



212 Ninth Street, Suite 601
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222
412.391.0526 / staff@trypo.org

trypo.org

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TRYPO Welcomes Guest Artist Baron Batch on Final Concert

Pittsburgh, PA: Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras [TRYPO], a youth orchestra program affiliated with the Mary Pappert School of Music at Duquesne University, announced that renowned local artist Baron Batch will participate in our final concert of the season, along with a number of other special guests. A highlight of the concert will feature a unique performance of Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring* conducted by Music Director and Conductor John Wilcox, with original narration performed by Baron Batch alongside James Wilcox, son of the Music Director. The concert, titled "Dances and Epic Adventures" will take place on Sunday, May 7, 2017 at the Carnegie Music Hall of Oakland at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are required but are free to download from www.trypo.org.

"Collaborative performances that feature special guest artists has been a feature of this entire season," said TRYPO's Executive Director Lindsey Nova. "Our first concert featured Jeremy Black, Pittsburgh Symphony Violinist as Guest Concertmaster on a unique performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* with original narration performed by TRYPO students, and our most recent March concert featured thirteen members of our artistic staff as soloists, to truly showcase the awe-inspiring talent our students have an opportunity to work with on a regular basis. This year's TRYPO members have had a tremendous opportunity to explore inspiring and epic orchestral repertoire in a new context that provided a perfect blend of tradition and innovation. I have long admired Baron Batch's work - and in fact have a print in my office - so I could not be more pleased to end this incredible season with one final unique collaboration."

"Both The Studio A.M. collective and Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras brands have grown tremendously over the past three years. I am looking forward to future collaborations and am excited about the cultural impact we have on the youth in the City of Pittsburgh," said Mr. Batch.

TRYPO concerts have something for everyone: The lobby opens at 5:00 p.m. with a host of Pre-Concert activities including a performance by the PJOYouth (a youth jazz orchestra program from the Pittsburgh Jazz Orchestra led by Mike Tomaro and James Moore), as well as a craft table. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. with Symphonette, a string training orchestra conducted by Pittsburgh Symphony violist Symphonette. They will perform works by Arvo Pärt, Edward Elgar, and Jacques Offenbach. Following intermission, Young Peoples Orchestra will take the stage and in addition to performing Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, they will also perform a movement from the Haydn Trumpet Concerto featuring concerto competition winner and TRYPO member Kevin Skinkis as well as Brahms' *Variations on a Theme by Haydn*.

"We are also planning to make an exciting announcement about our upcoming 2017-18 season at the concert," added Mrs. Nova. "Without spilling the beans, let's just say that it's appropriate that this concert includes the idea of an Epic Adventure!"

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About Baron Batch: Baron Batch referenced as The Artist is a Cultural Icon, Community Builder, Dot Connector, Conceptual Multimedia Artist and Entrepreneur based out of Homestead, PA who originally gained popularity through his street art. The Artist has brought the POP-X genre of art, a mix of Pop Art and Expressionism, to the city of Pittsburgh.

Growing up in Midland, Texas with many siblings and little money Baron was a standout football player. When he was sixteen, Baron's mother was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, and tragically passed, leaving her children to take care of each other. Baron turned to football and the Midland community to help him cope with the grief and accompanying anger. Baron attended Texas Tech University where he graduated with a degree in Communications and excelled in his collegiate football career. During, the 2011 NFL Draft Baron was selected 232nd overall by the Pittsburgh Steelers. After tearing his ACL during a training camp practice in August 2011 he was out for the season. In 2013, the Steelers cut Baron and once again he found himself forging his own future. With strategic financial savings from his football career, Baron moved into an unfinished building in Homestead, Pennsylvania, started creating full-time, and began his journey as The Artist.

This once unfinished building in Homestead, Pennsylvania is now Studio A.M., the most creative place on the planet. The Artist serves as Creative Director of the multi-faceted creative collection, that specializes and creative/ guerilla marketing and brand strategies, unique and customizable private events/ experiences with a top-notch Chef. Studio A.M is open to the community on Thursdays and Sundays for food service and gallery hours. The space also serves as a production facility for his branded salsa line "Angry Man Salsa."

The Artist works with the youth in the Pittsburgh Area promoting the message, "With the correct process and sacrifice you can be and do anything you want." Baron has gained tremendous support in the community since performing #FREE art drops, where he posts picture of giveaway paintings on Twitter and Instagram, leaving clues to their location.

Recently, The Artist opened a creative arts incubator, dubbed The Hideout, that supports artists and like-minded creative by providing a platform that empowers growing creatives to implement their business and artistic ideas to the Pittsburgh community. The Artist is described as a "Creative Force," and followed by thousands of fans who admire his artwork.

For more information, please visit www.pop-x.com and www.studio-am.com

About TRYPO: Three Rivers Young Peoples Orchestras was founded in 1974 to provide music education and performance for young people to foster lifelong passion, appreciation, and support of music. TRYPO has over 190 students enrolled in numerous programs, including YPO (a full symphonic orchestra), Symphonette (a string training ensemble), the Youth Chamber Connection (YC² coordinates students into small ensembles such as quartets and quintets), and YC² in CHAUTAUQUA (a summer program with a chamber music focus). Auditions to join TRYPO for the 2017-18 season take place in May/June 2017.

For more information about TRYPO or this event, see www.trypo.org, or contact TRYPO Program Manager Ana Diaz at 412-391-0526 or e-mail staff@trypo.org.