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## **Elgin Symphony Orchestra Announces 61<sup>st</sup> Season in 2010-2011**

**Opening Weekend featuring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**

**The return of ESO favorite pianist Rich Ridenour and conductor Michael Berkowitz**

**Four concert Artist Residency culminating with Beethoven Triple Concerto**

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Associate Conductor Stephen Squires**

**Launch of newly redesigned and interactive [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org)!**

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra announces its upcoming season inviting you to "Fill Your Life with Music" in 2010-2011. The 2010-11 Season is the orchestra's sixty-first since its foundation in 1941, thirty-sixth under Music Director Robert Hanson, and twentieth season anniversary of Associate Conductor Stephen Squires. The 2010-11 Season runs from October 1, 2010 through June 12, 2011 and includes performances at the Hemmens Theatre in Elgin and the Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts.

Artistic highlights include an Opening Weekend Celebration featuring Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, a four-concert residency of great guest artists, Copland's *Appalachian Spring* and Strauss' *Don Juan*. The Pops Series brings the return of ESO favorite Rich Ridenour, the trail-blazing trio Time for Three and conductor Rainer Hersch, whose program was just named "#1 Event of 2009" by Time Out London!

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra will enter the second phase of the *Building Community through the Arts* initiative during the 10-11 Season. Launched during the 2009-2010 Season, the initiative focuses on creating partnerships with people and organizations representing all cultures, ages, and financial means. This phase, including the announcement of a new \$75 small business sponsorship, an expanded *Elgin: Home for the Holidays* collaboration and new partnerships with Elgin area non profits will run through December 2010.

"The *Building Community through the Arts* initiative that 2010 launched at the kickoff of the 60<sup>th</sup> Season has been widely recognized throughout the city and its citizens and we are thrilled to be expanding the project further into the ESO's sixth decade," Chief Executive Officer Dr. Dale J. Lonis says of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra. "The ESO musicians, backed with fantastic programming and quality guest artists, are excited to uphold the artistic excellence the Elgin Symphony Orchestra is known for, and the rapidly expanding Board of Directors, Trustees and volunteer league are committed to energizing the community."

For more information regarding the upcoming season contact the Elgin Symphony Orchestra Box Office at (847) 888-4000, 10am-5pm, Monday-Friday, visit the ESO Box Office located at 20 DuPage Ct. in downtown Elgin, or visit us on the web at [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org) and [www.facebook.com/ElginSymphonyOrchestra](http://www.facebook.com/ElginSymphonyOrchestra).

### **CLASSICS SERIES**

The Classics Series begins with Beethoven's masterpiece – the Ninth Symphony, representing a musical expression of universal brotherhood, setting the bar for the transformative power of live musical performance. The ESO is joined by the Beethoven Festival Chorus, including the Elgin Choral Union and other exceptional vocalists from throughout the area for an awe-inspiring Opening Weekend Celebration. The series continues with highlights including symphonies of Tchaikovsky, Dvořák, Bruckner and Mozart, Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, Strauss' *Don Juan*, and Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No.

Musically Speaking pre-concert lectures take place one hour before the start of all Classics Series concerts on stage at the Hemmens Theatre unless otherwise noted, and are open to all concert ticket holders. ESO musicologists Dan Maki, Jim Kendross, and special guests offer informative discussion about the composers, music and performers of the evening.

Classics events take place at the Hemmens Theatre in downtown Elgin as well as select performances at the Prairie Center for the Arts in Schaumburg. Multi concert packages, starting as low as \$120, are available for Friday Matinees, Saturday Evenings and Sunday Afternoons. Subscribe before April 19<sup>th</sup> and pay last year's final published prices!

### **BEETHOVEN'S NINTH**

October 1 (1:30pm), 2 (8:00pm) & 3 (3:30pm), 2010

Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Elgin Choral Union | Beethoven Festival Chorus

Brewbaker	<i>Tree of Life</i>
Brahms	Variations on a Theme of Haydn
Beethoven	Symphony No. 9

Feel the joy of Beethoven's masterpiece – the Ninth Symphony. The 2010-2011 Season opens with an awe-inspiring work representing his musical expression of universal brotherhood. Heard in triumphant moments of the human spirit, from the fall of the Berlin Wall to the Olympic Games, it sets the bar for the transformative power of live musical performance.

