



**GRANT PARK
MUSIC FESTIVAL
IN MILLENNIUM PARK**

Grant Park Orchestra and Chorus
Carlos Kalmar, *Principal Conductor*
Christopher Bell, *Chorus Director*

Musical Thrills!

Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Jay Pritzker Pavilion
GRANT PARK ORCHESTRA
Andrew Grams, *Guest Conductor*
Damon Gupton, *Narrator*

WAGNER arr. Hutschenryster	"Ride of the Valkyries" from <i>Die Walküre</i>
GOUNOD	<i>Funeral March of a Marionette</i>
MOZART	Overture: <i>The Abduction from the Seraglio</i>
BOLCOM	<i>Commedia for (Almost) 18th-century Orchestra</i>
SAINT-SAËNS	<i>Danse Macabre</i>
KERNIS	<i>Too Hot Toccata</i>
	INTERMISSION
SCHIFRIN	Theme from <i>Mission Impossible</i>
STOOKEY	<i>The Composer Is Dead</i>
	DAMON GUPTON



ANDREW GRAMS, newly appointed Music Director of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra of Illinois, has appeared with many of the great orchestras of the world, including those of Chicago, Washington, D.C., Houston, Toronto, Paris, London, Sydney, and Rome. Mr. Grams was a protégé of Franz Welser-Möst and served as Assistant Conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra from 2004 to 2007. In 2002, Mr. Grams was appointed Assistant Conductor of the Reading Symphony Orchestra and returned to conduct that orchestra again in 2005. He was selected to spend the summer of 2003 studying

with David Zinman, Murry Sidlin and Michael Stern at the American Academy of Conducting at the Aspen Music Festival, and returned to that program in 2004. As a violinist, Mr. Grams was a member of the New York City Ballet Orchestra at Lincoln Center and has performed with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Brooklyn Philharmonic and New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. A Maryland native, Andrew Grams began conducting at the age of seventeen, when he directed the World Youth Symphony Orchestra at the Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan. He received a bachelor's degree in violin from the Juilliard School, and was awarded a conducting degree from the Curtis Institute of Music, where he worked with Otto-Werner Mueller.



DAMON GUPTON, a native of Detroit and graduate in music education of the University of Michigan, held the post of Assistant Conductor of the Kansas City Symphony, served as American Conducting Fellow of the Houston Symphony, and led the Sphinx Chamber Orchestra on a national tour that culminated in performances at Carnegie Hall. Mr. Gupton won the Third International Eduardo Mata Conducting Competition in Mexico City, studied conducting with David Zinman and Murry Sidlin at the Aspen Music Festival and with Leonard Slatkin at the National Conducting Institute in

Washington, D.C., and has appeared with the orchestras of Cleveland, Washington, D.C., Detroit, Baltimore, San Diego, San Antonio, Monte Carlo, Tokyo and Mexico City. An accomplished actor, Mr. Gupton graduated from the Drama Division of the Juilliard School in New York, and has appeared in roles on television, film and stage, including the Broadway production of *Clybourne Park*, Aaron Sorkin's *The Newsroom* and *Law and Order*. On film, he appeared in *Unfaithful*, *The Last Airbender*, and *This is Forty*. Damon Gupton's awards include the Robert J. Harth Conducting Prize and Aspen Conducting Prize. He is the inaugural recipient of the Emerging Artist Award from the University of Michigan School of Music and Alumni Society.

MEET OUR NEW MUSICIANS



A native of LaGrange, Illinois, tenor **ERICH BUCHHOLZ** is well-known to Chicago audiences and beyond in a wide variety of musical and theatrical styles. He has performed with Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Lyric Opera Chorus, Chicago Symphony Chorus, and Light Opera Works.

What are your career highlights?

Touring in Japan with Hudson Shad, and recording *Rose of Stambul* with Chicago Folks Operetta.

What are your hobbies?

Cooking and martial arts.



A native speaker of Italian and German, tenor **KLAUS GEORG** was born in Bonn, Germany and now calls Chicago his home. He also performs with the Chicago Symphony Chorus, Music of the Baroque and the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

What's one important thing people should know about you?

I'm expecting a second child, another boy, right as the Grant Park season begins.

What are your career highlights?

Verdi Requiem with Muti that won the Grammy and *Otello* at Carnegie Hall with Muti.



Tenor **DANE THOMAS** is a Chicago native performing with the Lyric Opera of Chicago Chorus as well as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chorus. He was recently seen Lehrbuben in the Lyric Opera of Chicago's production of *Die Meistersinger*.

What's the most exciting part of singing at the Grant Park Music Festival?

Looking out into the lawn of Millennium Park and seeing all the people lounging on the lawn preparing for an evening of beautiful music.

Who are your musical heroes?

Jussi Björling and Chris Carrabba