

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atlantic Classical Orchestra Announces 2011 Season

March 30, 2010, Fort Pierce, Florida--- The acclaimed Atlantic Classical Orchestra, Stewart Robertson Music Director, announced its programs and activities for the 2011 Concert Season.

“At the conclusion of an extremely successful 20th Anniversary Season we are very excited to announce our concert activities for the upcoming 2011 Season,” states Larry Kopp, ACO Executive Director. “As always, our Orchestra Series Concerts showcase masterpieces paired with little-known gems discovered by Maestro Robertson. And our Chamber Series Concerts will be back as will a new event, a Community Concert for the entire Treasure Coast community.”

The ACO's Orchestra Series Concerts are the organization's primary *raison d'être* and the first concerts that the ACO presented to Treasure Coast audiences. In 2011 the ACO has put together four series performances that stretch the musical boundaries of the ACO and provide a unique and irreplaceable artistic experience for concertgoers.

The Series I Concerts, Wednesday, January 5th, 2011, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts in Vero Beach and Friday, January 7th, 2011, 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm, at the Lyric Theatre in Stuart, opens the orchestra's 21st season with an all-British program of gems for chamber orchestra composed over the last 300+ years. The concerts open with Henry Purcell's *Abdelazar* Suite, a collection of music written by Purcell in 1695 to accompany playwright Aphra Brehn's Restoration era drama of the same name. We travel from 1695 to the present day for the next piece on the program- Richard Rodney Bennett's Nocturnes. Excerpted from

The Atlantic Classical Orchestra

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

the composer's 1965 opera *The Mines of Sulpher*, they are evocative, descriptive pieces that capture the many moods of the nighttime hours. From the end of the 20th Century Maestro Robertson next takes us to the earliest years of the century- 1905 in fact- for Edward Elgar's masterful Introduction & Allegro for String Quartet and String Orchestra. Composed for the nascent London Symphony Orchestra, the ACO's performance will feature the principal players of the orchestra in a piece written to show off the virtuosity of the entire string section. Finally, the concert concludes with E. J. Moeran's little-known masterpiece Sinfonietta. Redolent of the English countryside, this compact, understated work is often reminiscent of Vaughn Williams but ultimately is a unique listening experience, a masterpiece from the pen of a now forgotten British 20th Century master.

The Series II Concerts, Thursday, February 3rd, 2011, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts in Vero Beach, and Friday, February 4th, 2011, 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm, feature a program that is quintessentially ACO- a little-known work, a work by a composer that is a "classic" heard in a new way, and an immortal masterpiece.

William Boyce was an 18th Century British composer who has been unjustly ignored by contemporary audiences. His Symphony #5 is a charming work, characteristic of his age and sure to be a hit with audiences. Chopin's Concerto #1 is a characteristically delightful blend of pianistic virtuosity and beautiful lyricism. An unabashedly romantic work, the Chopin Concerto has been a favorite of audiences since its debut in 1930. Soloist in the Chopin is the American pianist Jon Nakamatsu.

One of the most sought-after pianists of his generation, Jon Nakamatsu is a frequent concerto soloist, chamber musician, recording artist and solo recitalist throughout the United States, Europe and Japan. He enjoys a continuously expanding career based on a deeply probing and illuminating musicality as well as a quietly charismatic performing style.

Initially brought to global attention in June 1997 by being named Gold Medalist of the Tenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Jon Nakamatsu subsequently appeared as soloist with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl and the Boston Pops at Tanglewood, as well as with, among many others,

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

the orchestras of Buffalo, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Dallas, Dayton, Delaware, Detroit, Fort Worth, Honolulu, Memphis, Milwaukee, Naples, New Mexico, New World, Portland, Rochester, San Antonio, San Francisco, San Jose, Santa Barbara, Seattle, Syracuse, Toledo and Utah. Abroad, he has been heard as soloist with Italy's famed Orchestra del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Berlin's Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester and Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach Chamber Orchestra, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Costa Rica, Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Santo Domingo and Japan's Tokyo and Hiroshima Symphony Orchestras.

Jon Nakamatsu's extensive recital tours throughout the United States and Europe have featured performances in New York City (Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall), Washington, DC (John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts), Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Miami, Houston, San Francisco, Paris, London and Milan. The recipient of the Steven De Groote Memorial Award for his semifinal round chamber music performances at the Cliburn competition, he has subsequently collaborated with various chamber ensembles, among them the Brentano, Ives, Manhattan, Miami, St. Lawrence, Prazak, Tokyo and Ying String Quartets and the Stanford Woodwind Quintet. Mr. Nakamatsu has also made three United States tours as the guest soloist with the Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet.

