



February 16, 2016

MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

The Richmond Symphony Announces Its 2016-17 Season of Stories, Great Art and an Opening Night with Violinist Itzhak Perlman!

February 16, 2016 – Richmond, Virginia Music Director Steven Smith and Executive Director David Fisk announced the 2016-17 season of the Richmond Symphony (RSO). The season features great works of music that tell stories about the world in which we live and fantastic guest artists that represent the best in world-class soloists. As a special collaboration with the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Jewish Community Center, the Symphony will open its season with the legendary Itzhak Perlman – an artist that transcends music of all genres and people of all backgrounds.

The season will again be led by the artistic team of Steven Smith, holder of the Lewis T. Booker Music Director Chair; Chia-Hsuan Lin, the new Jack and Mary Ann Frable Associate Conductor Chair; and Dr. Erin R. Freeman, Director of the Richmond Symphony Chorus and James Erb Choral Chair.

“Our lives, our history, our world are composed of stories. Myths, legends, fables come to us, often told from generation to generation. They teach us about our world and each other from an early age. Music plays a large role in this, since so many moments of life have musical associations. In all of its many forms, music communicates directly to our emotions, and in some cases, actually depicts the action too, doubling the power and impact of the story, deepening its personal relevance” said Music Director Steven Smith.

This season, the Symphony has commissioned eight artists to help tell this story. Each artist was given a piece from the Symphony’s Altria Masterworks Series and asked to create art that

expressed their interpretations of the piece. The artwork will be featured in Symphony advertising and performances throughout the season. Participating artists are: Alex Beck, Chris Milk Hulburt, Bizhan Khodabandeh, Georgiy Kuznetsov, Kate Magee, Duncan Robertson, Tim Skirven and Justin Tran.

To ensure that the Symphony is accessible to people of all ages, this season tickets to Altria Masterworks and Dominion Casual Friday performances are free to anyone under the age of 18.

Some highlights of the season include:

- An opening night concert featuring world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman on Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 7:30pm and in partnership with the Weinstein Jewish Community Center. (SPECIAL DATE AND TIME)
- An Altria Masterworks season that includes Strauss's *Don Juan*; Schumann's Piano Concerto with pianist Anton Nel; Berlioz *Romeo and Juliet*; Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 with pianist Rémi Geniet and guest conductor and former Richmond Symphony Music Director Jacques Houtmann; a new work by composer Dan Visconti called *Living Language*, featuring guitarist Jason Vieaux; award-winning violinist Jinjoo Cho performing Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto; Schubert's Unfinished Symphony; and Elgar's Cello Concerto with cellist Gary Hoffman.
- A Symphony Pops season that includes a special concert at the Altria Theater paying tribute to the late, great Whitney Houston; a tribute to the incomparable movie music of John Williams; the amazing Ann Hampton Callaway performing the hits of Barbra Streisand; and our annual holiday favorite – Let It Snow! – conducted for the first time by new Jack and Mary Ann Fable Associate Conductor Chia-Hsuan Lin.
- A Union Bank & Trust LolliPops season that begins with magician Lyn Dillies and *Magic at the Symphony*, the second year of a new annual family tradition with the movie *The Snowman*; a concert of the best loved Disney music; and the return of Really Inventive Stuff's Sara Valentine for *A Child's Guide to the Orchestra*.
- The Dominion Casual Fridays Series will feature hour-long concerts starting at 6:30pm in the Carpenter Theatre that introduce great works from the orchestral repertoire in a

casual format. After each performance, audiences are invited to join Symphony musicians and staff in the speakeasy at Vagabond Restaurant.

- After a season of sold-out performances, the Symphony will continue its partnership with Hardywood Park Craft Brewery for the one-hour, Thursday evening Rush Hour concerts.

