Winter Warm-Up!

Dear Friends and Supporters of the YSO:

While it may be chilly outside in February, we will be heating things up inside the Capitol Theatre this month with two very exciting concerts.

On February 7th, *A Star is Born* will feature the Gold Medal Winner of the 2013 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Vadym Kholodenko, performing the world’s most popular piano concerto, that of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The orchestra will also present the ravishing Symphony No. 2 by Sergei Rachmaninoff. The title of the concert refers not only to the launching of our soloist’s career but also to the fact that Van Cliburn’s star was born by brilliantly performing Tchaikovsky and Rachmaninoff at the Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow and the fact that Rachmaninoff’s compositional star was born with his second symphony—the premiere of his first symphony was an absolute disaster. I cannot overstate the magnitude of our guest artist. A pianist winning the Gold Medal at the Van Cliburn Competition is like an athlete winning gold at the Olympics. We are talking about the best of the best—you really don’t want to miss this one!

On February 28th we will have the next installment of our Pops Series. *Fiddle-Faddle: Fiddler on the Roof, The Devil Went Down to Georgia,* and other *Fiddlin’ Favorites* will feature yours truly as violin soloist and conductor. Actually, all of the violinists of the YSO will be in the spotlight, including our new concertmaster, Denise Dillenbeck. At this concert we will explore how the violin is very important in many different musical genres and styles. We all know how important the violin is in Classical music, but it is also very important in Gypsy music, Irish music, Jewish music, and Country/Bluegrass music. We will be playing exciting and beautiful selections from all these types of music.

We look forward to seeing you on the 7th and 28th of February as we continue along with our 2014-15 season, *Heavenly Thoughts!*

Sincerely,

Lawrence Golan
The Helen N. Jewett Music Director
Yakima Symphony Orchestra

---

Stay in touch for music, podcasts and concert information. www.ysomusic.org
**Prelude:**

*Email vs. Snail Mail*

In addition to our hard copy version of the *Prelude*, we produce a full-color, online version that includes program notes and artist bios. If you would prefer to save paper and postage by accessing only the electronic version of *Prelude*, please send a note to development@ysomusic.org and we will make this change.

---

**Lunch With Lawrence**

**Friday, February 6**

11:30am – 1:00pm

**Zesta Cucina Restaurant, $25**

Join Maestro Lawrence Golan for a lovely light lunch and convivial conversation about the pieces and composers featured in the YSO’s *A Star Is Born* concert on February 7. Please contact the YSO office (509-248-1414) or info@ysomusic.org to place your ticket order.

---

**ConcerTalk**

**Saturday, February 7**

6:30pm in the Robertson Room

**The Capitol Theatre**

Join YSO Principal Horn Jeff Snedeker before the YSO’s *A Star Is Born* concert for an inside look at the evening’s program. Dr. Snedeker’s extensive knowledge of music and entertaining style of presentation bring the music and the circumstances of its creation to life. ConcerTalk is well attended, so arrive early for a good seat!

---

**Notes & Images:**

*An Artistic Conversation Five Centuries in the Making*

**Botticelli, Respighi, YSO & Buege**

*Rocce Dipinte* (Italian for “Painted Rocks”) was created by Yakima artist Janet Buege on January 10, 2015 at the Yakima Symphony Orchestra’s *Heavenly Delicacies* performance. Ms. Buege painted the entire piece in 18 minutes in front of an intimate audience of 300 while the orchestra performed *Trattico Botticelliano* (Botticelli Triptych) by Ottorino Respighi. The painting’s fresh, gentle and exquisite imagery expresses elements of spring, adoration and birth: Botticelli’s works reframed and refrained through the symphony and onto a new canvas.

This beautiful piece will be auctioned at the YSO’s upcoming *Raise the Baton!* fundraiser on Friday, April 10th at the 4th Street Theatre. The doors open at 5:30pm. Themed “Starry Night” after the painting by Van Gogh, the event will include music by Lawrence Golan, YSO musicians and Bart Roderick and Friends, a divine dinner and unique auction items with a YSO focus or connection. Laura Michalek returns as our dynamic Fundraising Auctioneer. We look forward to sharing this special evening with you. Tickets are $75. To purchase yours, please contact Sue at the YSO office (509) 248-1414.

---

**Raffle Update**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the raffle in the theatre lobby at the Christmas Pops Spectacular concert! We are pleased to award a pair of season tickets for the remaining 2014-15 concerts (Classical III, IV and V and Pops III and IV) to each of two lucky winners!

---

**Open Rehearsal**

**Saturday, February 7 • 10:30am – 1:00pm • The Capitol Theatre**

See the final touches being put on the evening’s program! Our dress rehearsals for *The Yakima Valley Classical Series* concerts at the Capitol Theatre are open to the public, and FREE to those who bring a canned food donation to benefit Northwest Harvest. Cash donations to the YSO are also welcome. Ideal for families and for other patrons unable to attend evening concerts.

