

Symphony Number One is Baltimore's newest chamber orchestra, performing substantial works by emerging composers alongside riveting masterworks, beloved classics, and a twist of pop. Symphony Number One brings together great composers of the past, virtuoso performers of the present, and the leading compositional voices of the future, creating electrifying concert experiences for all of Baltimore.

Praised for presenting, "full-length freshness on each program," by *The Baltimore Sun*, the orchestra was founded in 2015 by Music Director Jordan Randall Smith after recruiting a creative team of colleagues from the Peabody Conservatory: Nicholas Bentz, Sean Meyers, Melissa Lander, and Christopher Ciampoli. In one year's time, Symphony Number One has premiered new works of over a dozen composers, released two "must get" albums, and performed at Baltimore's inaugural Light City Festival. The orchestra was also highlighted in Baltimore STYLE as "brazen...like an indie rock band," featured on the acclaimed television show *MPT Artworks*, granted the "Category Buster" award by *Baltimore Magazine* for their Best of Baltimore 2016, and chosen as runner-up for Baltimore's Best Band in this year's 2016 Best of Baltimore Reader's Poll. Symphony Number One has been recognized twice by Women's Philharmonic Advocacy and is the recent recipient of a Balitmore Social Innovation Fellowship by the Warnock Foundation.

Symphony Number One develops close working relationships with young and emerging composers, gives new works multiple hearings, produces substantial recordings, and creates unique concert experiences for the public by juxtaposing new music with the classical canon. Learn more at www.symphonynumber.one.

Special Thanks: Light Street Presbyterian Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, Women's Philharmonic Advocacy, Debbie Harris, Jessica Galang, Jessica Abel, Barry Richmond, Joel Puckett, Janan Broadbent, Drew Rieger, Wesley Stuckey, Gayle O'Callaghan, Marie-France Scott, Mathias Cocuron, Kate Cruz Flores, Taylor Hillary Boykins, Jonathan Hugendubler, Susan Summers, Sue Patz, Jonathan Alzamora, Ehsan Parvizian, and Bob Glock.



Symphony Number One in Mount Vernon, Baltimore, August 23, 2017.

Symphony Number One is devoted not only to commissioning and premiering substantial works by emerging composers, but also to recording and distributing these works for the public. To that end, Symphony Number One has recorded every concert from its founding, releasing the best new music by stunning voices, many of whom are being heard widely for the very first time. Our fourth release, *Approaching* features works in three sizes-small, medium, and large-from three of today's hottest new composers, all lovingly prepared and performed by Symphony Number One in Baltimore.

—Jordan Randall Smith

Symphony Number One

Jordan Randall Smith, Music Director

1	Martha Horst: <i>Straussian Landscapes</i>	21:56
	Night Birds Interlude - Imaginary Chorale Salome's Kiss	
2	Hangrui Zhang: <i>Baltimore Prelude</i>	3:21
3	Nicholas Bentz: <i>Approaching Eternity</i>	53:54
	Ode to the Abyss A Night on the Town Gateway And all being is flaming suffering ...you, whom I expected to see at the end of the rails... ...for me the world became beautiful (Apokatastasis) ...until he became the pinpoint of light.	

SYMPHONY NUMBER ONE
JORDAN RANDALL SMITH conductor

WORLD PREMIERE RECORDINGS

STO 4

SYMPHONY NUMBER ONE

Approaching

Bentz | Horst | Zhang

The Composers Speak

The instrumentation for *Straussian Landscapes* directly mirrors the instrumentation of Richard Strauss' late works for wind ensemble. It uses snippets and textures from Strauss's operas and orchestral tone poems to create entirely new musical landscapes of sound. The work falls into three sections, which are all performed in succession. Night Birds, begins with undulating low orchestral wind texture inspired by Nacht from Strauss' Alpine Symphony. A middle interlude featuring a chorale of Straussian harmonies for french horns seques into the final section, Salome's Kiss. This eleven minute dramatic movement is built entirely out of woodwind textures from one measure in the final scene of this opera.

—Martha Horst

Baltimore Prelude is a piece that summarizes my experience with the city of Baltimore. In my experience, Baltimore is a vibrant and energetic city, which I have enjoyed. The musical materials and fragments represent the highlights of my experience. Similar to the technique of montage in filmmaking, they are playfully interacting with each other and shifting the sonic image at a fast pace. It is a piece with energy and excitement, reflecting the various images of the city.

—Hangrui Zhang

Approaching Eternity is a semi-autobiographical piece for chamber orchestra commissioned by Symphony Number One and its music director, Jordan Smith. The piece is conceived as one large swath of music, with seven distinct sections that flow into each other without pause. Each of these sections is demarcated by a cryptic 'totem' that by some measure relates to a piece of visual art, poetry, literature, or even film, that served as a creative impetus for each respective section.

—Nicholas Bentz

Recorded live in Baltimore, Maryland in 2016 and 2017.

Symphony Number One

Jordan Randall Smith, Music Director

Violin Kristin Bakkegard Christopher Ciampoli Minjin Lee Phoebe Leng Audrey Maxner William Weijia Wang Trista Wong Hangchen Xiao	Oboe Garrett Hale Julia Perry	Trombone Gabriel Luciano Sarah Manley
Viola Zoe Hartenbaum Karin Kilper Colin Webb	Clarinet James Duncan Scott Johnson Melissa Lander Juan Carlos Martinez Juan Esteban Martinez	Piano Elizabeth Hill
Cello Robert Kaufman Mike Newman	Bassoon Cindy Dong Clifton Guidry III Mateen Milan Kika Wright	Percussion Matthew Stiens
Contrabass Doug Ohashi Michael Rittling	Horn Jordan Dinkins Kelsay Jones Selena Maytum Noah Tingen Scott Ullman	Audio Production Charles Street Sound
Flute Drew Dardis Sarah Eckman McIver Willie Santiago	Trumpet Andrew Ezell	Venues Emmanuel Episcopal Church Light Street Presbyterian Lovely Lane United Methodist Church
		Website symphonynumber.one