



2025-26 Season

Amy Wilson, Music Director
www.atlantaphilharmonic.org

FLYING
WITH
GREEN
WINGS

Featuring
Excerpts of Tchaikovsky's
Swan Lake

Saturday
April 18, 2026
7:30 pm

North Decatur Presbyterian Church
611 Medlock Rd, Decatur, GA 30033



FLYING WITH FRIENDS

Amy Wilson, Music Director
Whittaker Locke, Associate Conductor

Overture: The Wasps (1909)Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

as the garden bows (2024) Nicole Knorr (born 1999)*

Selections from Swan Lake (1877)Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Introduction: Moderato assai, allegro non troppo, tempo 1

No. 1 *Scene:* Allegro giusto

No. 13 *Dances of the Swans*

IV. Allegro moderato

V. *Pas d'action:* Andante, andante non troppo, allegro

No. 14 *Scene:* Moderato (*Act II Finale*)

Intermission

No. 20 *Hungarian Dance:* Czardas - Moderato assai, allegro moderato, vivace

No. 21 *Danse Espagnole:* Allegro non troppo (tempo di bolero)

No. 23 *Mazurka:* Tempo di mazurka

No. 5 *Pas de deux for Two Merry-makers (Black Swan Pas de Deux)*

I. Tempo di valse ma non troppo vivo, quasi moderato

II. Andante - allegro

III. Tempo di valse

IV. Coda: Allegro molto vivace

No. 27 *Dance of the Little Swans:* Moderato

No. 28 *Scene:* Allegro agitato, molto meno mosso, allegro vivace

No. 29 *Scene finale:* Andante, allegro, alla breve, moderato e maestoso, moderato

The Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra is a non-profit, volunteer, LGBTQIA+ inclusive symphony orchestra organized to serve the musical needs of its community and its members.



The Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra would like to thank North Decatur Presbyterian Church for the use of their facilities as part of our Artist in Residency partnership.

*Composition Winner

ATLANTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ARTISTIC TEAM



Amy Wilson, Music Director, is known for her passionate artistry, joyful energy, and charismatic stage presence. She is celebrated for compelling interpretations, refined musicianship, and innovative programming that amplifies underrepresented composers, conductors, and performers.

In addition to her work with the APO, Amy serves as conductor and coordinator of the Atlanta Contemporary Ensemble, a position she has held for six seasons. She has also appeared as a guest conductor with organizations including Diversitá Opera Arts in Dallas, the Atlanta Musicians Orchestra, the Yakima Symphony Chamber Orchestra, the Macon Symphony Orchestra, and the Ocmulgee Symphony Orchestra.

Amy has studied with such distinguished conductors as Robert Spano, Adrian Gnam, Gustav Meier, Jesús López-Cobos, Anshel Brusilow, and Wayne Wyman. She holds a degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and advanced degrees from the University of North Texas, and Mercer University. Beyond the podium, Amy is an advocate for inclusivity in classical music and enjoys volunteering, traveling, hiking, and writing.



Whittaker Locke, Associate Conductor, holds a B.A. in Music Education and an M.A. in Orchestral Conducting from Georgia Southern University, where they also founded the Rio Chamber Project, a touring ensemble dedicated to premiering new works for Pierrot Ensemble.

In addition to APO, they also serve as Associate Conductor of the Columbus Community Orchestra, earning recognition for engaging performances and thoughtful leadership. They are also an experienced music educator, having directed orchestras at G.W. Carver High School and Baker Middle School in Columbus, Georgia.

An accomplished pianist, Whittaker completed the Artist's Diploma in Piano Performance at Columbus State University in 2023, studying with Dr. Henry Kramer and Dr. Esther Park. They currently serve as Music Director and Pianist for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Columbus and as a Collaborative Pianist at the Schwob School of Music, with a private studio of over a dozen piano students.



