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Symphony Pro Musica

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Photo Captions:

Pianist Andrew Li appears as a guest soloist for the second time at Symphony Pro Musica. He'll perform Beethoven's astounding Piano Concerto No. 3.

Symphony Pro Musica founder and conductor Mark Churchill begins his 36th season with SPM with a challenging and beautiful program.

Symphony Pro Musica, led by Music Director Mark Churchill, opens its 36th season with a landmark program, performing three masterworks of the symphonic repertoire and featuring Andrew Li, a brilliant young pianist returning for his second performance with the orchestra. There will be two performances: at Hudson High School's auditorium on Saturday, November 3, at 7:30 pm; and at the Putnam Family Arts Center at St. Mark's School in Southborough on Sunday, November 4, at 3:30 pm.

The program begins with Russian romantic composer Mily Balakirev's Overture on Three Russian Folk Songs, a rousing piece that showcases Symphony Pro Musica's superb musicians. Next, 17-year-old piano prodigy Andrew Li takes the stage for Ludwig van Beethoven's monumental Piano Concerto No. 3. Johannes Brahms' Fourth Symphony, considered by many to be the composer's master work, rounds out the program to a poignant and dramatic conclusion.

"It's a pleasure to work with Andrew Li once again," says Mark Churchill, conductor and founder of Symphony Pro Musica. "He plays with mastery and grace, and is one of the young rising stars of the piano." Li, 17 years old, has won many piano competitions including the 2016 Boston Symphony Youth Concerto Competition and the New England Conservatory Concerto Competition. He has appeared on the *From the Top* radio program and has just begun his college studies in the Harvard/New England Conservatory joint degree program.

This season marks both a nod to tradition and an embrace of the new for Symphony Pro Musica. "We're delighted to continue our partnership with the town of Hudson—we've performed at Hudson High School since our founding in 1983, and we are grateful for the support of the school and town," says Churchill. Just as it has since the orchestra's inception, the Saturday evening SPM performances will be held at the Hudson High School auditorium. New this season, the orchestra will perform its Sunday concerts at The Putnam Family Arts Center at St. Mark's School in Southborough. Churchill adds "We will be the central offering of St. Mark's new 'Sounds of Southborough' program, and we look forward to exploring the many collaborative opportunities this new partnership promises." The Putnam Family Arts Center is a stunning, acoustically engineered concert hall, which many consider to be the finest concert venue in the Metrowest area.

First time Symphony Pro Musica patrons may attend either of the performances at no charge, and students are always free. Adult tickets are \$25, senior tickets are \$20, and group rates are available. Tickets to the performances may be found on Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com) or from our website, where you can learn more about this concert and the rest of the 2018-19 season.

Please visit www.symphonypromusica.org, call 978-562-0939, or email spmoffice@symphonypromusica.org. Symphony Pro Musica brings outstanding and affordable orchestral, choral, and operatic music to Hudson, Southborough, and the surrounding communities.

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