“Come join us. Bring your families and friends. (Did you know that kids under 18 can attend Masterworks and Casual Fridays concerts free? Best deal in town!) Tell your own story as you listen to the music, and share it with others after you leave.” - Music Director Steven Smith, Lewis T. Booker Music Director Chair

“We are delighted to be announcing the Richmond Symphony’s 59th Season today and want to offer special thanks to our corporate partners – especially our main series sponsors Altria, Dominion and Union Bank & Trust for their generous support, our foundation partners including the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation and our media partners –WCVE and the Richmond Times-Dispatch.” – David Fisk, RSO Executive Director

Mr. Fisk continues: *“I also want to thank our concert sponsors and partners, especially, for our opening concert, Weinstein Properties and the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Jewish Community Center, whose generous collaboration is making it possible for us to bring artists of the quality of Itzhak Perlman to Richmond. The stellar soloists appearing on our stage this season include many international competition winners; we are delighted to feature those who stand out as among the best in the world.*

“We offer multiple ways to hear the Symphony and warmly invite everyone to come try the experience in whatever setting and program most appeals: from the intimacy of the Rush Hour Concerts at Hardywood Park Craft Brewery, to our home in the beautiful Carpenter Theatre in the newly-christened Dominion Arts Center, to the spectacular environment of Richmond’s city parks, and elsewhere around the region, where the Symphony will be bringing thousands of people together through music, under our Big Tent.”

Altria Masterworks Series

Under the baton of Music Director Steven Smith, the Altria Masterworks series features celebrated guest artists and the greatest works from the classical repertoire.

**All Altria Masterworks concerts take place at the Carpenter Theatre at Dominion Arts Center unless otherwise noted.*

Masterworks 1

Sunday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 PM (*Special Opening Night Concert*)

Steven Smith, conductor
Itzhak Perlman, violin

Strauss	<i>Don Juan</i> , Opus 20
Mendelssohn	Violin Concerto in E Minor, Opus 64 Itzhak Perlman, violin
Bernstein	Symphonic Dances from <i>West Side Story</i>
Enesco	Romanian Rhapsody in A Major, Opus 11, No. 1

Presented in partnership with the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Jewish Community Center

Masterworks 2

Saturday, Oct. 22 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, Oct. 23 at 3:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor
Anton Nel, piano

Libby Larsen	<i>Collage: Boogie</i>
Schumann	Piano Concerto in A Minor, Opus 54 Anton Nel, piano
Dvořák	Symphony No. 7 in D Minor, Opus 70

Masterworks 3

Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, Nov. 13 at 3:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor
Kathryn Leemhuis, mezzo-soprano
Vale Rideout, tenor
Darren K. Stokes, bass-baritone
Richmond Symphony Chorus
Erin R. Freeman, director

Berlioz	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , Opus 17
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Masterworks 4

Saturday, Jan. 14 at 8:00 PM

Jacques Houtmann, guest conductor
Rémi Geniet, piano

Wagner	Overture to <i>Tannhäuser</i>
Chopin	Piano Concerto No. 2 in F Minor, Opus 21 Rémi Geniet, piano
Franck	Symphony in D Minor

Masterworks 5

Saturday, Feb. 4 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, Feb. 5 at 3:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor
Jason Vieaux, guitar

Rossini	Overture to <i>Semiramide</i>
Dan Visconti	<i>Living Language</i> (consortium commission) Jason Vieaux, guitar
Beethoven	Symphony No. 8 in F Major, Opus 93

Masterworks 6

Saturday, March 4 at 8:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor
Jinjoo Cho, violin

Adolphus Hailstork	<i>An American Port of Call</i>
Tchaikovsky	Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 35 Jinjoo Cho, violin
Stravinsky	<i>Petrushka</i>

Masterworks 7

Saturday, April 8 at 8:00 PM and Sunday, April 9 at 3:00 PM
Rennolds Memorial Concert

Steven Smith, conductor
Michelle Areyzaga, soprano
Kevin Deas, bass-baritone
Richmond Symphony Chorus
Erin R. Freeman, director

Schubert	Symphony in B Minor, D. 759 ("Unfinished")
Bruckner	Psalm 150
Vaughan Williams	<i>Dona Nobis Pacem</i>

Masterworks 8

Saturday, May 13 at 8:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor
Gary Hoffman, cello

Paine	Prelude to <i>Oedipus Tyrannus</i>
Elgar	Cello Concerto in E Minor, Opus 85 Gary Hoffman, cello
Brahms	Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Opus 68

Symphony Pops Series

The Symphony Pops Series combines the excitement of a live orchestra with the best in popular music.

