

The Cleveland Orchestra Family Concerts introduces children to the music of “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice.”

### **Lesson of patience valuable for young and old**

Families will be introduced to the tale of “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” in a dynamic concert program at Severance Hall on Saturday, May 5. Performed by The Cleveland Orchestra, the music of Paul Dukas’s “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” comes to life in this Symphony Concert and stage production by the Enchantment Theatre Company.

The imaginary tale retells a story of magic and mischief when an old sorcerer leaves his lazy apprentice at the workshop with chores to complete. The apprentice tires of fetching water and finds a spell in the sorcerer’s magic book that brings inanimate objects to life. He enchants a broomstick to do his work, using magic in which he is not yet fully trained. Soon the floor is flooded with water and he realizes that he does not know the magic word to stop the broom. Desperate, he splits the broom with an axe, but each of the pieces takes a pail and continues fetching water, more frantic than ever. Just as a substantial flood seems imminent, the old sorcerer returns and quickly returns order to the castle. The unfortunate apprentice is asked to leave, but pleads with the sorcerer to entrust him once again. The sorcerer welcomes his apprentice’s return, but not after a harsh scolding.

The Sorcerer’s Apprentice was written by Paul Dukas in 1897, based on a poem by German writer Goethe. Although Dukas’s musical piece was already quite popular, it became well-known by its inclusion in the 1940 Walt Disney animated film *Fantasia*, in which Mickey Mouse plays the role of the apprentice. This entertaining children’s program also includes Richard Strauss’s *Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry Pranks*, whose music depicts a practical jokester who gets in and out of trouble with great amusement.

### **What is Enchantment Theatre Company?**

Enchantment Theatre Company has been producing original quality theater for children and their families for more than 25 years. The Philadelphia-based Enchantment Theatre Company presents classic tales using magic, masks, puppets and original music. Enchantment Theatre Company performs the staged stories to inspire, challenge and enrich audiences. In doing so, they engage the imagination of children and reveal the beauty of humanity.

Founded in 1979 by Jennifer Blatchley Smith and Landis Smith, and expanded to an artistic partnership with Resident Director Leslie Reidel in 1995, Enchantment Theatre Company has toured all over the world. The fables re-enacted through the company are journeys which lead to true growth and awareness. Their productions, including *A Winter’s Tale* and *The Tempest*, present acts that have great consequences. The stories of trial and tribulation and self-discovery, celebrate the influence of love and forgiveness.

After each performance, Enchantment Theatre Company presents a Q&A session in which the performers return to the stage to meet the audience. They demonstrate the use of puppets and masks, discuss the process of creating the theatrical piece, and share their performing adventures.

### **Family Concerts**

Cleveland Orchestra Family Concerts are designed to entertain children ages 7 and up and their families through age-appropriate concerts that include narration, guest artists and young musicians to which kids can relate. Family Concerts are an affordable opportunity to hear top-quality orchestral music while spending valuable family time together.

Ticket holders can take part in fun, free activities one hour prior to each concert throughout Severance Hall designed to enrich the concert-going experience for children. Activities for “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice” include Instrument Discovery, where children are invited to try their hand at a variety of musical instruments.

The Cleveland Orchestra's Family Concerts are part of a broad array of educational programs designed to foster a love of music and a lifetime of participation in the musical arts. Other programs include Musical Rainbow concerts for ages three to six, school fieldtrip Education Concerts, and several programs to nurture aspiring young musicians (Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Youth Chorus, and Children's Chorus). For more information about the Orchestra's educational programs, call (216) 231-7355.

Upcoming Family Concerts and Musical Rainbow programs:

Musical Rainbow performances: "The Velvet Violin," Friday, February 23 and Saturday, February 24; "Heavenly Harps," Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28 "The Treasured Trombone," Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19.

Visit [www.clevelandorchestra.com](http://www.clevelandorchestra.com) for more information.

The May 5 concerts are made possible in part by a grant from Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour.

The Cleveland Orchestra Family Concerts are sponsored by **Giant Eagle**. **Cleveland Family Magazine** is the proud media partner of these concerts.

Tickets for "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" start at \$10. Call (216) 231-1111 or visit [www.clevelandorchestra.com](http://www.clevelandorchestra.com) to order.