

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: October 15, 2008

Pianist Orion Weiss returns by popular demand to perform with Marin Symphony

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Two programs offered: Symphonic concerts in Marin Center and intimate solo recital in Tiburon home

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Bay Area choreographer Julia Adam adds to dance-themed season program via free pre-concert talk

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SAN RAFAEL, CA—Pianist Orion Weiss returns to Marin this November for concerts with the Marin Symphony and an intimate, solo recital in a luxurious Tiburon home.

At the Sunday, November 2 and Tuesday, November 4 concerts in Marin Center (Alasdair Neale conducting the Marin Symphony orchestra), Mr. Weiss will perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major, Opus 58, considered one of the central works of the piano concerto literature.

Maestro Neale, music director of the Marin Symphony, comments, "Beethoven referred to himself as 'Tondichter' (a 'poet in sound'). In this concerto—particularly the second movement—the 'Tondichter' is perhaps at his most poetic." The second movement is widely associated with the imagery of Orpheus taming the Furies (represented, respectively, by the piano and unison strings) at the gates of Hades.

Mr. Weiss's extraordinary musicianship was on memorable display at his debut with the Marin Symphony in January, 2007 when he performed Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3. The Maestro, who has frequently collaborated with Mr. Weiss at Sun Valley Summer Symphony where Mr. Neale is also Music Director, has been eager to see Mr. Weiss return to the Marin Center stage since that first exhilarating and resoundingly well-received performance here. "Orion plays with a combination of enormous technical skill, great depth of feeling, and an apparent, almost jaw-dropping ease. As a performer, he is a phenomenon to observe. He's someone people really won't want to miss."

At twenty-six years old, Mr. Weiss is still a relatively new arrival to the solo artist circuit. In his short, meteoric solo career, however, he has become one of the most sought-after soloists and collaborators in his generation of young American musicians. His deeply felt, exceptionally crafted performances have won him acclaim from audiences, critics and colleagues in a wide range of repertory and formats. In 2004, he was heralded by *Symphony* magazine as one of the great emerging talents in classical music today. He is the winner of many of the world's most prestigious awards for emerging precocity, including the 2005 Juilliard William Petschek Award, the Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Gina Bachauer Scholarship, the Mieczyslaw Munz Scholarship and the Gilmore Young Artist Award. In 2004, he graduated from the Juilliard School in New York where he was a student of Emanuel Ax.

Also on the Marin Symphony's November 2 & 4 concert program are excerpts from Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (more details, below), and Mozart's Symphony No. 36 in C Major, K. 425, "Linz."

SOLO RECITAL IN TIBURON

Those wishing to hear Mr. Weiss perform in a more intimate setting can also attend his solo recital on Thursday, October 30 from 6-8pm in a luxurious Tiburon home (address and directions to be provided to ticket holders). Mr. Weiss will perform Schumann's Symphonic Etudes, Opus 13 and Beethoven's Sonata No. 26, "Les Adieux." Replicating the "salon" style of exclusive, at-home soirées, this event will be a fundraiser for the Marin Symphony. (Tickets are \$125 per person.) Pre-concert, the event will offer guests hors d'oeuvres catered by Cuisine by Lela, served with premium wines by Bjornstad Cellars, Nicholson Ranch and Ketchum Estate. Post-concert, audience members will have the opportunity to converse with Mr. Weiss while they enjoy a collection of sweets by flourChylde Bakery.

Excerpts from MENDELSSOHN'S *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

on the November 2 and 4 Marin Symphony concert program at Marin Center

The Marin Symphony's 08|09 season, "The Wind Beneath the Wings," is a showcase of classical symphonic music that has been used in dance: jazz, tango and ballet. At least one work performed during each concert set this season will be drawn from the symphonic dance repertoire. In November, the highlighted dance-related work is by Mendelssohn; the Symphony will perform excerpts from his overture *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, inspired in 1826 by Shakespeare's play. It became the basis of numerous ballet adaptations, most notably by choreographers Marius Petipa, Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine and Julia Adam.

JULIA ADAM ON CHOREOGRAPHY

Pre-concert (6-7:30pm) in the Green Room, Marin Center, on Sunday, November 2, 2008

Lecture and reception. Advance registration required.

Audience members can explore the fascinating world of choreography with choreographer Julia Adam, a former principal dancer with San Francisco Ballet. Ms. Adam will illuminate the process through which a beautiful piece of symphonic music gets translated into dance movements on stage. She'll also describe the creative, physical, spatial and costuming considerations that come into play. Her 20-minute presentation will include video clips of her work staging Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for Marin Ballet.

Canadian-born Julia Adam created her first ballet in 1993 for San Francisco Ballet's Choreographic Workshop while still a principal dancer with the company. This work earned her an Isadora Duncan Award nomination. She now is a full-time choreographer and has created numerous award-winning works for San Francisco Ballet, Alberta Ballet, Houston Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, Marin Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theater and Ballet Memphis. Her works have been performed in numerous venues including at the opening of San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art, the Danish Summer Festival and Cincinnati Ballet's 40th Birthday Celebration. She has also choreographed the dance sequences in numerous theatrical productions at American Conservatory Theater. She is a resident of San Anselmo, CA.

IF YOU GO

PERFORMANCES WITH THE MARIN SYMPHONY

Sunday, 11/2 and Tuesday, 11/4 at 7:30pm

Alasdair Neale, conductor

Orion Weiss, piano

MENDELSSOHN Excerpts from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

MOZART Symphony No. 36 in C Major, "Linz"

BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major

Marin Center, San Rafael

Tickets \$27 / \$50 / \$65 (students half price) at 415.499.6800 or click www.marinsymphony.org

Concerts made possible by Wells Fargo and Montecito Plaza Shopping Center.

Free pre-concert talk by the Maestro at 6:30pm in the concert hall.

ORION WEISS IN SOLO RECITAL "AT HOME"

Thursday, 10/30, 6-8pm

Orion Weiss performs Schumann's Symphonic Etudes, Op. 13 and Beethoven's Sonata No. 26, "Les Adieux" in a Tiburon home.

\$125 per person includes pre-recital reception with catered hors d'oeuvres and premium wines. Valet parking. Limited to 100 guests. Sponsored by Marin Magazine and KDFC 102.1

To purchase tickets, call 415.479.8100.

JULIA ADAM ON CHOREOGRAPHY

Sunday, 11/2, 6-7:30pm in the Green Room, Marin Center

Free with advance registration to concert ticket holders.

Pre-concert lecture and reception includes wine and hors d'oeuvres. Limited to 50 persons.

To register, click http://www.marinsymphony.org/Julia_Adams.htm

Jpgs:

OrionWeiss_credit Leslie van Stelten.jpg

Pianist Orion Weiss

Photo by Leslie van Stelten

OrionWeiss_MSA_c2007James Hall.jpg

Pianist Orion Weiss prepares to perform an encore at his January, 2007 debut with the Marin Symphony at Marin Center, San Rafael.

Photo by James Hall

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