---

**RBC Wealth Management is a Proud Sponsor of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra**

We are celebrating our 20th Year serving the Yakima Area and glad to provide volunteer and financial support to worthy causes that make the Yakima area a better place to live and work.

**The Bohoskey Group | Bret, Dave & Marlena**

925 Triple Crown Way | Yakima, WA 98908

(800) 323-8870 | (509) 454-0910 | www.thebohoskeygroup.com

© 2014 RBC Wealth Management, a division of RBC Capital Markets, LLC, Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC.
Affiliate & Partnership Updates

Yakima Youth Symphony Orchestra (YYSO) &
Yakima Ensemble for Strings (YES!) www.yyso.org
Bruce Walker, YYSO Conductor and YSO Cover Conductor
Christy Baisinger, YES! Conductor

Please join the YYSO and YES! on March 1, Sunday at 3:00pm at The Capitol Theatre for the annual KinderKonzert. Our theme, “Princes & Princesses,” will make everyone feel like royalty. This shorter program features student musicians demonstrating their instruments on stage and an instrument petting zoo where aspiring young musicians can try out the instruments. FREE!

Yakima Symphony Chorus (YSC) / Dr. Scott Peterson, Chorusmaster

The Yakima Symphony Chorus is proud to join the Yakima Symphony Orchestra for Resurrection: Mahler’s 2nd Symphony. Weeks of rehearsal will make May 16, 2015 a magical night filled with great music! The 2014-2015 season has been filled with a full schedule, new members, and visions for the future. We are still looking for new members to join for the 2015-2016 season. Over the next two years, we look to add 20-30 new, talented members! Please share with your friends and family who already have a passion for song and music. After all, the best seats in the house are on the stage!

Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA) / Stephanie Hsu, Director

YAMA is pleased to perform at the TEDxYakimaSalon on Saturday, February 7th at 2:00pm. YAMA speakers will include Flor Mateos, YAMA parent; Raul Tapia, YAMA cellist; Francisco Mendoza, YAMA violist; Florinta Lopez, YAMA cellist; and Stephanie Hsu, YAMA Founding Director. The YAMA orchestra will perform under the direction of Joshua Gianola, Yakima Symphony Orchestra Teaching Artist and Principal Percussionist, and Alex Pualani, Yakima Symphony Orchestra Librarian and YAMA Teaching Artist. There will be an open-house-style teaching party hosted by YAMA students from 3:00-4:00pm in which any participants attending the TEDxYakimaSalon event may take a mini-lesson from a student. Students will share their techniques and give participants an opportunity to explore music and learn something new.

RAISE THE BATON

Mark your calendars for Friday, April 10, 2015, 5:30pm at the 4th Street Theatre for the YSO’s annual Raise the Baton! fundraiser. This year’s theme is “Starry Night” after the Van Gogh painting of the same name. Entertainment by Maestro Lawrence Golan, YSO musicians, and Bart Roderick and Friends, a divine dinner, and exciting auctions with Laura Michalek, Fundraising Auctioneer, will make this a night to remember! Purchase tickets today by calling (509) 248-1414. $75 per ticket or $500 per table.

ENCORE!

Join the YSO’s Social Club for patrons age 21 through 39+! On Saturday morning, February 28, (date of the Fiddle-Faddle concert), ENCORE! members can attend an exclusive backstage tour of the Capitol Theatre and the Fiddle-Faddle dress rehearsal. Plans are underway for an ENCORE! Fiddle-Faddle preconcert reception. Join ENCORE! today to stay abreast of details and participate in these awesome opportunities!

ENCORE! membership benefits include:
• Special pre and/or post-concert events;
• Discounts on pre-concert and post-concert opportunities at participating venues (with ENCORE! membership card and ticket/ticket stub);
• Discounted Lunches With Lawrence;
• and more!

Membership is $50 per season (July 1 through June 30); $25 if joining mid-season. Discounted memberships available for students, professionals participating in internships/residencies and spouses/partners of the same. Inquire for details. To join, please contact the YSO office at (509) 248-1414 or use the CONTACT US form on the website.