Earl Hough, Concertmaster, has been with APO since 2016. He has also performed with the Fort Worth Symphony, Manhattan Chamber Orchestra, Greenwich Symphony, Erie Philharmonic, and the Wichita Falls Symphony, where he debuted as a soloist at age ten. Since then, he has appeared with the Oklahoma City Symphony, Corpus Christi Symphony, and Richardson Symphony, among others.

A dedicated chamber musician, Earl has participated in festivals including Aspen, Blossom, Norfolk, and Music Mountain, and was a founding member of the Allendale String Quartet. He studied with Robert Davidovici, trained at the Juilliard School with Dorothy DeLay, earned his B.Mus. at the Manhattan School of Music, and his M.Mus. at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He currently coaches with Kenn Wagner.

Outside music, Earl is a Senior Network Engineer specializing in voice and video technologies. He is also Concertmaster of the Georgia Philharmonic and member of the Alpharetta Symphony Orchestra.

ATLANTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

Amy Wilson, Artistic Director

Whittaker Locke, Associate Conductor

Violin I

Earl Hough, Concertmaster
Tom Collins
Briana Faulkenberry
Dan Salzinger
Tova Yampolsky

Violin II

Earlisha Curney
Jordan Helms*
Marlina McKay
Marilyn Pipkin
JoAnn Wu Short

Viola

Emma Axelson
Laura Kuechenmeister*
Greg Sileg

Cello

Theo Enzo Aalto
Tim Feverston*
Faith Hoover

Bass

Ian Brown*

Flute/Piccolo

April Houston
Derrick Jones*
Lynnette Kenith

Oboe

Daniel Nunez
Thomas Underwood*

Clarinet

Bethany Petri
Jonathan Seletyn*

Bassoon

Charlie Jaret
Jason Jones
Joe Sarra*

Horn

Matthew Manley
Greta Massetti*
Michael McFarlin
Amy Trotz

Trumpet

Douglas Escobar
Brandon Hall
Daniel MacNamara
Sawyer Prichard

Trombone

Fred Land*
Robert Lurie
Alexander Winkles

Tuba

Michael Faire

Percussion

Mollie Beavers
Nathan Talbot

Piano

Whittaker Locke

Harp

Julie Koenig

**Indicates Principal*



COME PLAY WITH APO!



We're seeking musicians with high school or college ensemble experience to join the Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra—an all-volunteer, LGBTQ+-inclusive symphony orchestra. Schedule your audition today!



Scan the QR code for more information



Become A Donor

How donations help APO

- ◇ Music purchases, licenses, and fees
- ◇ Scholarships for members
- ◇ Outreach to local community and musicians
- ◇ Staff and guest musician pay



Scan the
QR code
to donate!

COMPOSITION WINNER



Nicole Knorr is a composer, improviser, and performer working across sound, visual art, and language. Nicole's music explores liminality, transformation, and improvisation/co-creation, treating sound as atmosphere and art as a shared, intimate experience.

Knorr works with performance, graphic scores, electroacoustic sound, and traditionally notated music. Notable collaborators include New Jersey Symphony, Albany Symphony, New England Philharmonic, Atlanta Philharmonic, FLYDLPHN, and Haven Trio.

THANK YOU WHITTAKER



From the podium to the piano, trombone to recorder, you have never been content to simply conduct when there was music to be made. You jumped in wherever the ensemble needed you, sitting alongside the very musicians you lead. When Amy stepped away for cancer treatment and recovery, you took the helm with grace and steadiness, guiding APO with care and commitment.

We have watched you grow into an exceptional musician and leader, and we hope you feel how much we have grown in return as an ensemble, as artists, and as a community. Your presence has touched every corner of this orchestra.

Ten years of music, mentorship, and an unmatched willingness to show up in every sense of the word, including a two-hour drive each way!

During this next chapter in Columbus, Georgia, we send you off with full hearts and enormous pride. Thank you for ten beautiful years!

