



Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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Southwest Florida Symphony

Sizzling Season of Classical Music Begins

The 48th season of Classical music with the Southwest Florida Symphony promises to be a magnificent combination of the familiar and undiscovered as Maestro Michael Hall celebrates his second season with the orchestra. “The music we’ve chosen to share is bold and breathtaking, showing off the capabilities of our orchestra,” explains Hall. “We are also celebrating the year of the young artist and have two exciting young virtuosos to share – 21-year-old pianist Naomi Kudo and 24-year-old violinist Augustin Hadelich.”

“The Classical opener explodes from the stage with the brilliant masterwork of Brahms’ “Symphony #1” and Grieg’s ambitious “Piano Concerto” performed by the up and coming pianist Naomi Kudo. The *Symphony Spectacular* takes place November 22 at 8 pm and November 23 at 2:30 pm at Mann Performing Arts Hall in Fort Myers and includes Berlioz’s “La Corsaire” as a prelude. A pre-concert Opening Gala takes place from 6 – 8 pm, November 22 at Judd Pavilion in Mann Hall. The event offers hors d’oeuvres, wine and champagne and features the Festival of Trees – one of a kind table top trees going to the highest bidder. Tickets for the gala are \$30 per person.

“Our audience wants a fine blend of the familiar and the undiscovered,” explained Hall. “This season offers both.” The January Classical concert *The Glories of France* features the French treasures of Saint-Saëns “Symphony #3” and the Southwest Florida Symphony Chorus and soprano Michelle Giglio

performs Poulenc's glorious "Gloria." *Star Crossed Lovers* March 7 & 8 provokes the romance of Bernstein's "Symphonic Dances" from *West Side Story* and Prokofiev's Suite from *Romeo & Juliet*. The majestic season finale features the brilliant young violinist Augustin Hadelich performing Beethoven's "Violin Concerto" and Tchaikovsky's colorfully orchestrated "Symphony #5."

Whether a first time attendee or a seasoned listener, everyone will hear music they are familiar with. For those who seek it, a learning experience can unfold with the pre-concert discussion where Associate Conductor Joseph Caulkins takes the audience back in time to understand the history, dynamics and story of the music. The pre-concert discussion takes place one hour prior to each concert and is free for ticket holders.

Subscriber series and single tickets are on sale now. To order your tickets, call the Symphony Box Office at 418-1500. Order your tickets soon, the best seats go quickly!

Classical Series:

SYMPHONY SPECTACULAR

November 22 at 8 pm & November 23 at 2:30 pm

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers

Michael Hall conducts

BERLIOZ: La Corsaire

GRIEG: Piano Concerto - Naomi Kudo, pianist

BRAHMS: Symphony #1

THE GLORY OF FRANCE

January 24 at 8 pm & January 25 at 2:30 pm

Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers

Michael Hall conducts

POULENC: Gloria -Symphony Chorus and Michelle Giglio, soprano

SAINT-SAENS: Symphony #3 "Organ"

STAR CROSSED LOVERS

March 7 at 8 pm & March 8 at 2:30 pm

First Christian Church, Fort Myers

Michael Hall conducts

GLINKA: Overture to Ruslan and Ludmilla

BERNSTEIN: Symphonic Dances from "West Side Story"

PROKOFIEV: Suite from "Romeo and Juliet"

MUSICAL MASTERPIECES

April 4 at 8 pm & April 5 at 2:30 pm

Barbara B. Man Performing Arts Hall, Fort Myers

Michael Hall conducts

BEETHOVEN: Violin Concerto - Augustin Hadelich, violinist

TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony #5

On the heels of record breaking crowds last year, a sizzling season awaits as Music Director Michael Hall takes the stage and ushers in a vibrant and exciting 48th season of music. As Lee County's only professional orchestra, the Southwest Florida Symphony offers over 40 concerts across five series October thru May. 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, a volunteer organization of over 500. The Symphony commits over \$100,000 annually for education, performance and scholarship programs that reach thousands of area youth. To learn more, see us on the web at www.swflso.org.