

'The Lord of the Rings' provides fantasy and adventure

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Staff Writer

Three Rings for the Elvenkings under the sky,

Seven for the Dwarf-lords in their halls of stone,

Nine for Mortal Men doomed to die,

One for the Dark Lord on his dark throne

In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie.

One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them,

One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them In the Land of Mordor where the Shadows lie. —"The Lord of the Rings"

"The Lord of the Rings" by J. R. R. Tolkien is a classic trilogy of literature loved worldround. The first book, "The Fellowship of the Ring," has been made into a film set to open in theaters on Dec. 19. In anticipation of this event, I have written a brief summary for those of you who aren't familiar with the story of Frodo Baggins and company. I hope it intrigues you enough to check out the books for yourself and then see the movie.

"The Fellowship of the Ring" being the first part of "The Lord of the Rings" is the beginning of Tolkien's saga of

Frodo Baggins and his quest to destroy the One Ring. It starts off in Hobbiton, a small town located in the West Farthing of the Shire, a section of Middle Earth in which the entire population of Hobbits dwell. Every Hobbit in Hobbiton is preparing for the "eleventy first" birthday party of resident oddball Bilbo Baggins, of whom "The Hobbit," another Tolkien classic, was written.

His parties have grown to things of legend, and this one shall prove more elaborate than all the rest. There will be food aplenty and wine all around, which says a lot due to the gastronomic capacity of Hobbits.

Gandalf, a mysterious traveler and longtime friend of Bilbo, will



set off a magical fireworks display.

But Bilbo takes off in the middle of the party in order to have one final adventure and leaves his accumulated wealth to Frodo, along with his most precious heirloom: a



gold ring which grants its wearer the power of invisibility. Little known to Frodo is the dark history of this particular ring and the true power it possesses.

Frodo is forced to leave the Shire

in an attempt to draw the forces of Sauron, the owner of the Ring and Dark Lord of Mordor, away from his family and friends. He is thrown into a world of fantasy and adventure which he thought was merely

legend.

This book opens the doorway to the enchanting land of Middle Earth, a mystical land where anything is possible with the help of good friends and courage. It is suitable for children but holds an amount of wisdom and morality which adults can learn from as well.

"The Lord of the Rings" trilogy may be bought in a one volume edition for approximately \$20. They may also be bought individually for about \$7 to \$8.

Two orchestras join together to make harmony

JESSE GURZYNSKI
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On Sunday, Nov. 4, the Columbia Symphony Orchestra together with the Sapporo Philharmonic Orchestra held the Portland - Sapporo Sister City Friendship Concert. This joint concert featuring these two orchestras was performed at the Portland Art Museum's Grand Ballroom in front of a full crowd of around 350 people.

It has been years since I have attended a symphony orchestra concert, so I feel fortunate to have attended such a wonderful musical experience as this. The performers were very talented, and all of the instruments were well tuned. (I once attended an orchestra concert in which there was a poorly tuned instrument; that was very irritating). The musical selections were beautiful.

A speaker before the concert introduced the orchestra, then irritated me with some dumb comments about why people come to see concerts. "The arts are the eyes of humanity," he said. Then he went on to explain that when we take in the arts, that's cul-

ture, and of course people go to concerts to experience culture. That is something that has always irritated me about the crowds at symphonic concerts — they're filled with pretentious 'culture' seekers. Talk about "the arts" as "culture." What do *you* know about culture?

I, attended this concert for the music and was thrilled with it. One of the selections, Williams' *The Lark Ascending*, was built around a violin solo performed by Megumi Stohs, of which the only part that was not extraordinary was the person kicking my seat.

The Sapporo Philharmonic Orchestra was only visiting, but the Columbia Symphony Orchestra is based in Portland, and seems to be quite talented.

If you wish to attend a concert, here's my advice: go for the music, not for 'culture.' If you go for culture, you'll be bored. If you go for the music, you are likely to enjoy yourself far more.

Student tickets for this event were only \$5, so the cost shouldn't keep you away. For upcoming concert information, call 503-234-4077, or send an e-mail to cs@pacifier.com.

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