TEDxYakimaSalon
Transformation
Saturday, February 7, 2015; 2-6pm • Yakima Valley Museum
Tickets via www.tedxyakima.org

Speakers will include: Lawrence Golan, conductor and music director of the Yakima Symphony Orchestra; Yakima Music en Acción (YAMA); Jenny Dechaine, Biologist and Science Educator; Seth Holmes, Cultural/Medical Anthropologist and Physician; and Kris Alberti, Safety & Disaster Response.
Vadym Kholodenko

Winner of the coveted gold medal at the 2013 Cliburn Competition, Vadym Kholodenko captured the attention of jury, audience, and critics alike for powerful, exhilarating performances that “showed the guts of a true superartist” (San Francisco Classical Voice). He continues to build a reputation for interpretations that are “impeccable, tasteful and vibrant, and also something more: imaginative” (Cleveland Plain Dealer). The 2014-15 season marks his first year as the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra’s first artistic partner, a three-year collaboration that includes performing and recording the complete Prokofiev piano concertos, to be released by harmonia mundi usa. Other highlights of the season include orchestra debuts with the Indianapolis Symphony, Kansas City Symphony, Malmö Symphony, Madrid’s RTVE Symphony, Phoenix Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, and San Diego Symphony Orchestras; appearances at the Brevard Music Center and Stars of the White Night Festivals; and solo recitals in Boston, Louisville, Miami, Rio de Janeiro, and Seattle, and throughout Japan, Europe, and Russia. He will perform and record the Grieg Concerto in A Minor and Saint-Saëns Concerto No. 2 with the Norwegian Radio Orchestra and Miguel Harth-Bedoya, which will join two critically acclaimed discs released since his Competition win.

Program Notes

A Star is Born features the 2013 Van Cliburn Competition Gold Medal winner, Vadym Kholodenko, performing the world’s most popular piano concerto, and the YSO performing Rachmaninoff’s ravishing Symphony No. 2, a work that made him famous.

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
(April 25/May 7, 1840 – October 25/November 6, 1893)

Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, op. 23
(1875)

In the spring of 1865, Tchaikovsky completed his studies at the St. Petersburg Conservatory. In September, Nikolai Rubinstein, brother of the famous pianist Anton, came to St. Petersburg to recruit a teacher for music theory classes in Moscow. Tchaikovsky was offered the position and moved to Moscow in January 1866; in September of that year the Moscow Conservatory opened with Tchaikovsky on the faculty. The decade in Moscow that followed was extremely important to Tchaikovsky’s compositional career. Rubinstein’s support was integral to his success, particularly his sponsorship of performances and publications of Tchaikovsky’s music. It is understandable, then, that Rubinstein’s harsh criticism of a draft of the First Piano Concerto would hurt the composer deeply. He decided to ignore Rubinstein, however, and approached the noted pianist and conductor Hans von Bülow about performing the piece. Bülow embraced it, and Tchaikovsky dedicated the work to him. Rubinstein later retracted his criticisms and championed the work. It has since become one of the most popular concertos in history, including the first piece of music to surpass one million in recording sales, thanks in part to Van Cliburn’s seminal recording.

Two obvious characteristics of this concerto have inevitably contributed to its popularity: the full orchestra as equal participant, and a virtuosic piano part filled with surprising cadenzas and extended technically-demanding passages. This “polarity” of forces, as others describe it, embraces the Romantic ideal, pushing the power and capabilities of each to their fullest. Tchaikovsky’s traditional formal structure creates more defined opportunities for each to focus its energies, and then for integrated “discussion.”

The first movement’s introduction, one of the most famous in Western music history, explodes and in short order we are fully immersed in the orchestra with piano accompaniment. Soon after, the piano takes over the first theme (a Ukrainian folk song) and immediately expands on it, leading to the first of many cadenzas. From that point on, the music forms a passionate and varied conversation between the orchestra and the piano. Tchaikovsky effectively combines his amazing knack for writing beautiful melodies accompanied by lush harmonies and orchestral colors with his wonderful ability to build music to intuitive, satisfying climaxes.

The second movement’s simple yet engaging melody in the flute is a wonderful lyrical contrast to the power of the first movement. Scholars have shown that the lighter, more active middle section is based on another song, “Il faut s’amuser, danser et rire” (Have fun, dance, and laugh), a favorite of Désirée Artôt, a close friend of the composer at the time. The return to the lyrical opening section brings the movement to a calm and satisfying close. The lively third movement sounds like a fast folk dance, with the piano providing flash and fireworks and the orchestra contributing a strong foundation and occasional variety, building to a triumphant unison statement of the melody, and a final rush to the finish.

This concerto was premiered at Music Hall in Boston, on October 25, 1875, with Bülow as soloist and Benjamin Johnson Lang conducting a freelance orchestra. Tchaikovsky subsequently revised the piece in 1879 and then again in 1888; it is the latter version that is now most frequently played. Excerpts from the piece have appeared in numerous films, television shows and events, like the closing ceremonies of the 2014 Winter Olympic Games. The first movement was also used for the song “Tonight We Love” by bandleader Freddy Martin in 1941.
Sergei Rachmaninoff
(March 20/April 1, 1873 – March 28, 1943)

**Symphony No. 2 in E minor, op. 27**
(1907)

Showing great promise as a child, Rachmaninoff entered the Moscow Conservatory at age 12 to study both piano and composition. Upon graduation, he achieved increasing success writing piano pieces, songs and orchestral music, until a disastrous performance of his first symphony in 1897 put him into an emotional tailspin. This tailspin lasted several years and caused him eventually to seek medical help. Through the success of his Second Symphony and other works in the early 1900s, he recovered, arriving at a personal style that stayed with him for the rest of his compositional career—broad, lyrical melodies, full-bodied, large-scale orchestration (clearly inspired by Tchaikovsky), and consistently melancholy and sentimental moods brought him widespread appeal on both sides of the Atlantic. While he made most of his living as a pianist, he also achieved some fame as a conductor.