### **DEBUSSY & MOZART**

November 6 (8:00pm) & 7 (3:30pm), 2010

Stephen Squires, *conductor* | Stephen Hartman, *harp*

Debussy	<i>Danses sacrée et profane</i>
Prokofiev	Suite: <i>Lt. Kije</i>
Mahler	<i>Songs of a Wayfarer</i>
Mozart	Symphony No. 39

Rarely heard yet hauntingly beautiful, Debussy's *Sacred and Profane Dances* for harp and orchestra feature ESO Principal Harpist Stephen Hartman and are paired with Mozart's Symphony No. 39, the first of his three final and most heralded symphonies.

**HAYDN CELLO CONCERTO featuring Alisa Weilerstein**

January 7 (8:00pm) - Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts  
January 8 (8:00pm) & 9 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Alisa Weilerstein, *cello*

Handel	Entrance of the Queen of Sheba
Haydn	Cello Concerto in D
Bruckner	Symphony No. 2

Since her debut with the Cleveland Orchestra at age 13, cellist Alisa Weilerstein has graced stages from New York to Berlin as a leading talent of the latest generation of concert artists. She returns to the ESO with a performance of Haydn's elegant D Major Concerto.

**NIGHT ON BALD MOUNTAIN**

February 4 (1:30pm), 5 (8:00pm) & 6 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Inon Barnatan, *piano*

Mussorgsky	<i>Night on Bald Mountain</i>
Shostakovich	Piano Concerto No. 2
Borodin	Symphony No. 2
Tchaikovsky	Excerpts from <i>Swan Lake</i>

Travel to Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* and Mussorgsky's *Bald Mountain* in a program of masterpieces inspired by Russian myth and legend, including Borodin's Symphony No. 2, conjuring images of knights and heroism.

**DON JUAN & DVOŘÁK**

March 4 (1:30pm), 5 (8:00pm) & 6 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, *conductor*

Mozart	Overture: <i>Don Giovanni</i>
Respighi	<i>Ancient Airs and Dances</i> : Suite No. 1
Strauss	<i>Don Juan</i>
Dvořák	Symphony No. 8

In Spain he's *Don Juan* – in Italy, *Don Giovanni*. Be courted by the legendary womanizer through the music of Mozart and Strauss as Robert Hanson leads the ESO in a program of colorful and poetic works.

**SIMPLE GIFTS: Copland's *Appalachian Spring***

April 2 (8:00pm) & 3 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Chee Yun, *violin*

Mendelssohn            *Overture: The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave)*  
Lalo                      *Symphonie Espagnole*  
Copland                *Appalachian Spring*  
Maxwell Davies        *Orkney Wedding, with Sunrise*

Celebrate with American pioneers in Copland's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Appalachian Spring*. This program of landscapes and cultures includes a stop in Spain with Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole* and Mendelssohn's colorful *Hebrides Overture*, inspired by a visit to Scotland's Fingal's Cave.

**BEETHOVEN'S TRIPLE CONCERTO**

April 29 (8:00pm) - Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts  
April 30 (8:00pm) & May 1 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Kazem Abdullah, *conductor* | Inon Barnatan, *piano* | Chee Yun, *violin* | Alisa Weilerstein, *cello*

Beethoven            *Concerto for Piano, Violin and Cello Triple Concerto*  
Hindemith            *Mathis der Maler*

Four rising stars and Beethoven's unique yet seldom heard work create a program full of once-in-a-lifetime moments. With his 2009 Metropolitan Opera debut, conductor Kazem Abdullah has quickly become one of the most watched talents of the classical world. He leads Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* and the return of three of the season's soloists for your chance to hear them again, this time performing together!

**TCHAIKOVSKY & RACHMANINOFF**

June 10 (1:30pm), 11 (8:00pm) & 12 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, *conductor* | Alexander Toradze, *piano*

Tchaikovsky        *Symphony No. 6 Pathétique*  
Rachmaninoff       *Piano Concerto No. 3*

Be swept away by two Russian Romantics. Tchaikovsky's *Pathétique* Symphony is a deeply passionate work that thrills audiences, while Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 stands as one of the most formidable yet popular masterpieces by the composer known for pulling heart-strings and captivating listeners.

**POPS SERIES**

The 2010-2011 Pops Series is filled with four knockout events! The trail-blazing trio Time for Three, a group energizing concert halls across the nation, opens the series, followed by British star conductor Rainer Hersch, in a pops show the likes of which you have never seen this side of the Atlantic! Rich Ridenour and conductor Michael Berkowitz return to perform together, bringing their Hollywood favorites from great film scores of Nelson Riddle and John Williams, in collaboration, and piano movie moments. In April, Associate Conductor

Stephen Squires presents Gershwin in Blue, with hits from *Porgy and Bess* to the iconic *Rhapsody in Blue*!

