is perhaps the most somber of these three masterpieces.

**Ernest Chausson** (1855-1899) studied at the Paris Conservatory with Massenet. He was wealthy and a well educated lawyer and musician. As a composer, he was influenced by Frank and Brahms, but during his last years he moved towards the ideals of Debussy. Chausson was a melodist. Some of his finest compositions were his songs. The same song-like quality makes his *Poeme for Violin* a very lyrical composition.

**Nikos Skalkottas** (1904-1949) is considered the foremost Greek composer of this century. He first studied the violin at the Athens Conservatory and at sixteen he obtained the gold medal. He then studied composition with Kurt Weill, Phillip Jarnach and most importantly with Arnold Schoenberg (1927-31). He was a prolific composer, becoming well known in Europe as a very gifted composer. Economic need forced him to return to Greece and make his living as an orchestral player. In Greece, he continued to compose, first in the 12-tone system, then in more freely atonal style. His music has warmth and lyricism like that of Alban Berg. It can be as subtle as that of Webern and as rhythmic as that of Stravinsky and Bartok. He wrote over 150 works, most of which are just now becoming known. These include twelve major symphonic works, including the giant second symphonic suite with six movements, lasting one hour and a half, fourteen concertos, over 50 chamber works, numerous piano pieces, choral works, cantatas, and a monumental symphony in one movement.

Skalkottas' work represents the transition from the Greek nationalist school of composition of Kalomiris to recent trends. Since he wrote most of his work in Greece removed from the direct influence of Schoenberg, he developed the 12-tone techniques to new and as yet unappreciated dimensions. The set of 36 Greek dances, of which four are being performed, are among the few pieces based almost completely on Greek folk music. These four pieces are performed in this program for the first time in Texas.

## Acknowledgements

The Houston Sinfonietta gratefully acknowledges the use of rehearsal facilities provided by the St. Cyril of Alexandria Catholic Church. For information concerning the Houston Sinfonietta, call 497-6574 (evenings).