At the time Symphony No. 2 was composed, Rachmaninoff considered himself first and foremost a composer and felt that his increasing performance schedule was detracting from his time to compose. He moved his family to Dresden, Germany, to spend more time composing and also to escape the building political tensions in Russia. He was very unhappy with the first draft of his Second Symphony but after months of revision he finished the work and conducted the premiere in St. Petersburg in 1908, receiving great acclaim. He also conducted the first North American performance, with the Philadelphia Orchestra in 1909. The piece is dedicated to Sergei Taneyev (1856-1915), a Russian composer, teacher, theorist, author, and student of Tchaikovsky.

Throughout the symphony, one can hear the influence of Tchaikovsky. The first movement begins slowly, pensively, growing more restless as it unfolds. The first theme is urgent, the second theme calm, and the development of both themes ebbs and flows intuitively. In the recap, the first theme seems more urgent, the second even more beautiful, and the ending is firm and resolved. The second movement begins optimistically, moves to a passionate, even melancholy contrasting theme, and then the two alternate, gradually exposing the basis for the movement, the Dies irae chant from the Requiem Mass. The movement gently subsides after a chorale in the brass.

The third movement begins slowly and tenderly in the violins (playing a melody Eric Carmen used in his pop song “Never Gonna Fall in Love Again”), giving way to a lovely clarinet melody. The music has all the passion and yearning of Tchaikovsky in a slightly more complex setting, with more activity in the accompaniment and more complexity in the harmony. The finale also begins optimistically, as if issues have been resolved and it is time to go forward. Suddenly, the mood changes, becoming more guarded, as if realizing something could go wrong, or has been forgotten. These moods take turns and then the third movement melody returns briefly, cut off by faster music. A final explosion of the optimistic music brings the symphony to a triumphant close.

After finishing this symphony, it was almost thirty years before Rachmaninoff began work on another. In his Second Symphony, Rachmaninoff proves himself a legitimate successor to Tchaikovsky—he uses a foundation of the same orchestration, forms, approaches to melody and harmony, and takes a step forward with more modern dissonance and complexity. Like Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff was never viewed as a nationalist even though he saw himself as a product of his country. He did feel, however, that music should always be personal, that “music must first and foremost be loved. It must come from and be directed by the heart. Otherwise, it cannot hope to be lasting, indestructible art.”

---

**YSO Heavenly Delicacies**

**Music and Dessert Pairings; January 10, 2015**

Ottorino Respighi - Trittico Botticelliano (Botticelli Triptych): Dessert Triptych by Essencia

1) *Spring.* Cioccolato Fragola Ricoperto [Chocolate Dipped Strawberry] A ripe, juicy strawberry. Its brilliant blush a sign that spring approaches, so hopeful is this berry to play, delight, seduce. Cloaked in chocolate, it demurely, sweetly overcomes.

[continued next page]
Classical and Pops Concerts are held at the Capitol Theatre.

For additional concert information, please download the 2014-15 Heavenly Thoughts brochure at www.ysomusic.org

Claude Debussy - Clair de lune (Moonlight): François Lune Pie (Macaron a.k.a. French “Moon Pie”) by Essencia.
A French, sweet, meringue-based confection made with egg white, sugar and almonds. Beautiful and elegant, like moonlight.

The perfect salutation to Mozart’s majestic symphony. Plunge into the music; revel in the chocolate. Rich, dense, mysterious. One cannot help but succumb to the magnetism of the giant.

Dessert Partners: The desserts for the Respighi and Locklair pieces were partnered by Hogue Cellars 2013 Columbia Valley Late Harvest Riesling. The desserts for the Debussy and Mozart pieces were partnered by Columbia Crest 2012 Columbia Valley Grand Estates Merlot.

Dessert Creators: The YSO applauds the marvelous, mouth-watering desserts created by Ivone Petzinger, Pastry Chef, Culinary Arts Instructor at the Yakima Valley Technical Skills Center and former owner of Essencia Artisan Bakery; Erin Luke, Owner and Pastry Chef of Crème; and Aurelia Rodriguez, Pastry Chef at Essencia Artisan Bakery.