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Concert highlights lighter side of music; [METRO Edition]

Christina Preiss, [Staff Writer](#). [Star Tribune](#). Minneapolis, Minn.: [Jun 16, 2004](#). pg. 11.W[» Jump to full text](#) [» Translate document into:](#)[» More Like This](#) - Find similar documentsPeople: [Miller, Carley](#), [Stuber, William](#)Companies: [Allegro Con Brio](#)Author(s): [Christina Preiss](#), [Staff Writer](#)Section: *WEST*Publication title: [Star Tribune](#). Minneapolis, Minn.: [Jun 16, 2004](#). pg. 11.W

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Abstract (Document Summary)

"We're starting to expand the definition of what an orchestra and orchestra concert can be," said William Stuber, the group's conductor.

Allegro Con Brio is the newest installment of the Allegro Orchestral Association, located in Wayzata. Now in its 10th season, the Allegro Orchestral Association is under the direction of Stuber.

Stuber holds clarinet performance degrees from Oberlin College and Julliard Conservatory of Music in New York. He earned his conducting degree from the University of Minnesota.

Full Text (390 words)

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Humor in Mozart? Laughs in Strauss?

That's what Allegro Con Brio plans to highlight Saturday night at its second annual festival, this year built around the theme of " 'Musical Comedy' ... Orchestra Music with a Sense of Humor."

Focusing on music in a program laced with comedy, the group hopes to convey the benefits of finding humor in music - whether it is within the language, the text or the music itself.

"We're trying to present live orchestral music in a fresh approach," said Carley Miller, manager of the Allegro Orchestral Association.

The concert is scheduled for 8 p.m. at Wayzata Community Church.

It will feature two sopranos, Elisabeth Comeaux and Joanna Johnston, along with composer and narrator Randall Davidson.

"We're starting to expand the definition of what an orchestra and orchestra concert can be," said William Stuber, the group's conductor.

Twin Cities standup comedian **Stevie Ray** of **Stevie Ray's** Improv Company will be the host of the evening's entertainment, weaving **comedy** into the mix and getting the audience into the act.

Providing accompaniment will be some 40 members of a contract orchestra. Most of these musicians perform with professional groups, such as the Minnesota Orchestra, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and the Minnesota Opera.

During the first song set, selected students from the Allegro Orchestra Camp - a camp for musicians in grades 4 to 12 focusing on string, percussion and wind performance - will join the professional orchestra on stage.

Last year's performance, "Human Character" at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, focused on how human emotions and characteristics can be depicted through music, Miller said.

"The reception [last year] was really amazing. People were astounded with the originality of the performance," Stuber said.

Allegro Con Brio is the newest installment of the Allegro Orchestral Association, located in Wayzata. Now in its 10th season, the Allegro Orchestral Association is under the direction of Stuber.

Stuber holds clarinet performance degrees from Oberlin College and Julliard Conservatory of Music in New York. He earned his conducting degree from the University of Minnesota.

"He's driven by excellence and artistic integrity," Miller said.

Christina Preiss is at cpreiss@startribune.com.

IF YOU GO

What: Allegro Con Brio's "Musical Comedy"

When: Saturday, 8 p.m.

Where: 125 E. Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata

Details: \$20 for adults, \$15 for students. Call 952-258-0394 or visit www.allegronotes.org.

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