



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASHEVILLE, NC | December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – **Blue Ridge Orchestra Bridges the Centuries from Classical to Americana:** March performances showcase Franz Schubert and Fancy and the Gentlemen

The Blue Ridge Orchestra ushers in the month of March with *Musique Ménage*, a concert of contrasts, featuring Schubert's *Symphony No. 9 – "The Great"* – and original music by local artists Fancy and the Gentlemen. The concert will be presented on Saturday, March 4, at 3:00 pm, in Haywood Community College's Charles Beall Auditorium, and on Sunday, March 5, at 3:00 pm in Lipinsky Auditorium, UNC Asheville. BRO President Deb Kenney is excited that the BRO is returning to Hemlock Auditorium after a five-year hiatus: "We are thrilled to perform in partnership with Haywood Community College, furthering our commitment to make fine music accessible to communities throughout Western North Carolina."

Music Director Milton Crotts is indeed making great music accessible – the full orchestra will perform Movements I, II, and IV of Franz Schubert's *Symphony No. 9*, a magnificent work which has earned comparisons to Beethoven's later symphonies. "Franz Schubert is too often forgotten as one of the great symphonic composers of the classical era," Crotts observes. "BRO audiences will enjoy the richness and power of his *Symphony No. 9*, which he himself referred to as his "great" symphony."

Following intermission, audiences will be transported from the mountains of 19<sup>th</sup> century Austria to the mountains of 21<sup>st</sup> century North Carolina. The BRO Strings will be joined by Fancy and the Gentlemen, an Asheville based trio whose music, like Schubert's, is a reflection of the time and place of its composition. Fancy Marie, Katie Leigh, and Craig Kellberg have developed their own unique sound with roots in the traditions of honkytonk, blues, southern gothic, and classical music.

*Musique Ménage* brings together two very different styles of fine music not often paired in a single performance. These concerts are sure to open many eyes and ears to new and engaging musical experiences.

#### **Details: Blue Ridge Orchestra's *Musique Ménage***

Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3:00 pm  
Charles Beall Auditorium, Haywood Community College  
185 Freedlander Drive, Clyde, NC

Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3:00 pm  
Lipinsky Auditorium, UNC Asheville  
300 Library Lane, Asheville, NC

**Tickets:** \$25 General Admission, \$15 Students, Free under age 5

**Tickets:** \$20 General Admission, \$15 Members, \$5 Students, Free age 6 and under

**Info:** <https://www.blueridgeorchestra.org/musique-mnage>, Facebook, Instagram, or call 828-782-3354.

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