**All Symphony Pops Concerts take place at the Carpenter Theatre at Dominion Arts Center unless otherwise noted.*

Pops 1

Oct. 29 at 8:00 PM
Altria Theater – Special Location
Windborne’s Music of Whitney Houston

The Guinness World Records named Whitney Houston as the most-awarded female act of all time, having sold over 170 million albums, singles and videos worldwide—a true diva with a powerful voice that touched our hearts and souls.

Join the Richmond Symphony and vocal sensation Rashidra Scott for an evening of Whitney's biggest hits, including "How Will I Know?," "Where Do Broken Hearts Go?" and of course "I Will Always Love You."

Pops 2

Dec. 3 at 8:00 PM & Dec. 4 at 3:00 PM
Let It Snow!
Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

Celebrate the holidays with a concert featuring the sounds of the season! Join the Richmond Symphony, Richmond Symphony Chorus and conductor Chia-Hsuan Lin for this annual tradition the whole family will love.

Pops 3

Jan. 21 at 8:00 PM
The Genius of John Williams
Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

Whether it’s the powerful soundtrack from *Star Wars*, the magical score from *Harry Potter* or the adventure and whimsy of the sounds of *Indiana Jones*, there is nothing comparable to the genius in John Williams’s music. Experience everything you love about the world’s best-loved movie composer in this concert filled with fantasy and fun.

Pops 4

March 11 at 8:00 PM

Ann Hampton Callaway – The Streisand Songbook

Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

Join the Richmond Symphony as we celebrate the music of one of America's most powerful and enduring musical artists. Singing timeless classics from five decades of Barbra Streisand's multi-faceted career, Platinum Award Winning singer-songwriter Ann Hampton Callaway will show off her gorgeous voice with iconic hits like "The Way We Were," "Don't Rain on My Parade" and "Cry Me a River."

Union Bank & Trust LolliPops Series

The Union Bank & Trust LolliPops Series is designed with the whole family in mind.

Performances include concerts that entertain, educate and are fun for children of all ages. Each performance includes a pre-concert festival with a musical instrument petting zoo and other activities for young audiences. Concerts are designed for ages 5 and up, but all ages are welcome.

**All Union Bank & Trust LolliPops concerts take place at the Carpenter Theatre at Dominion Arts Center unless otherwise noted. Pre-concert festivals take place in Rhythm Hall one hour prior to concert.*

LolliPops 1

Oct. 1 at 11:00 AM

Magic at the Symphony featuring Lyn Dillies, magician

Steven Smith, conductor

Seeing, Listening, Believing - the art of magic illuminates the magic of music.

Magic at the Symphony sets some of the most breathtaking illusions in magic against the beauty and drama of symphonic classics to create a truly unique entertainment experience that audiences of all ages can enjoy.

LolliPops 2

Nov. 26 at 11:00 AM

The Snowman (animated film)

Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

A perfect way to kick off the holiday season—enjoy the Academy Award-winning movie *The Snowman* accompanied by the Richmond Symphony. This charming animated film tells the story of a young boy's magical friendship with a snowman. Enjoy other holiday favorites during this program as well. A new annual holiday tradition with the Richmond Symphony!

© Snowman Enterprises Limited

“The Snowman“ by Raymond Briggs is published by Puffin.

