



The Du Bois Orchestra
Artistic Director | Dominique Hoskin

To our dedicated audience,

I am honored to have been appointed as the third Artistic Director for the Du Bois Orchestra. I'm very much looking forward to my first year leading this fantastic and passionate orchestra and interacting with the Du Bois community in person once our fall cycle is underway. It has been a privilege to work with such a diverse and talented group of musicians for these past few weeks, and we are all very excited to be performing live again after such a long hiatus.

To honor our mission of elevating works by underrepresented composers, we begin this concert with the two symphonies by Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges. These symphonies are some of the most delightful works I've ever heard and it's truly a shame that they are not programmed more often. They sound light and playful on the surface but are truly complex and extremely demanding underneath. We have been working hard in rehearsal to go beyond what is written on the page to make these pieces really sparkle and shine. It is my hope that this performance will inspire more ensembles to program these symphonies as well as other works by Saint-Georges.

Another aspect of our mission is to present orchestral art music in a way that everybody can enjoy, and what better way to do this than to program works inspired by folk music. Both the Romanian Folk Dances by Bela Bartok and the St. Paul's Suite by Gustav Holst are filled with singable tunes that make them relatable and easy to listen to. Despite the instrumentation being for only string orchestra, the texture is often quite thick, rich, and satisfying.

The final aspect of our mission is to perform at an extremely high level that is capable of transmitting the spiritual and emotional intentions of the composers. Few works test this ability like the chamber version of Aaron Copland's sublime Appalachian Spring. This work is extremely rhythmically complex with tons of meter and tempo changes but must be performed in such a way that all this underlying complexity is almost imperceptible to the audience in order to fully realize Copland's vision.

I'm proud to present this challenging and diverse program that I'm sure you all will thoroughly enjoy. I hope that you all will join us again for our fall concerts and continue to spread the word about our orchestra and our mission.

If you're a musician in the Boston area, I hope you will consider auditioning to join us in the fall. Please be on the lookout for audition information to come shortly after this concert, but also feel free to contact me directly at duboisorchestra@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Dominique Hoskin

Artistic Director & Conductor | Du Bois Orchestra