

# Experience Excellence

January 13, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Atlantic Classical Orchestra Second Series Concert of 2009 Soloists Christopher O’Riley and Caroline Goulding Make Return Appearances**

**January 13, 2009, Fort Pierce, Florida---** The acclaimed Atlantic Classical Orchestra, Stewart Robertson Music Director, announced its Second Series Concert of the 2009 Season to be held on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts at St. Edwards Upper School in Vero Beach and on Friday February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm, at the Lyric Theatre in Stuart. The concert will feature returning soloists from the 2008 Season, pianist and host of NPR’s *From the Top*, Christopher O’Riley, and *wunderkind* violinist Caroline Goulding.

The program will feature a fascinating mélange of old and new- a little-known gem by master Felix Mendelssohn, his Concerto for Piano and Violin featuring O’Riley and Goulding as soloists; Aaron Jay Kernis’ contemporary masterpiece, *Musica Celestis*; and another little-known work, this by the “Spanish Mozart,” Juan Arriaga, his Symphony in D.

“We are very proud and happy to welcome back in 2009 Christopher O’Riley and Caroline Goulding as soloists with the orchestra,” states Larry Kopp, ACO Executive Director. “They were both extremely popular with concertgoers in 2008 and their performances were incredible. And the program for our second series concerts is a great mix of old and new, with some little-known gems brought to our attention by Maestro Robertson. This is truly a concert not to miss for music lovers!”

Pianist Christopher O’Riley performed with the ACO on the opening concerts of the 2008 Season on an all-Beethoven program, Caroline Goulding on the season ending performances, essaying a powerful performance

# Atlantic Classical Orchestra

of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto. The idea for the collaboration between O'Riley and Goulding came from Christopher O'Riley himself.

"Christopher O'Riley spoke with Maestro Robertson after his concerto appearance about the possibility of performing the Mendelssohn Double Concerto with Caroline Goulding during the 2009 ACO Season," states Kopp. "Mr. O'Riley first met Caroline through her appearance on his show, *From the Top*, and have subsequently performed together on a number of occasions. Maestro jumped at the chance of working with both of these talented artists again, especially in a little-known gem like the Mendelssohn."

Felix Mendelssohn is, of course, among the "pantheon" of the classical music greats. His Concerto for Piano and Violin, however, is little known among his compositions. A work of his youth like many of his other masterpieces, the Concerto is uniquely "Mendelssohnian" and will be a real find for music lovers.

As a soloist in concert and recital, as radio and television host and as groundbreaking transcriber of music outside of the concert "mainstream," pianist Christopher O'Riley has redefined the possibilities of classical music. A prize winner early in his career at major international competitions, Mr. O'Riley concertizes extensively worldwide every concert season. As host of the most popular classical radio show on air today, NPR's *From the Top*, Mr. O'Riley works and performs with the next generation of brilliant young musicians, demonstrating to audiences with humor and lack of pretense, that these young artists are as characterful and diverse in their personal lives as they are in their music making. As an interpreter and arranger of some of the most important contemporary popular music of our time, Mr. O'Riley has received considerable critical and popular acclaim. His recordings of transcriptions of the popular group Radiohead and songwriter Nick Drake have been embraced by critics and audiences alike.

16-year old violinist Caroline Goulding has already performed as soloist with such prestigious organizations as the Cleveland Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Buffalo Philharmonic. She a regular presence on television and radio as well, appearing on NBC's *Today* and the *Martha Show* as well as both radio and television versions of *From the Top*. A student of Paul Kantor at the Cleveland Institute of Music, Caroline recently recorded her debut commercial recording with industry giant Telarc to be released in Summer 2009.

Aaron Jay Kernis' *Musica Celestis* was heavenly inspired- by angels, that is! The orchestration and arrangement of the slow movement of the composer's First String Quartet (1990), the piece was inspired by medieval music, in particular the work of Hildegard of Bingen, and the idea of angels perpetually singing the praises of God. A work of rare and exquisite beauty and fragility, it is a work sure to move audiences.

Moving also is the tragic story of composer Juan Chrisóstomo Arriaga, who died before his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Born in Bilbao, Spain, Arriaga showed early musical genius on-par with likes of Mozart. He died while still a student at the Paris Conservatory, leaving behind few works, perhaps the finest of which is his Symphony in D. A mature work of genius, it shows that the nickname the "Spanish Mozart" is truly justified.

Incredible soloists, an innovative yet accessible program and the Treasure Coast's own world-class orchestra- it all adds up to a concert experience not to be missed!

The ACO Series II Concerts will be held on Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts, 1895 St. Edward's Drive, Vero Beach, and Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009, 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm, Lyric Theatre, 59 SW Flagler Avenue, Stuart. Tickets are \$40 for the Vero Beach performance and the 4:00 pm Stuart performance; \$45 for the 8:00 pm Stuart performance. Tickets for the Vero Beach performance are available through the ACO Box Office by calling toll-free (866) 310-7521 or visiting the orchestra's website at [www.acomusic.org](http://www.acomusic.org). Tickets for the Stuart performances are available by visiting the Lyric Box Office at 59 SW Flagler Avenue in downtown Stuart or calling (772) 286-7827.

For more information concerning the ACO's Series II Concerts, electronic copies of artist photos, artist biographies or an interview with Music Director Stewart Robertson or Executive Director Larry Kopp, please contact Director of Communications Silvia Longa at (772) 460-0850. Christopher O'Riley's personal website is located at [www.christopheroriley.com](http://www.christopheroriley.com) and his radio and television show can be found at [www.fromthetop.org](http://www.fromthetop.org); Caroline Goulding's personal website is [www.carolinegoulding.com](http://www.carolinegoulding.com). The ACO office is located at 415 Avenue A, Suite 301, Fort Pierce, and is open 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. Mail should be sent to 415 Avenue A, Suite 301, Fort Pierce, FL 34950. For more information about the Atlantic Classical Orchestra or its events, call the Orchestra office at (772) 460-0850 or fax (772) 460-0851. E-mail to

marketing@acomusic.org. Press and advertising information can be obtained through the Symphony office as well.