LolliPops 3

Jan. 28 at 11:00 AM

Princesses and Pirates – The Music of Disney

Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

Enjoy the music you and your children love from your favorite Disney classics including: *Frozen*, *The Lion King*, *Aladdin*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* and many more! Perfect for the little Princesses and Pirates in your life.

LolliPops 4

March 25 at 11:00 AM

A Child’s Guide to the Orchestra

with Really Inventive Stuff

Sara Valentine, actor

Chia-Hsuan Lin, conductor

Fusing the styles of a museum curator and a school librarian with a sprinkling of Mary Poppins, Really Inventive Stuff and the Richmond Symphony present Britain's own Ms. Symphonia Semi d'Quaver. This concert will showcase the different families of instruments in the orchestra, helping your child learn how the orchestra works and makes music.

Dominion Casual Fridays

Relax, it's Friday! Dominion Casual Fridays returns this season with an exciting line-up of orchestral music in an informal and relaxed setting. Sit back in the beautiful Carpenter Theatre as your host and conductor guides you through a 60-minute journey into the stories behind the performance. After the concert, collect your exclusive composer trading card and head to the speakeasy at Vagabond restaurant across the street for a post-concert happy hour with Richmond Symphony musicians.

Casual Fridays 1

Sept. 30 at 6:30 PM

Hosted by Steven Smith

Strauss
Bernstein

Don Juan
Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story*

Casual Fridays 2

Jan. 13 at 6:30 PM

Hosted by Jacques Houtmann

Franck

Symphony in D Minor

Casual Fridays 3

March 3 at 6:30 PM

Hosted by Steven Smith

Stravinsky

*Petrushka***Casual Fridays 4**

May 12 at 6:30 PM

Hosted by Steven Smith

Brahms

Symphony No. 1

Rush Hour at Hardywood

Back by popular demand! These one-hour informal concerts at Hardywood Park Craft Brewery return for another great season. Grab a beer, hit the food trucks and enjoy a great concert at 6:30 PM on a Thursday. Cover charge to enter: \$15. Seating is limited.

Rush Hour 1 - Oct. 13 at 6:30 PM

Rush Hour 2 - Jan. 19 at 6:30 PM

Rush Hour 3 - Feb. 16 at 6:30 PM

Rush Hour 4 - April 27 at 6:30 PM

Metro Collection

The Metro Collection offers audiences fantastic classical music in an intimate setting. Concerts feature smaller scale works from the classical canon and newer pieces by contemporary composers. Richmond Symphony musicians often take part as featured soloists.

**All Metro Collection concerts take place in Blackwell Auditorium at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, VA unless otherwise noted.*

Metro Collection 1

Oct. 16 at 3:00 PM

Steven Smith, conductor

Daisuke Yamamoto, violin

Copland

Three Latin-American Sketches

Piazzolla

Four Seasons of Buenos Aires

Daisuke Yamamoto, violin

Revueltas

Alcancías

Gabriela Lena Frank

Raíces ("Roots"): Concerto Suite for Orchestra

Metro Collection 2

Jan. 22 at 3:00 PM
Steven Smith, conductor

Gluck	<i>Overture to Orfeo ed Euridice</i>
Joan Tower	<i>Chamber Dance</i>
Purcell	<i>The Gordian Knot Untied, Suite No. 1</i>
Schubert	Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major, D. 485

Metro Collection 3

Feb. 19 at 3:00 PM
Steven Smith, conductor
Jim Jacobson, timpani

Bruce Adolphe	<i>Tyrannosaurus Sue: A Cretaceous Concerto</i>
Fischer	Symphony with Eight Obligato Timpani
Beethoven	Symphony No. 4 in B-flat Major, Opus 60

Metro Collection 4

April 30 at 3:00 PM
Chia-Hsuan Lin, Conductor

Handel	"Entrance of the Queen of Sheba" from <i>Solomon</i>
Stravinsky	<i>Dances concertantes</i>
Beethoven	Overture to <i>The Creatures of Prometheus</i> , Opus 43
Mozart	Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K. 551 ("Jupiter")

Special Concerts

Friday, December 2, 2016 - 7:30 PM

Handel's Messiah

Erin R. Freeman, conductor
Richmond Symphony Chorus

For generations, Richmonders have been delighted by this magnificent holiday classic. Don't miss the Richmond Symphony and Richmond Symphony Chorus performing Handel's masterwork.

