Evening Concert Series

Helen M. Hosmer Hall

Thursday, October 18, 7:30 PM

Crane Symphony Orchestra
Joel Schut, director

Piano Concerto No. 1 in Bb Major, Op. 23
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(I. Allegro non troppo e molto maestoso)

AJ Matula, piano
Winner of Concerto Competition 2018

Brief Pause

Symphony No. 5 in D Minor, Op. 47
Dmitri Shostakovich
(I. Moderato-allegro non troppo
II. Allegretto
III. Largo
IV. Allegro non troppo
(1840–1893)
(1906–1975)
Crane Symphony Orchestra Personnel

Piccolo
Savannah Legg

Flute
Erin Finn
Savannah Legg*
Julia Viviano

Oboe
Lauren Derflinger
Meagan Flynn*
Olivia McCartney*

Eb Clarinet
Brianna Linhardt

Bassoon
Matthew Boice*
Tara Price

Contrabassoon
Matt Smith

Horn
Sam Branion
Mya Hollins
Isabella Kolasinski*
Emily Quinn*
Jessica Sokol

Trumpet
Elizabeth Baker*
Tristan Hayes*
Keoni Smith

Violin I
Julia Bartlett
Ethan Bates
Olivia Coyne
Joe Desiderio
Thomas Eustaquito*
Adam Girts
Nebil Hetman
Jacqueline Hilbert
Nurkit Lucksom
Robert Marsanico
Cynthia Meier
Colin Reardon
Alexa Santos

Violin II
Josephine Beck
Emily Berardicelli
Casey Cassel
Rose DioLallevi
Jacklyn Ennis
Anita Fischli
Marvin Hayes III
Brandon Joy
Noellia Nicotri
Brooke Nilson
Nicole Pellman*
TJ Ransom
Manuel Rodriguez
Katie Smith
Jordan Walker

Timpani
Patrick Roche

Percussion
Ian Dennis
Kevin Gorry
Emma Nicoletti
Erica Ylitalo

Harp
Shannon Boyle

Piano
Joseph McDermott

Viola
Susan Boyle
Allison Carbone
Aubrie Carroll
Zach Castro
Samantha Dalton
JT Esposito
Matt Grosso
Lexi Hamilton
Alexa Mani
Laura Matthews*
Maggie O’Connor
Nicole Ramirez
Jill Salem

Cello
Rainier Anderson
Samantha Bacher
Touria Benhammer
Alicia Caropreso
John Carosella
Claire Ezratty
Kelly Friedmann
Samantha Godus*
Maeve Hanchrow
Elizabeth Howell
Chris Jaeger
Jon Kim
John-Kyle Konye
Faith Kuliszewski
Matthew Mazer
Austin McCann
Robert Paddock
Shelby Sipos
Isabelle Vargas

Bass
Andrew Brett
Ian Dingman
Justin Kehati
Anthony Klenke
Aidan Moore
Christina Morris
Adelle St. Onge
Sarah Taylor*

Tuba
Nicholas Soldani

* indicates principal or co-principal
AJ Matula is a pianist, composer, and teacher living in upstate New York. He became interested in piano when he was 11 years old, and started studying the piano formally at the age of 15.

In February 2014, he started studying with Josh Wright via online lessons, as well as live masterclasses in Utah. Since that time, AJ has performed concerts in Utah and New York. He was the recipient of Josh and Lindsey Wright's annual scholarship for young musicians which afforded him the opportunity to travel to Utah for extensive lessons and performance opportunities. He was warmly received at all of the scholarship concerts he presented and received special recognition for the performance of his own compositions. AJ received first prize in 2018 Crane Concerto Competition, 1st prize in the 2016 Rachmaninoff Music Competition hosted by New Russia Cultural Center, and 2nd prize in the 2015 CDCYM Chopin Competition. He has participated in lessons and masterclasses with pianists including Douglas Humphreys, Alexandre Moutouzkine, Yong-Hi Moon, Logan Skelton, and Krystian Tkaczewski. AJ is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree in Piano Performance at the Crane School of Music under François Germain.

In addition to performing, AJ is a passionate composer. He is currently writing a piano concerto and fantasia for piano, infusing aspects of late romanticism within a contemporary idiom. He has also composed preludes, waltzes and other compositions that have been performed and recorded by pianists in the United States and in Europe.

In his spare time, AJ studies philosophy and linguistics. He is currently authoring The Musico-Linguistics Project, a series of papers demonstrating how music and language relate on a structural and expressive level.