



## River Music

This concert features two pieces of music about the same river, the Rhine in Germany. Kings and princes have lived in castles along its banks for hundreds of years, and legends about its beauty and its dangers go back to the dawn of history.

Richard Wagner and Robert Schumann were two of the great Romantic composers in the 1800s. They were the same age and they were both German, but they disagreed about what makes good music. They argued about this all their lives.

### Richard Wagner

*Twilight of the Gods: Dawn and Siegfried's Rhine Journey*

Wagner thought music should tell big, showy, dramatic stories. He wrote beautiful melodies with **chromatic**\* harmonies for the brass, especially the horns. *Twilight of the Gods* is a king-sized action-packed opera. The story begins when the hero, Siegfried, rides his magic horse along the Rhine River at dawn.

### Robert Schumann Symphony No. 3 "Rhenish"

**Rhenish** means about the Rhine. Schumann thought music should express the composer's innermost thoughts and feelings. His symphony describes how he felt when he saw the Rhine, and also how he felt about a solemn religious ceremony he saw in a grand cathedral nearby. Most of the harmonies are **diatonic**.\*

\* In the key of C, a chromatic scale uses every note on the keyboard, white and black. A diatonic scale uses only the white notes.



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Concert Series II  
November 4, 5, 6 · 2011  
Martin Majkut, Music Director

Welcome to the  
professional  
solo debut of  
**Chas  
Barnard, Cello**  
playing  
*Saint-Saëns, Concerto for  
Cello & Orchestra, No. 1*  
also  
*Wagner, Twilight of the  
Gods: Dawn and Siegfried's  
Rhine Journey*  
*Schumann, Symphony  
No. 3 "Rhenish"*

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CHRISTOPHER BRISCOE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Chas Barnard, Cello Professional Solo Debut

Today we share a very special event: the professional solo debut of cellist Chas Barnard. **Debut** means first-time. This is Chas' first professional engagement as the soloist with a symphony orchestra, so this concert marks the official beginning of his career in music. It is one of the most exciting moments in any musician's life. He says, "I can't wait for the downbeat."

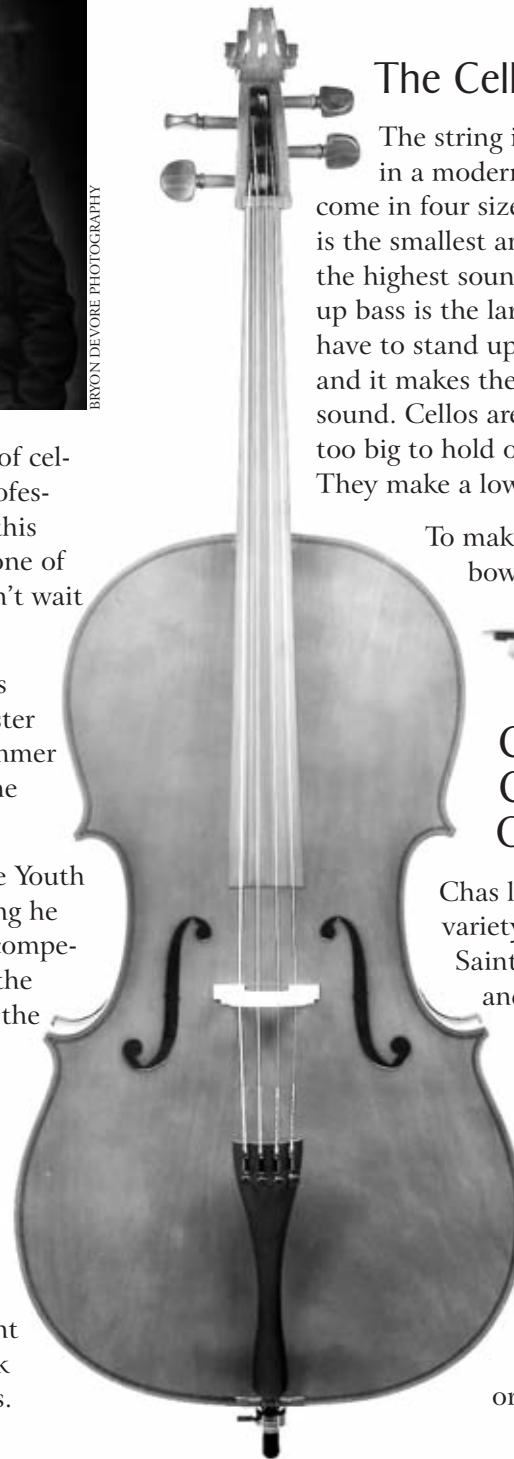
Chas is seventeen years old. He began to learn cello when he was eleven. After only one year, he performed for a live televised master class, and he has been winning competitions ever since. This summer he took first place at the Marrowstone Music Festival, playing the same piece he will play today, the Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto.

He began playing cello with the Rogue Valley Symphony and the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon when he was fourteen. Last spring he and his partner on violin, Ashley Hoe, won the YSSO concerto competition. Together with their friend, Eleanora Schaer, they formed the Schoenard Trio, which was named 2011 Artists in Residence for the Britt Festival.

Last year Chas finished high school and enrolled in SOU's Early Entry program, partly to have more time for his cello and partly so he could study subjects like French. This year he is a full-time student taking music classes, plus German, English, and math. He studies cello with Thomas Stauffer.

His first instrument was the tennis racket. He began playing tennis when he was two and entered his first national tournament when he was eight. Last year he and his partner, Jeff Laskos, took second for Ashland High School at the State of Oregon 5A finals.

BRIVON DEVORE PHOTOGRAPHY



### The Cello

The string instruments in a modern orchestra come in four sizes. The violin is the smallest and it makes the highest sound. The stand-up bass is the largest; you have to stand up to play it, and it makes the deepest sound. Cellos are next to largest, far too big to hold on your shoulder. They make a low, mellow sound.

To make sound, you pull a bow across the strings.



### Camille Saint-Saëns Concerto for Cello and Orchestra No. 1, A Minor

Chas likes to play this concerto because "it contains a variety of styles, tempos, colors, dynamics, etc."

Saint-Saëns was like that. He lived in Paris, France, and he could do anything. He traveled a lot, so he heard many kinds of music. He was a famous pianist, one of the best organists in the world, and also a successful conductor. He lived a very long life and was one of the most influential composers in France.

The cello has such a mellow tone that it's hard to make a solo cello stand out from the rest of the orchestra. Saint-Saëns figured out how to solve this problem. It will be easy for you to hear Chas even when the rest of the orchestra is playing.