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Sarasota Concert Association's 2019 Great Performers Series

January-April 2019

The organization's 74th season features five classical orchestra and chamber performances at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and one at the Riverview Performing Arts Center.

(Sarasota, Florida) Sarasota Concert Association celebrates its 74th season with a roster of world-renowned classical artists and ensembles. SCA's 2019 Great Performers Series season, which runs January through April, features the piano duo **Anderson & Roe** (January 14); the **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center** (January 24); the **Czech National Symphony Orchestra** (February 11); **Academy of St Martin in the Fields** with **Jeremy Denk**, piano (February 21); the **Pavel Haas Quartet** (March 15); and the **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra**, with **Fabio Bidini**, piano (April 3). Five of the concerts are at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and one concert is at Riverview Performing Arts Center. ***For more information and to purchase season subscriptions, visit www.scasarasota.org.***

The 2019 Great Performers Series season opens on January 14 with the piano duo, **Anderson & Roe**. Known for their adrenalized performances, original compositions, and amazing music videos, Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe are revolutionizing the piano duo experience for the 21st century. Described as "the most dynamic duo of this generation" (San Francisco Classical Voice), "rock stars of the classical music world" (Miami Herald), and "the very model of complete 21st-century musicians" (The Washington Post), Anderson & Roe aim to make classical music a relevant and powerful force around the world. Their program will feature Brahms' Sonata for Two Pianos, Op. 34b, variations on a theme of Leonard Cohen's

composition, “Hallelujah,” and their arrangement of John Lennon’s and Paul McCartney’s composition, “Let It Be.” (7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.) For more information, visit www.andersonroe.com.

The season continues on January 24 with the **Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center** (CMS). Under the artistic direction of cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han, CMS is renowned as one of the world’s most distinguished chamber music ensembles. The group’s program includes Brahms’ Quartet No. 3 in C Minor for Piano, Violin, Viola, and Cello, Op. 60, Suk’s Quartet in A Minor for Piano, Violin, Viola, and Cello, Op. 1, and Dvořák’s Quartet in E-flat Major for Piano, Violin, Viola, and Cello, Op. 87. (7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.) For more information, visit www.chambermusicsociety.org.

The season’s third concert, on February 11, features the **Czech National Symphony Orchestra** with **John Mauceri**, conductor, and the Grammy Award-winning mezzo-soprano, **Isabel Leonard**. The orchestra is esteemed as one of Europe’s top symphonic ensembles. Renowned for its versatility, the group collaborates regularly with the world’s top composers, conductors and artists. John Mauceri’s distinguished career has taken him not only to the world’s greatest opera companies and symphony orchestras, but also to the musical stages of Broadway and Hollywood and the halls of academia. Highly acclaimed for her “passionate intensity and remarkable vocal beauty,” Isabel Leonard continues to thrill audiences both in the opera house and on the concert stage. The Chicago Tribune wrote of her: “The vocal and physical beauty, the natural stage charisma, the sure dramatic instincts, to win all hearts from the outset.” The concert’s program includes Smetana’s The Moldau from “Ma Vlast,” Bernstein’s Selection of Songs and Symphonic Dances from “West Side Story,” and Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9. (7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.) For more information, visit www.cnso.cz/EN.

The **Academy of St Martin in the Fields** with **Jeremy Denk**, piano, perform in Sarasota on February 21. The Academy is celebrated for its fresh, brilliant interpretations of great orchestral music. Formed by Sir Neville Marriner in 1958, the Academy quickly gained a preeminent international reputation for its distinctive,

polished and refined sound. Today, the Academy is led by music director and virtuoso violinist Joshua Bell, retaining the collegiate spirit and flexibility of the original conductor-less ensemble. **Jeremy Denk** is one of America's foremost pianists. Winner of a MacArthur Fellowship, and the Avery Fisher Prize, Denk was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The New York Times lauded Denk as "a pianist you want to hear no matter what he performs, in whatever combination—both for his penetrating intellectual engagement with the music and for the generosity of his playing." The evening's program includes Albinoni's Concerto Op. 5, No. 5 in A Minor, a new commission by the British composer, Sally Beamish, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 14 in E-flat Major, Elgar's Serenade for Strings and Bartók's Divertimento for String Orchestra. (7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.) For more information, visit www.asmf.org.

The **Pavel Haas Quartet** will perform in concert on March 15. Based in Prague, this chamber ensemble has been called "the world's most exciting string quartet." The group's members are Veronika Jarůšková, violin; Marek Zwiebel, violin; Jiří Kabát, viola; and Peter Jarůšek, violincello. The program includes Shostakovich's Quartet No. 7 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 108, and Quartet No. 8 in C Minor, Op. 110; and Beethoven's Quartet in C Major, Op. 59, No. 3. (7:30 p.m. at Riverview Performing Arts Center.) For more information, visit www.pavelhaasquartet.com.

The final concert of the season, **April 3**, features the **Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra**, with **JoAnn Falletta**, conductor, and **Fabio Bidini**, piano. Hailed as a "leading force for the music of our time," for her work as a conductor, communicator, recording artist, audience builder, and champion of American composers, **JoAnn Falletta** serves as music director of the BPO and was acclaimed by The Washington Post as having "Toscanini's tight control over ensemble, Walter's affectionate balancing of inner voices, Stokowski's gutsy showmanship, and a controlled frenzy worthy of Bernstein." The New York Times called her "one of the brightest stars of symphonic music in America." **Fabio Bidini** is recognized as one of the foremost pianists to have emerged from Italy since the days of Arturo Benedetti Michelangeli. After winning top prizes in numerous international competitions, his sensational

success at both the Busoni and Van Cliburn International Piano Competitions launched his international career. His playing is noted for its technical wizardry and poetic lyricism. The program features Berlioz's Roman Carnival Overture, Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2, and Prokofiev's Selections from Romeo & Juliet. (7:30 p.m. at Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.) For more information, visit www.bpo.org.

Five of the Great Performers Series concerts are at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, 777 North Tamiami Trail in Sarasota. The March 15 concert is at the Riverview Performing Arts Center, 1 Ram Way in Sarasota. Subscriptions for all six concerts are \$140, \$200, \$264, \$355, and \$420. Single tickets go on sale on August 1. For subscription information, call 941-225-6500. Forms for subscriptions can also be downloaded at www.scasarasota.org.

SCA also presents Music Matinees, a free concert series that includes performances by high-caliber, area-based artists. The series is designed to offer a variety of musical genres, including classical, jazz and opera, and features vocal and instrumental performers. The 2018-2019 season features **Aaron Romm**, trumpet and **Avis Romm**, piano (December 10); **Marc Mannino**, classical and jazz guitar (January 16); **Michael Baron** and **Priscilla Navarro**, one piano, four hands (February 6); **Sarasota Opera Studio Artists** (March 6) and **Hein Jung**, soprano, and **Grigorios Zamparas**, piano (April 10). All concerts are held at noon at Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center in Sarasota.

About the Sarasota Concert Association

The Sarasota Concert Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that fosters greater appreciation for world-class classical music by offering the community two engaging programs from December to April. The Great Performers Series, in its 74th season, brings world-renowned orchestras and chamber groups to the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and the Riverview Performing Arts Center. The Music Matinee Series features outstanding regional artists in free community concerts at Beatrice Friedman Symphony Hall and other venues. For more information about SCA, visit www.scasarasota.org.