Subscription and Ticket Information and Pricing

The Richmond Symphony offers the opportunity to experience the best in live music with exclusive benefits through subscription packages.

Why Subscribe?

Enjoy the best in live music with exclusive benefits available only to subscribers!

Savings on the Best Seats in the House

- Save up to **40% off** on the price of single tickets
- Receive up to **20% off** ticket purchases to additional series concerts
- **Priority Seating** – choose your seats before the general public and keep them season to season
- **Avoid single ticket and venue fees**

Flexibility and Customer Service

- FREE and easy **ticket exchanges** (upgrade fees may apply)
- FREE **lost ticket replacement**
- **Personalized customer service** by friendly and knowledgeable Richmond Symphony staff

Subscriber Rewards

- **Exclusive pre-sale opportunities** for special Symphony events
- Enjoy **subscriber discounts** to local RVA businesses and restaurants
- Invitations to attend **exclusive, subscriber-only dress rehearsals**

Full Series Subscriptions:

Altria Masterworks Saturday: seven Saturday night concerts and the special Itzhak Perlman concert on Sunday, September 25, 2016

Altria Masterworks Sunday: four Sunday matinee concerts (excludes special Itzhak Perlman concert on Sunday, September 25, 2016)

Symphony Pops: four Saturday night concerts

Union Bank & Trust LolliPops: four Saturday morning concerts

Metro Collection: four Sunday matinee concerts

Dominion Casual Fridays: four Friday night concerts

*Children under 18 receive free tickets to Altria Masterworks and Dominion Casual Fridays concerts.

Compose Your Own Subscription: Choose three or more concerts from any series below (excluding Opening Night with Itzhak Perlman, other special concerts and Dominion Casual Fridays) to compose your own subscription and save 10% off single ticket prices.

Subscription Pricing for Series:

	Full Subscription		Compose Your Own*
Masterworks Saturday	Adult	Child	(per ticket)
Mezzanine	\$562	\$562	n/a
Front Orchestra	\$425	FREE	\$54
Rear Orchestra	\$385	FREE	\$50
Side Orchestra	\$304	FREE	\$41
Front First Dress	\$410	FREE	\$54
Rear First Dress	\$304	FREE	\$41
Front Second Dress	\$180	FREE	\$23
Masterworks Sunday	Adult	Child	(per ticket)
Mezzanine	\$270	\$270	n/a
Front Orchestra	\$205	FREE	\$54
Rear Orchestra	\$185	FREE	\$50
Side Orchestra	\$150	FREE	\$41
Front First Dress	\$205	FREE	\$54
Rear First Dress	\$150	FREE	\$41
Front Second Dress	\$86	FREE	\$23
Pops	Adult	Child	(per ticket)
Mezzanine	\$270	\$270	n/a
Front Orchestra	\$205	\$48	\$54
Rear Orchestra	\$185	\$48	\$50
Side Orchestra	\$150	\$48	\$41
Front First Dress	\$205	\$48	\$54
Rear First Dress	\$150	\$48	\$41
Front Second Dress	\$86	\$48	\$23
Casual Fridays	Adult	Child	
Mezzanine	\$180	\$180	N/A
Front Orchestra	\$90	FREE	N/A
Rear Orchestra	\$90	FREE	N/A

Side Orchestra	\$36	FREE	N/A
Metro Collection	Adult	Child	(per ticket)
General Seating	\$70	\$48	\$20
LolliPops	Adult	Child	(per ticket)
General Seating	\$42	\$34	\$15

