



If you're going

Andre Raphael Smith leads the Philadelphia Orchestra in a Halloween Concert at the Academy of Music at 7 p.m. Monday. Smith conducts music by Mussorgsky, Gounod, Berlioz and Dukas. Violinist Joshua Bell performs Ravel's *Tzigane* and Garrison Keillor recites Edgar Allan Poe's *The Raven*. Tickets range from \$8 to \$45. For reservations, call 215-893-1999.

By ROBERT BAXTER
Courier-Post Staff

The winds of change blowing through the Philadelphia Orchestra are lifting Andre Raphael Smith to prominence. The newly appointed assistant conductor is helping to redefine the Philadelphia Orchestra's stodgy image.

Smith is the first African American to hold a prominent musical post with the Philadelphia Orchestra. Monday evening, he presides over the orchestra's Halloween Concert at the Academy of Music.

The 7 p.m. concert marks Smith's first full program with the orchestra. It also marks another installment in *ClassiX Live*, the orchestra's attempt to reach a younger audience with more informal programs that combine popular favorites with post-performance parties.

The Halloween party begins even before Smith gives the downbeat. The interior of the academy will be transformed with Halloween decorations, and the stage will be lined with pumpkins.

Audience members are invited to wear costumes. Smith, members of the orchestra and guest artists Joshua Bell and Garrison Keillor will also show up in costume.

After the performance, patrons will adjourn to the Academy Ballroom for a Halloween party, featuring live jazz by the Chip Ross Quartet.

Smith won his post with the Philadelphia Orchestra through his outstanding musical talent, but he brings more than musicianship to the orchestra.

"My strengths are my versatility and my communication skills," notes the 32-year-old maestro. "I'm as at home with new music as I am with Mozart and Romantic music. And I'm a good communicator on the podium. That's

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