Jon Nakamatsu has studied privately with Marina Derryberry since the age of six, has worked with Karl Ulrich Schnabel, and studied composition and orchestration with Dr. Leonard Stein of the Schoenberg Institute at the University of Southern California. In addition, he has pursued extensive studies in chamber music and musicology. A former high school German teacher, Mr. Nakamatsu is a graduate of Stanford University with a bachelor's degree in German Studies and a master's degree in Education.

The final composer and composition on the program need no introduction- Mozart's Symphony #29. Mozart's joyous, buoyant melodies and effortless grace are the perfect ending to a perfect evening of music making!

March brings with it the ACO's Series III performances on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2011, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts in Vero Beach and Friday, March 4th, 2011, 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm, at the Lyric Theatre in Stuart. Maestro Robertson has put together a concert of music from "the North-" a program of

The Atlantic Classical Orchestra

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

music from Scandinavian and Russian composers, those well-known and not so well-known, all combined into a delightful musical whole!

Two Finnish composers open the concert- Armas Järnefelt and Jean Sibelius. Järnefelt's Praeludium is his most popular work and enjoyed many performances throughout the mid-20th Century. Jean Sibelius needs no introduction as the most famous and greatest Finnish composer ever. His Valse Trieste, originally written in 1905 as incidental music to the drama *Kuolema*, remains one of the composers most popular and oft-performed works. Present day Estonian composer Arvo Pärt enjoys great popularity and many performances of his works worldwide. His *Silouans Song*, an ethereal, otherworldly work, is inspired by the writings of an elder in the Russian Orthodox Church and is deeply religious and personal at the same time. Lars-Erik Larsson's Pastoral Suite is a charming work best described as in a "Nordic romantic" style. Vagn Homboe was a 20th Century Danish composer whose symphonies are considered by cognoscenti as among the finest symphonic creations of the century. And finally, what concert of composers from the North would be complete without a Russian? Tchaikovsky's virtuosic yet beautiful violin showpieces, Serenade Melancolique and Valse-Scherzo, will be performed by the ACO's Russian-born Concertmaster, Leonid "Lenny" Sigal.

The ACO's 2011 Orchestra Series Concerts end with a group of concerts that feature three all-time orchestral favorites! The concerts, to be held on Thursday, March 31st, 2011, 8:00 pm, at the Waxlax Center for the Performing Arts in Vero Beach and Friday, April 1st, 2011, 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm, at the Lyric Theatre in Stuart include Rossini's Overture to *The Barber of Seville*; Max Bruch's Violin Concerto; and Beethoven's mighty Seventh Symphony.

Rossini's *The Barber of Seville* is among his most popular works and one of the most popular operas ever written. The overture is among the most performed works on orchestra concerts and perfectly portrays the light-hearted insouciance of the opera in a perfect concert opener! Max Bruch's First Violin Concerto is rightly famous for its perfect combination of breathtaking virtuosity and heartbreaking lyricism and beauty. The

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

considerable demands of this “warhorse” of the concerto repertoire will be ably met by young violin virtuoso Caroline Goulding, making a return visit to the Treasure Coast and the ACO.

17-year-old violinist Caroline Goulding was a First Prize winner in the 2009 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, where she was also awarded the Slomovic Orchestra Soloist Prize and the Buffalo Chamber Music Society Prize. Ms. Goulding’s New York debut opened the 50th Anniversary season of the Young Concert Artists Series, sponsored by the Rhoda Walker Teagle Concert Prize. She will also be presented in her Kennedy Center debut, as well as in Boston at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.

Ms. Goulding was featured on the cover of Strings Magazine, which included an article that she wrote about the Korngold Violin Concerto. She first appeared on National Public Radio’s “From the Top,” hosted by pianist Christopher O’Riley, when she was 14. Ms. Goulding has also appeared on The Martha Stewart Show and the “Today” Show. At 16, Telarc recorded a CD with Ms. Goulding and pianist Christopher O’Riley, which won a 2010 GRAMMY nomination.

At the age of 13, Ms. Goulding won the Concerto Competition at the Aspen Festival, and was soon to appear with orchestras including the Detroit Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra, and the Atlantic Classical Orchestra.

Ms. Goulding hails from Ohio, where she began violin lessons at the age of three under the tutelage of Julia Kurtyka. She has participated in the Starling-Delay Symposium at the Juilliard School, at the Interlochen Center for the Arts and the Ceilidh Trail School of Celtic Music on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. She currently works with Paul Kantor at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Ms. Goulding plays a General Kyd Stradivarius (c 1720), on loan to her through the generous courtesy of Jonathan Moulds.

Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony was famously called by Richard Wagner the “apotheosis of the dance” due to its rhythmic vitality and energy. Rightly considered one of the greatest symphonies ever, the towering work of

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

genius is the perfect way to conclude the ACO's 21st year of orchestra concerts for the Treasure Coast community!

