



## Civic Orchestra of Tucson

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### **Civic Orchestra of Tucson presents Arizona premiere to urban and tribal audiences**

TUCSON, AZ (November 10, 2017) — The Civic Orchestra of Tucson (COT) continues its 42<sup>nd</sup> season with free concerts in both Tucson and Sells, the capital of the Tohono O’odham Nation.

On Saturday, December 2, the orchestra travels 65 miles west of Tucson to play in Sells, providing tribal members with a rare opportunity to experience a live orchestra concert. Before the 2:30 pm program at the Sells Recreation Center on Main Rd, attendees can try playing various orchestral instruments in the hands-on Musical Instrument Petting Zoo. This event is supported by a grant from the Tohono O’odham Gaming Enterprise.

On Sunday, December 3, the orchestra will present the concert at 3:00 pm in the Catalina Ballroom of the Tucson Jewish Community Center, 3800 River Rd. Both concerts are free and no tickets are required.

The highlight of these concerts will be the Arizona premiere of “Amusement Park Ride,” by composer Michael S. Horwood: “For years I debated about combining my professional work as a composer with my favorite hobby of amusement parks and roller coasters. Strangely, with all the composers in the twentieth century and all the various amusement parks around the world, no one (to my knowledge) ever did a piece about them. So, after the fashion of nineteenth century program music, I decided to go ahead with the idea.”

The result is “a fifteen-minute orchestral suite that portrays the fun, joy and festivities of a day in an amusement park”, says Horwood. “Sky Ride,” traversing the park over all the rides, gives hints of the music to come. Unusual and startling sounds emanate from the orchestra in “Dark Ride,” suggesting what you might experience when taken through a creepy space with spooky sights and scary sounds. The other rides portrayed are “Log Flume,” “Carousel,” and “Roller Coaster.” Read more at [www.horwoodcomposer.com](http://www.horwoodcomposer.com).

Also on this program of “Music That Tells Stories” are the Overture to “The Thieving Magpie” by Rossini, Suite from “The Faithful Shepherd” by Handel, Hebrides Overture (“Fingal’s Cave”) by Mendelssohn, and Symphony No. 94 (“Surprise”) by Haydn.

The Civic Orchestra of Tucson, conducted by Dr. Herschel Krelloff since 1980, is a 65-member, all-volunteer community orchestra dedicated to performing free concerts throughout the greater Tucson area since 1975. For more information about these free concerts, visit [www.COTmusic.org](http://www.COTmusic.org) or call 520-730-3371.

The orchestra’s 2017-2018 season is supported in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, which receives support from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.