



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Southwest Florida Symphony Around Town Series

Around Town Series Season Tickets on Sale Now!

Get up close and personal with the Southwest Florida Symphony as Music Director Michael Hall and the Chamber Orchestra bring a diverse mix of music to the stage. Performed at local churches and concert halls throughout Lee county, the series offers an intimate opportunity for the audience to experience music in a more personal setting.

“Our Around Town Series concerts offer the audience a chance to get up close and personal with the orchestra. The venues lend themselves the opportunity for me to talk more in depth about the music,” explains Hall. “It is my hope that this will enable the listener to get even more out of their concert going experience.”

“The Prodigies” celebrate the musical genius of three composers and their musical treasures left they behind. The season opener features Mozart’s clarinet concerto, one of his last completed works, an early Beethoven Symphony and a masterful piece by the short-lived young composer, Arriaga, considered “The Spanish Mozart.” Principal Clarinet Michael Forte will be the featured soloist.

The sounds of Jazz fill the air in the February series concert featuring musical favorites in “A Jazzy Journey.” Steven Mayer, hailed for his awe-inspiring artistry, commands the piano performing the original version of Gershwin’s “Rhapsody in Blue.”

Music explodes from the stage in the final series concert: “Musical Triumph.” The orchestra celebrates the triumph of battle through pieces such as Handel’s “Royal Fireworks Music” and Haydn’s dramatic “Lord Nelson Mass” featuring the majestic vocals of the Southwest Florida Symphony Chamber Chorus and soloists.

The Southwest Florida Symphony Around Town Series concerts are held at area churches and concert halls throughout Lee county. See the schedule below for specific locations and times. Tickets are \$25. Call the Southwest Florida Symphony Box Office at 418-1500 or visit the website at www.swflso.org for more details.

THE PRODIGIES

October 31, 7:30 pm, The Village Church at Shell Point, Fort Myers

November 1, 7 pm, First Presbyterian Church of Bonita, Bonita Springs

November 21, 7 pm, Schein Hall at Big Arts, Sanibel

With Michael Forte, Principal Clarinet

ARRIAGA: *Overture TO Los esclavos felices*

MOZART: *Clarinet Concerto in A Major - Michael Forte, Principal Clarinet*

BEETHOVEN: *Symphony #2*

A JAZZY JOURNEY

February 8, 7 pm, Schein Hall at Big Arts, Sanibel

February 9, 7 pm, First Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral

With Steven Mayer, piano

FAURE: *Pelleas and Melisande*

MILHAUD: *Creation du Monde*

IVES: *Unanswered Question*

GERSHWIN: *Rhapsody in Blue - Steven Mayer, piano*

MUSICAL TRIUMPH

March 20, 7:30 pm, Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral

March 21, 7:30 pm, Sidney & Berne Davis Center For the Arts, Fort Myers

March 22, 7pm, Schein Hall at Big Arts, Sanibel

With the Symphony Chamber Chorus and Mary Wilson, Misty Bermudez, Brad Diamond and Gerard Sundberg

ELGAR: *Serenade for Strings in E minor*

HANDEL: *Royal Fireworks Music*

HAYDN: *Lord Nelson Mass - Symphony Chamber Chorus and soloists*

With record breaking crowds and abundant praise last year, a sizzling 48th season begins as Music Director Michael Hall takes the stage to conduct a vibrant season of music. Serving as Lee County's professional orchestra, the Southwest Florida Symphony is a vital cultural asset to all residents. Our programs impact over 70,000 people annually through a variety of concerts, performance opportunities for youth and educational programs for local school children. Performing groups include the SWFLS Orchestra, the Symphony Chorus, the Children's Chorus and the Youth Orchestra and Sinfonietta. The Symphony is supported by ticket sales, sponsorships, donations, grants and the Symphony Society, an organization of over 500 volunteers. To learn more, see us on the web at www.swflso.org.

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