



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**“Carmina Burana” powerful season closer for  
Madison Symphony Orchestra  
April 29, 30, May 1**

The Madison Symphony Chorus and the Madison Symphony Orchestra (MSO) join forces to deliver two monumental classical treasures, including the powerful *Carmina Burana*, in concerts April 29, 30, May 1 in Overture Hall.

**Ottorino Respighi**’s achingly beautiful *Pines of Rome* and **Carl Orff**’s colossal *Carmina Burana* provide a memorable ending to the 2015-2016 concert season. *Carmina Burana* will also feature vocal soloists **Jeni Houser**, soprano; **Thomas Leighton**, tenor; and **Keith Phares**, baritone; along with the Madison Symphony Chorus, directed by **Beverly Taylor**.

The concerts are Fri., Apr. 29, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Apr. 30, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., May 1, at 2:30 p.m. in Overture Hall, 201 State Street.

**Ottorino Respighi**’s moving tone poem *Pines of Rome* illustrates four distinct pictures through music, each one featuring the centuries-old pine trees common in the Roman landscape. Composed in 1924, Respighi’s score calls for a recording of a nightingale in the third movement, and contains one of the most stunningly beautiful melodies of the classical repertoire.

The epitome of “epic” music, **Carl Orff**’s spellbinding cantata *Carmina Burana* unites chorus and orchestra with rhythmic velocity and evocative lyrics. Premiered in 1937, *Carmina Burana*, meaning “songs from the Burana district,” is based on a collection of Latin texts dating from the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Orff wrote the work in a straightforward, direct style meant to clearly convey basic themes of human experience. John DeMain, conductor of the MSO, calls *Carmina Burana* a “soul-stirring experience you’ll never forget” and “one of classical music’s most popular treasures.”

One hour before each performance, Beverly Taylor, MSO Assistant Conductor & Chorus Director, will lead a 30-minute **Prelude Discussion** in Overture Hall to enhance concertgoers’ understanding and listening experience. More background on the music can also be found in the Program Notes at: <http://www.madisonsymphony.org/carminaburana>

**Single Tickets** are \$16 to \$85 each, available via [www.madisonsymphony.org/carminaburnana](http://www.madisonsymphony.org/carminaburnana), the Overture Center Box Office at 201 State Street or by calling the Box Office at (608) 258-4141.

**Groups** of 15 or more can save 25% by calling the MSO office at (608) 257-3734.

For more information visit, [www.madisonsymphony.org/groups](http://www.madisonsymphony.org/groups)

**Student** rush tickets can be purchased in person on the day of the concert at the Overture Box Office at 201 State Street. Students must show a valid student ID and can receive up to two \$12 or \$15 tickets. More information is at: [www.madisonsymphony.org/studentrush](http://www.madisonsymphony.org/studentrush). Students can receive 20% savings on seats in select areas of the hall on advance ticket purchases.

**Seniors** age 62 and up receive 20% savings on advance and day-of-concert ticket purchases in select areas of the hall.

Discounted seats are subject to availability, and discounts may not be combined.

The Madison Symphony Orchestra is in its 90<sup>th</sup> season with the 2015-16 concerts. The MSO engages audiences of all ages and backgrounds in live classical music through a full season of concerts with established and emerging soloists of international renown, an organ series that includes free concerts, and widely respected education and community engagement programs. Find more information at [www.madisonsymphony.org](http://www.madisonsymphony.org).

The exclusive sponsor for this concert is the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation.

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