Chamber presents all-Mozart

Breezy Symphony No. 31 on the program

By Paul Hyde
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The Greenville Symphony Chamber Orchestra's annual all-Mozart program is a perennial local favorite, and for a good reason, according to music director Edvard Tchivzhel.

"Mozart's name is the embodiment of the musical genius, among the greatest composers who ever lived," said Tchivzhel, who'll conduct the three all-Mozart concerts, Friday through Sunday.

"Everybody loves Mozart for the incredible clarity, proportion and beauty of his music," Tchivzhel added. "The number and quality of his compositions is incredible. He never bores you."

Four works by Mozart will be on tap for the concerts, which open with the overture to the opera "The Marriage of Figaro."

"It's a fast, sparkling overture, one of the most famous overtures to one of the most famous operas in the repertoire," Tchivzhel said.

Next on the program are the three "German Dances" that Mozart wrote in the last year of his life.

"He wrote dances throughout his life," Tchivzhel said. "He himself loved to dance."

The orchestration for the third German dance, "Sleigh Ride," uniquely adds sleigh bells and two posthorns, brass instruments used in the 18th century to signal the arrival or departure of a mail coach.

"It's a special sound, maybe a little less polished, reflecting the life of the 18th-century people," Tchivzhel said.

A trumpet player will play one posthorn while another trumpet player will play the second posthorn part on a flugelhorn, Tchivzhel said.

Mozart's Symphony No. 31 also will be included in the program. Mozart composed the three-movement work, subtitled "Paris," in a breezy fashion to appeal to audiences in that suave, cosmopolitan city.

"It was written when a young Mozart was looking for a job, trying to get out of his native Salzburg," Tchivzhel said. "It's a very lighthearted and even fiery symphony."

The program closes with the Serenade No. 9. Subtitled "Posthorn," the piece briefly features that instrument.

"It's a beautiful piece of music because of the incredible diversity of the colors and instruments of each movement," Tchivzhel said. "It also has a very affirmative and joyous conclusion."

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What: The Greenville Symphony Chamber Orchestra's All-Mozart program
When: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; also 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 18
Where: Peace Center's Gunter Theatre
Tickets: $39
Information: 864-467-3000 or www.peacecenter.org

oncert



Mozart