Pops events take place at the Hemmens Theatre in downtown Elgin as well as select performances at the Prairie Center for the Arts in Schaumburg. Multi concert packages, starting as low as \$89, are available for Saturday Evenings and Sunday Afternoons. Subscribe before April 19<sup>th</sup> and pay last year's final published prices!

### **AMERICAN VIRTUOSITY**

October 15 (8:00pm) – Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts  
October 16 (8:00pm) & 17 (3:30pm) 2010 – Hemmens Theatre  
Robert Hanson, conductor | Time for Three

Encounter the group that is energizing concert halls across the nation, and have a story you can tell all of your friends! The category-shattering trio Time for Three blends their style of classical, bluegrass, gypsy, jazz and sheer virtuosity with the ESO. An impromptu jam session during a blackout at a Philadelphia Orchestra concert launched them into the national spotlight, and they have since earned rave reviews!

### **orchHERSCHtra 101: with Rainer Hersch**

November 19 (1:30pm) 20 (8:00pm) & 21 (3:30pm), 2010 – Hemmens Theatre  
Rainer Hersch, conductor & piano

You've never seen a pops show like this anywhere in America! Direct from London, the most infamous musical hooligan since Victor Borge descends upon Elgin. British star conductor Rainer Hersch dissects your favorites, from *William Tell* to *Star Trek*, and shows you what *really* goes on behind the music. Whether it's on BBC, his HBO Special or in concerts from London to Cape Town, Rainer Hersch is "Rainerizing" the world one audience at a time.

"Victor Borge for a new generation" *The Sunday Times*, London

"Splendidly silly – Britain's new musical guru" *Time Out*, London

### **GREAT MOVIES, GRAND PIANO featuring Rich Ridenour**

February 18 (8:00pm) – Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts  
February 19 (8:00pm) & 20 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Michael Berkowitz, conductor | Rich Ridenour, piano

Rich Ridenour is back! Together with Michael Berkowitz he's bringing his Hollywood favorites to you, from great film scores of Nelson Riddle and John Williams, to grand piano movie moments such as the Theme from *Exodus* and the *Warsaw Concerto* from *Dangerous Moonlight*.

### **GERSHWIN IN BLUE**

April 15 (1:30pm), 16 (8:00pm) & 17 (3:30pm), 2011 – Hemmens Theatre  
Stephen Squires, conductor | Ollie Watts Davis, soprano | Elgin Choral Union

From the iconic *Rhapsody in Blue* to the popular and controversial *Porgy and Bess*, Gershwin was a champion "mixmaster," mixing the sounds and vibrancy of American cultures with the conventions of the concert stage. Stephen Squires, celebrating his 20<sup>th</sup> Season as the ESO's Associate Conductor, presents some of the most loved Gershwin moments!

### **FAMILY FUN SERIES**

The ESO's Family Fun Series returns for its second year with Education Conductor Randal Swiggum. All concerts include an interactive carnival of Pre-Concert Activities starting at 2:00pm and an entertaining one hour Concert at 3:30pm. Events, which take place at Hemmens Theatre, are the

perfect place for young families and grandparents to introduce children to the world of music. Families can get one child series FREE with the purchase of each adult series!

### **HALLOWEEN SPOOK-TACULAR**

October 30, 2010 – Hemmens Theatre

The ESO will be haunted this fall with musical tricks and treats, including *Danse Macabre* and John Williams' magical music for *Harry Potter*. Come in your costume, enjoy the festival of pre-concert activities for kids and take part in a city-wide day of Halloween fun!

### **BRING ON THE BRASS**

January 29, 2011 – Hemmens Theatre

Kings and castles, marching bands, New Orleans jazz—brass instruments have been inspiring listeners and marking important occasions since ancient times. Let the commanding sound of the ESO Brass Quintet take you on a fun-filled journey through centuries of brilliant brass music.

### **BEETHOVEN SUPERHERO**

April 16, 2011– Hemmens Theatre

He hears things no one else can hear. He sees things that mere mortals overlook. And he can launch a whole symphony with just four notes. He is Beethoven. Find out how his music still grips listeners after 200 years! Featured in this thrilling concert is music from Beethoven's mighty Fifth, haunting Seventh, and heroic Third Symphonies, as well as his amazing Triple Concerto for not one, not two, but three soloists—winners of the ESO's Young Virtuosi Competition.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra spreads the joy of the season with three holiday programs December 11-13<sup>th</sup> at the Hemmens Theatre featuring the charming vocal sensation from the 09-10 season, Five by Design.

