

SYMPHONY FINALE WILL FEATURE PERCUSSIONIST BILL MACHOLD

The Quincy Symphony Orchestra will present HARMONIC RHYTHMS as the finale to its *Bridges* concert season on Saturday, April 9 at 7:30 PM in the QJHS Morrison Theater. The concert will feature percussionist William Machold on Timpani drums, and will include works by Beethoven, Russell Peck, and Johannes Brahms.

Bruce Briney and the Quincy Symphony will open the program with a rare performance of Beethoven's *Overture to King Stephen*. Composed in 1811, the opera is no longer performed, and the overture is among the least often played of Beethoven's orchestral works. The title refers to King Stephen I, founder of the kingdom of Hungary in the year 1000.

Bridging from traditional to contemporary, percussionist Bill Machold will take the stage for his performance of Russell Peck's *Harmonic Rhythm Concerto for Timpani and Orchestra*. The writing of the composition was inspired by the largest commissioning consortium to date in music history—39 orchestras. Premiered in 2000, the work is visually stimulating due to the unusual variety of mallets and brilliant sticking. *Harmonic Rhythm* requires 5 drums (4 standard sizes plus a piccolo drum). The melodic writing for the timpani shows the instrument's expressive range extending into areas of surprising lyricism. There is powerful action, too, with jazz and rock influences, leading to a very big ending.

Bill Machold is a member of the music faculties of Quincy University and Culver-Stockton College, and has taught at Western Illinois University. Active as a clinician and performer, Bill has worked with and written music for many high school bands in the Quincy region. He also maintains a large private teaching studio in Quincy, and maintains an active performing schedule. He is the Principal Percussionist and Timpanist for the Quincy Symphony Orchestra, performs regularly with the Big River Swing Machine and Raised On Radio, and performs regularly on faculty recitals. Bill holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance from SUNY Fredonia (NY) and a Master of Music degree in Performance from the University of Akron (OH).

The \$1,000 Grand Prize Drawing for the 6th Annual QSOA Raffle will be held at the conclusion of the intermission. The QSOA raffle has become a very important fundraiser as state and government grants have been cut. Raffle proceeds support the many programs of the QSOA, including concerts of the orchestra, chorus, youth orchestra, and youth chorus, as well as the in-school symphony concerts for over 3500 3rd-6th graders. The grand prize of \$1,000 cash, 2nd prize of four QSOA season tickets, and 3rd prize of two QSOA season tickets will be awarded. Raffle tickets are on sale for \$10 each or 12/\$100, and may be purchased at the concert, in advance from any orchestra, chorus, Encore! or Symphony Board member, or by calling the Symphony office at 222-2856 or visiting the website at www.qsoa.org.

Following the excitement of the intermission, the QSO will perform Brahms' monumental Symphony No. 2 in D Major. Originally performed by the QSO in the 60's and 70's, this work has not been performed by the QSO in over 30 years. The music of Brahms scarcely needs any introduction – Brahms is often referred to as one of the three "Bs": Bach, Beethoven and Brahms. His music is loved by performers and listeners alike. Composed in the summer of 1877, his 2nd Symphony will lift listeners into a decidedly upbeat mood that will keep rising as the work progresses. The orchestration is without the heaviness sometimes associated with Brahms. The final notes of the Symphony and the QSO season will leave a powerful impression with a triumphant, trombone-powered ending.

Concert tickets will be available at the door or may be purchased in advance from the Symphony Office at 200 N. 8th St., Suite 102, or from Sturhahn Jewelers, 2801 Broadway Rd. The cost is \$12 for seniors and \$15 for other adults. Thanks in part to support from the Tracy Family Foundation, children 18 and under are admitted free to all QSO concerts. The Golden Baton Season Sponsors are the Knapheide Manufacturing Company and Dene Lambkin Honda, Hyundai, and Hertz. The concert is made possible in part by Concert Sponsor Mercantile Bank, Music Sponsors Architechnics and Gardner Denver, Media Sponsor WGEM, and by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.