Love, APO



PROGRAM NOTES

Overture: The Wasps (1909)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

The Wasps was composed by the British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams for a production of The Wasps, Aristophanes' caustic satire on the Athenian judiciary, at Cambridge's Trinity College. Vaughan Williams spent time in Paris studying under Maurice Ravel, apparently feeling that his sound was lackluster, and anxious to "acquire a little French polish."

The Overture is hugely popular. Emerging from the menacing buzzing of the Athenian judiciary, the perky first subject is quintessentially "Olde Englishe," leading into a vigorously fluid second subject. The perky tune takes off the heat for a long central episode on a seductively curvaceous third theme, and the *da capo* brings in a brief development of the first tune involving a broad counter-melody. The music builds up into a varied reprise of the first subject, reappearing in perfect counterpoint with the perky tune, before plunging onwards for an invigorating coda.

Source: Paul Serotsky, MusicWeb International

as the garden bows (2024)

Nicole Knorr (born 1999)

Nicole Knorr is a composer, improviser, and performer working across sound, visual art, and language. Nicole's music explores liminality, transformation, and improvisation/co-creation, treating sound as atmosphere and art as a shared, intimate experience.

Knorr presents the following program notes for this piece:

"the verb "to bow" is derived of the old English word "to bend," and serves us in many ways:

1. to cease from resistance; to submit
2. to bend the body in reverence
3. to crush with heavy burden
4. to bend into a curve

consider a garden bent into a curve; consider a garden growing on without us.

this piece considers a garden's inevitable bow towards, and change through, the weight of time."

Source: Nicole Knorr

Selections from *Swan Lake* (1877)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

Swan Lake is a ballet composed by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1875-1876 which was initially considered a failure, but is now one of the most popular ballets of all time. It was premiered by the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow in 1877. The origins of the exact story are uncertain, though theories point to Russian and German folk traditions, with possible contributions from Tchaikovsky himself, perhaps influenced by the operas of Richard Wagner. When Tchaikovsky first conducted the ballet, he noted in his diary that he experienced "a moment of absolute happiness."

APO is pleased to present selections from across the four acts of *Swan Lake*, which presents the story of Odette, a princess turned into a swan by an evil sorcerer's curse.

Source: William Intriligator, Dubuque Symphony Orchestra

Thank you for your support!



APO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jordan Helms
Vice President: Vacant
Treasure: Greta Massetti
Secretary: Faith Hoover
Member at Large: Joe Sarra
Board Member: Ted Sladovich

SPECIAL THANKS

Personnel Manager: Tim Feverston
Production Manager: Ted Sladovich
Program notes: Ted Sladovich
Systems Administrator: Marlina McKay
Program/Graphics: KSGriffin Design
Audio/Video: Lake Audio and Video

PROUDLY A MEMBER



ATLANTA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
OUT FRONT THEATRE COMPANY
SOUTHERN FRIED QUEER PRIDE
ATLANTA FREEDOM BANDS
VOICES OF NOTE
OUT ON FILM
OURSONG

Learn more about the Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra and support our mission to provide high quality, innovative programming and arts entertainment for Atlanta and the entire Southeast!



atlantaphilharmonic.org



[atlphilharmonic](https://www.facebook.com/atlphilharmonic)



[atlphilharmonic](https://www.instagram.com/atlphilharmonic)



[atlantaphilharmonic](https://www.youtube.com/atlantaphilharmonic)



2025-26 Season

Amy Wilson, Music Director
www.atlantaphilharmonic.org

FRIENDSHIPS

Friendship
10/18/25, 7:30 pm

Christmas with Friends
12/13/25, 7:00 pm
12/14/25, 4:00 pm

Talented Friends
02/28/26, 7:30 pm

Flying with Friends
04/18/26, 7:30 pm

Games with Friends
06/06/26, 7:30 pm

Scan to purchase
tickets for
future shows!



North Decatur Presbyterian Church • 611 Medlock Rd, Decatur, GA 30033