Single Ticket Pricing:

Masterworks & Pops	Single Tickets			
Section	Adult	Senior	Child MW	Child Pops
Mezzanine	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$80
Front Orchestra	\$60	\$54	FREE	\$12
Rear Orchestra	\$55	\$50	FREE	\$12
Side Orchestra	\$45	\$41	FREE	\$12
Front First Dress	\$60	\$54	FREE	\$12
Rear First Dress	\$45	\$41	FREE	\$12
Front Second Dress	\$25	\$23	FREE	\$12
Rear Second Dress	\$10	\$9	FREE	\$10

Casual Fridays	Single Tickets			
Section	Adult	Child		
Mezzanine	\$50	\$50		
Front Orchestra	\$25	FREE		
Rear Orchestra	\$25	FREE		
Side Orchestra	\$10	FREE		

Metro Collection	Single Tickets			
Section	Adult	Senior	Child	
General Seating	\$22	\$20	\$12	

Rush Hour at Hardywood	Cover Charge			
	Adult	Senior	Child	
	\$15	n/a	\$12	

LolliPops	Single Tickets			
Section	Adult	Senior	Child	
General Seating	\$17	n/a	\$12	

Messiah	Single Tickets			
Section	Adult	Senior	Child	
Mezzanine	\$50	n/a	\$50	
Front Orchestra	\$45	n/a	\$12	
Rear Orchestra	\$35	n/a	\$12	
Side Orchestra	\$25	n/a	\$12	
Front First Dress	\$45	n/a	\$12	
Rear First Dress	\$35	n/a	\$12	
Front Second Dress	\$25	n/a	\$12	
Rear Second Dress	\$20	n/a	\$12	

Group Sales:

The Richmond Symphony offers a range of group sale discounts starting at 10% off single ticket prices for as few as 8 people. Discounts vary by concert and by the size of the group.

SOUNDWAVE

The Richmond Symphony is offering college students best available seating and unlimited access to any Altria Masterworks and Dominion Casual Fridays Series concert in the 2016-17 season for just \$25!

For more information on pricing and subscriptions, please contact Patron Services at patronservices@richmondsymphony.com or (804) 788.1212

About the Richmond Symphony

Founded in 1957, the Richmond Symphony is the largest performing arts organization in Central Virginia. The organization includes an orchestra of more than 70 professional musicians, the 150-voice Richmond Symphony Chorus and more than 260 students in the Richmond Symphony Youth Orchestra programs. Each season, more than 200,000 members of the community enjoy concerts, and radio broadcasts. The Symphony also provides educational outreach programs to over 50,000 students and teachers each year. The Richmond Symphony is partially funded by the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

About the Richmond Symphony Chorus

James Erb organized the all-volunteer Richmond Symphony Chorus in 1971 for a December performance of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, under guest conductor Robert Shaw. For 36 years, Erb continued to direct and build the Chorus to reflect the Symphony's high standards. Erin R. Freeman assumed leadership of the Chorus at the start of its 2007–08 season. The repertoire for its selected volunteer membership has included most of the standard repertoire for chorus and orchestra: Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, *St. John Passion* and Mass in B Minor, Haydn's *Creation*, Beethoven's Symphony No.9 and *Choral Fantasy*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, Requiem settings by Mozart, Brahms, Verdi and Faure, Mahler's Symphony No.2, Vaughan Williams' *Sea Symphony* and all of Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe*. Over the years they have also sung shorter choral-orchestral works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, Bruckner, Delius, Debussy, Barber, Britten, Richard Strauss, Vaughan Williams, Stravinsky, Olivier Messiaen and Luigi Dallapiccola. Recent projects have included a performance and recording of Mahler Symphony No. 8 with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, under the direction of JoAnn Falletta, a performance with the Richmond Symphony in the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and a recreation of the Chorus's inaugural performance of *Missa Solemnis*.

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