New in 2011 is a first for the ACO- special concerts for the community! The Community Concerts, Friday, February 25th, 2011 in Vero Beach, and Saturday, February 26th, 2011 in Stuart, will be a further extension of a musical theme first introduced during the 2010 Season. Maestro Robertson and the ACO will be performing a chamber version for 10 musicians of Anton Bruckner's mighty Seventh Symphony!

"The performance in January 2010 of a chamber version of Mahler's Fourth Symphony by the ACO was extremely popular with audiences and musicians," states Kopp. "We decided to include another of these arrangements in 2011, this time as a concert specially priced for the community to encourage attendance. With the smaller forces involved we had a little more flexibility as to concert locations as well as, more importantly, giving us the financial flexibility to add the concert to our schedule."

Anton Bruckner's music is among the most profoundly beautiful ever written. A very devout and religious man, his Seventh Symphony, like all of his works, features lush harmonies and soaring melodies that frame a music of a deep religious feeling that is otherworldly in its impact. Originally written for large orchestra, the ACO is performing a chamber version for 10 musicians of this challenging and gorgeous work as a special concert presentation for our patrons and community.

Returning in 2011 is the ACO's Chamber Music Series after an extremely successful 2010 Season. Again in 2011, the ACO will be offering three Chamber Series performances, in Stuart at the Blake Library as part of the Library's Chautauqua South Series, and in Vero Beach in partnership with the Vero Beach Museum of Art.

The first Chamber Series Concerts, Saturday, January 29th, 2011, 11:00 am, in Stuart and Sunday, January 30th, 2011, 4:00 pm, in Vero Beach, will feature ACO Principal Flutist Christina Burr. The program includes works by Fritz Kreisler, *Schön Rosmarin*; Claude Debussy, *Syrinx*; and Sergei Prokofiev's Flute Sonata. The second Chamber Series Concerts on Saturday, February 19th, 2011, 11:00 am in Stuart and Sunday, February

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

20th, 2011, 4:00 pm in Vero Beach, gives Treasure Coast audiences an opportunity to hear one of their own- Port St. Lucie violinist Maryna Yermolenko. A student of violinist Elmar Oliveira (who soloed with the ACO in 2010) at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Maryna is returning home to perform a program that includes Vivaldi's Sonata in A Major; Richard Strauss' Sonata in E-Flat Major; and Tchaikovsky's *Mélodie*, Opus 42. And finally, the third and final Chamber Series concerts of 2011 on Saturday, March 12th, 2011, 11:00 am in Stuart and Sunday, March 20th, 2011, 4:00 pm in Stuart, will feature members of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra in two gorgeous quartets by French composers- Gabriel Fauré's and Ernest Chausson's Piano Quartets.

The ACO's 2011 Season- the best yet for the Treasure Coast's own world-class ensemble!

"All of us at the ACO are extremely proud of the ACO's upcoming 2011 Season," states Kopp. "It has a wide variety of music that our patrons will love as well as expanding their musical horizons. Our orchestra is growing artistically and expanding, and that is a real source of pride for all of us connected with the orchestra. And of course, that growth and expansion allows us to better our community, which is truly our reason for existing."

Season Brochures were mailed the last week in March to all current subscribers and those who purchased single tickets over past season. Brochures may be requested by contacting the ACO at their toll-free Ticket Hotline, (866) 310-7521, or by e-mail at info@acomusic.org. Subscriptions may also be ordered through the ACO's website, www.acomusic.org.

Ticket prices for the ACO will not see price increases in 2011- and subscribers receive a substantial saving over single ticket prices as well as having the opportunity to reserve the best seating available for all concerts. Subscriptions for Vero Beach performances at the Waxlax Center are \$144; 4:00 pm performances at the Lyric Theatre in Stuart are \$135; 8:00 pm performances are \$160. Single tickets for Vero Beach performances are \$40; single ticket prices for 4:00 pm Lyric performances are \$40.00 and \$45 for 8:00 pm performances.

Celebrating 20 Years of Excellence

"I strongly recommend all ACO patrons who wish to subscribe to the 2011 Season to mail your requests as soon as possible," states Kopp. "Demand is great for our concerts and promises to be at the highest levels yet. Subscribers have until May 1st to renew current seats and we are going to be strict in enforcing this deadline. All changes for seats and new subscriptions are processed in the order they are received, so the earlier we receive your request the better your chances for obtaining the seats that you want."

For more information concerning the ACO's 2011 Season, electronic copies of artist photos, artist biographies or an interview with Music Director Stewart Robertson or Executive Director Larry Kopp, please contact the ACO Office at (772) 460-0850. In-depth information on the orchestra is available on the orchestra's website, www.acomusic.org. 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 info@acomusic.org. Press and advertising information can be obtained through the Symphony office as well.