#### **RADIO HOLLY-DAYS with Five By Design**

December 11 (3:30pm & 8:00pm) & 12 (3:30pm), 2010

Stephen Squires, *conductor* | Five By Design, *vocals*

Bring your family and friends for a heart-warming Holiday event sure to summon up good tidings and joy! Five By Design returns to the Hemmens to join the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, taking us to a time when families prepared trimmings and tinsel, tuned their radios to Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* while sending Holiday wishes to their men overseas. This special celebration of the American Holiday Spirit will be a musical evening of fun, laughter and remembrance!

### **ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE**

Four beloved concertos, four rising stars, four memorable concert events. This season, the Elgin Symphony Orchestra invites you to take part in a collaboration with four concert artists blazing the trail for the next generation of great performers. Get to know cellist Alisa Weilerstein, pianist Inon

Barnatan and violinist Chee Yun as they each grace the stage to perform solo works. Then in April, this trio comes together to perform Beethoven's Triple Concerto, led by conductor Kazem Abdullah. A Classics Series secures your seat for the entire residency, and is your ticket for the opportunity to become familiar with the artistry of each of these talented musicians.

### **ElginSymphony.org**

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra will launch a newly-designed website, at [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org), in conjunction with the opening of the 2010-2011 season. The redesigned site boasts streamlined navigation and the "Soundtrack to Your Life" an interactive application that ties the music of the concert halls to special dates in the symphony patron's life. The site also offers single-ticket buyer's real-time seat availability, donors the ability to donate now at the touch of a button, and subscribers an easy and convenient online renewal process.

Find all this and more at [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org)

### **Subscribing and Purchasing Tickets**

Season Ticket packages for the Elgin Symphony Orchestra's 2010-2011 season are on sale now. Subscribers receive benefits including free and unlimited ticket exchanges, advance ticket sales to the sure to be sold-out Radio Holly-days, and last years prices on packages purchased before April 19th. Information on becoming a subscriber is available by phone from the ESO Box Office at (847) 888-4000, or online at [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org). Tickets to individual concerts will go on sale to the general public in August 2010.

### **Ticket Information**

#### Grand Series

12 Concert Package      Start at \$207 per seat - It's like getting Beethoven's Ninth, *Don Juan*, Gershwin in Blue and *Appalachian Spring* FREE!

#### Classics Series

8 Concert Package      Start at \$156 per seat - Get two concerts - Beethoven's Ninth and *Appalachian Spring* - FREE

#### Friday Matinee Series

6 Concert Package      Start at \$120 per seat - Get Beethoven's Ninth FREE and be home before dark!

#### Pops Series

4 Concert Package      Start at \$89 per seat - SAVE up to \$40 with your package!

#### Schaumburg Series

4 Concert Package      Start at \$159 per seat - LOWEST PRICES in three years!

#### Family Fun Series

3 Concert Package      \$45 for Adults + one child Free!  
\$30 for additional child package

#### Radio-Holly Days

Start at \$20  
(Currently available as add-on purchase with a season ticket purchase)

**Group Sales**

The ESO's group sales program offers discounts to groups of 10 or more on both subscriptions and single events. Call the Elgin Symphony Orchestra Box Office at (847) 888-4000 for more information.

**Elgin Symphony Orchestra**

Named "Orchestra of the Year" an unprecedented three times by the Illinois Council of Orchestras, the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, under the leadership of Maestro Robert Hanson, performs over 60 concerts a year, thrilling more than 50,000 patrons from Chicago to Wisconsin and Indiana. In addition, the ESO's education initiatives reach approximately 20,000 children, teachers, families, and young musicians per year through a variety of participatory music programs, including the widely-popular Family Fun Series. Each season the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, recognized for its artistic excellence, attracts rising stars and internationally known guest artists including: Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Sir James Galway, Pinchas Zukerman, Midori, Leonard Nimoy, Giancarlo Guererro, The Romeros, Kevin Cole, and Jamie Laredo. Through its initiative, Building Community through the Arts, the ESO recognizes the diversity of our community and is committed to pursuing strong community engagement by creating meaningful relationships with people and organizations that represent all cultures, ages, and financial means. The ESO broadcasts its Classics performances on the fourth Friday of each month on 98.7FM WFMT, which provides the best and broadest selection of classical music and fine arts programming in the country.