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Omaha Symphony to perform World Premiere of Daugherty's *Trail of Tears* Flute Concerto

What: *A Night of Firsts* MasterWorks concert sponsored by Omaha Steaks

When: Friday, March 26 8 PM
Saturday, March 27 8 PM

Where: Holland Performing Arts Center, 1200 Douglas Street

Tickets: \$15-\$75; 402.345.0606, 402.342.3560 or www.omahasymphony.org

Omaha, Neb – Omaha concertgoers will have the extraordinary opportunity to experience a world premiere on March 26 and 27, when composer Michael Daugherty's *Trail of Tears* concerto for flute and orchestra debuts with flutist Amy Porter and the Omaha Symphony. This "Night of Firsts" also features Brahms's First Symphony. Maestro Thomas Wilkins will conduct the program March 26 and 27 at 8 p.m. at the Holland Performing Arts Center.

Commissioned by the American Composers Orchestra, Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, and Omaha Symphony, *Trail of Tears* is divided into three movements: I. *where the wind blew free*, II. *incantation*, and III. *sun dance*. Says Michael Daugherty: "One of the tragedies of human history is the forced removal of peoples from their homeland for political, economic, racial, religious, or cultural reasons. My flute concerto is a musical journey into how the human spirit discovers ways to deal with upheaval, adversity and adapting to a new environment."

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New Daugherty concerto to debut in Omaha March 26 & 27

Recently described by the *Los Angeles Times* as "a composer of his time and birthright," "the musical embodiment of Americana," and an "exuberant master of his craft," Daugherty creates engaging, intelligent, idiomatic repertoire rich with political and cultural allusions. As with *Trail of Tears*, the titles of his pieces reveal a collage of monuments, mementos, glossy magazine clippings, and photographs: *Mount Rushmore* (2010) for chorus and orchestra, the opera *Jackie O* (1997), *Bay of Pigs* (2006) for guitar and string orchestra, *Letters from Lincoln* (2008) for baritone and orchestra, as well as *Motor City Triptych* (2000), *Route 66* (1999), and *Sunset Strip* (1999) for full orchestra. Frequently recorded, a number of Daugherty's works have recently been released and are available for review: *Letters from Lincoln* with baritone Thomas Hampson (E-1 Entertainment), *Jackie O* (Dynamic DVD), *Fire and Blood/Motor City Triptych/Raise the Roof* (NAXOS), and *Metropolis Symphony/Deus Ex Machina* (NAXOS).

"It will be a special experience for this orchestra to bring Michael Daugherty's brilliant score to life for the very first time. We feel very fortunate to be working with him. He's one of the most frequently performed American composers, and his works are always interesting and enjoyable for audiences," says Angela Cassette, General Manager of the Omaha Symphony.

The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization that presents more than 200 live orchestral performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, Chamber, Sights and Sounds, and Family series concerts, the orchestra tours both Nebraska and Iowa providing education and community engagement concerts and special events. For tickets or information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402.342.3560 or visit www.omahasymphony.org.

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