THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY ANNOUNCES
ITS 2012-2013 CONCERT SEASON

Highlights Include:
- Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony and Missa Solemnis by Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Orchestra Révolutionnaire et Romantique and Monteverdi Choir
- Yo-Yo Ma returns to Orange County with pianist Kathryn Stott
- A recital by violinist Itzhak Perlman
- Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic
- Pianist Louis Lortie celebrates the 200th anniversary of Wagner’s birth
- Esa-Pekka Salonen returns to O.C. for the first time since departing the LA Phil

IRVINE, CA – Now in its 59th season, the Philharmonic Society today announced its 2012-2013 concert season. As Orange County’s oldest and most recognized music presenter, the Society continues to present the highest caliber of signature classical music presentations, orchestras, chamber ensembles and soloists from around the world. This year, the Society is proud to continue the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series for its fourth season.

“Our 2012-13 season will be my second to last season before retiring in summer 2014,” says Dean Corey, Philharmonic Society President and Artistic Director. “At the end of this upcoming season, I will have been with the Philharmonic Society for exactly 20 years, and I am selecting my remaining concerts with care.” Highlights for the upcoming season include recitals by world-renowned soloists cellist Yo-Yo Ma, violinist Itzhak Perlman and pianist Louis Lortie. Returning to the Orange County scene are Gustavo Dudamel with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Esa-Pekka Salonen with the Philharmonia Orchestra.
The Society continues its multi-year Beethoven celebration—*Beethoven: The Late Great*—a musical exploration curated by Dean Corey into the final transcendence of one of the greatest composers of all time. After watching the play 33 *Variations*, the story of a terminally ill musicologist racing against her own mortality trying to solve the riddle of why Beethoven wrote 33 variations of Anton Diabelli’s silly little waltz when he was only commissioned to write a single one, Mr. Corey was inspired to curate a number of Beethoven performances from his late period for the Philharmonic Society so audiences could explore this curious time in the composer’s life. To present these great late works, he was determined to bring in only the best, with appearances by the Tokyo String Quartet and Brentano String Quartet performing some of Beethoven’s last five string quartets and recruiting talented pianist Marino Formenti to learn the complete *Diabelli Variations* during the 2011-12 concert season.

This season, Dean Corey will personally guide audiences during pre-concert talks for all *Beethoven: The Late Great* performances. The celebration features renowned Beethoven interpreter Sir John Eliot Gardiner and his *Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique* and *Monteverdi Choir* with two blazing performances of Beethoven’s late masterpieces—the Ninth Symphony and the *Missa Solemnis*—the second of which will be heard in Orange County for the first time on period instruments, as well as Esa-Pekka Salonen’s triumphant return to southern California with the *Philharmonia Orchestra* performing Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony. Also part of the celebration are the first and last of Beethoven’s late string quartets, performed by the Grammy Award-winning *Parker Quartet* and the *St. Lawrence String Quartet*.

In addition to concerts at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, and at the Irvine Barclay Theatre, the Society will be presenting two recitals in the newly constructed Soka Performing Arts Center in Aliso Viejo. Featuring world-class acoustics designed by Yasuhisa Toyota, acoustic designer of noted performance venues like the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles and the Suntory Hall in Tokyo, the stunning 1,000-seat venue opened its doors on September 17, 2011, adding approximately 95,000 square feet to the Soka University campus.

**ORCHESTRA CONCERTS**

Concerts featuring world-class orchestras, conductors and soloists,
all held at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

The Society’s Opening Night of the 2012-13 season features the return of Esa-Pekka Salonen to lead the **Philharmonia Orchestra**. Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series and the Society’s **Beethoven: The Late Great** celebration, the evening will include Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92, and Berlioz’ Symphonie Fantastique. Pre-concert lecture by Dean Corey at 7pm. *Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series.* (Wednesday, November 14, 2012, 8pm)

**Sir John Eliot Gardiner** and his renowned **Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique** and **Monteverdi Choir** return to Orange County with two performances of late Beethoven masterworks. The first evening features Beethoven’s epic choral masterpiece, the **Missa Solemnis**, heard in Orange County for the first time on period instruments. Written around the same time as his Ninth Symphony, the **Missa Solemnis** showcases Beethoven at the pinnacle of his composing prowess. Pre-concert lecture by Dean Corey at 7pm. *Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series.* (Monday, November 19, 2012, 8pm)

Lauded for their complete cycle of Beethoven symphonies, **Sir John Eliot Gardiner** and his ensemble return for a second evening, performing Beethoven’s final complete symphony—and the crown jewel of symphonic repertoire—the **Ninth Symphony**. They will also perform Beethoven’s Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage, Op. 112. Pre-concert lecture by Dean Corey at 7pm. (Tuesday, November 20, 2012, 8pm)

England’s treasured **BBC Concert Orchestra** makes a rare journey across the Atlantic with a repertoire steeped in national pride. Led by **Keith Lockhart**, the BBC Concert Orchestra’s performance features works by central figures of 20th century British classical music: Britten’s Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*, Op. 33a, Elgar’s Enigma Variations, Butterworth’s The Banks of Green Willow and Elgar’s famous Cello Concerto with young cellist **Sophie Shao**. (Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 8pm)

The **St. Louis Symphony Orchestra** makes its first Orange County performance in nearly two decades under the baton of Santa Monica native **David Robertson**. Named Conductor of the Year in 2000 by *Musical America*, David Robertson commemorates his Orange County conducting debut with two of Strauss’ tone poems, *Don Juan* and *Till Eulenspiegel’s Merry
Pranks, followed by Rouse’s Flute Concerto and Hindemith’s famed Mathis der Maler symphony. Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series. (Monday, March 18, 2013, 8pm)

Two seasons after a sold-out Orange County performance, Maestro Gustavo Dudamel returns leading the Los Angeles Philharmonic for its annual Orange County visit. Named 2011 Artist of the Year by Gramophone magazine, Gustavo Dudamel is widely regarded as one of the most dynamic conductors of our generation. The program includes Mozart’s Sinfonia concertante in E-flat major, K. 297b, Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 5 in D major, Op. 107 “Reformation,” and an opening piece to be determined. Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series. (Friday, May 24, 2013, 8pm)

RECITALS AND CHAMBER CONCERTS
Hear exceptional ensembles and soloists showcase their talents in the Irvine Barclay Theatre’s intimate setting, Soka Performing Arts Center and at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

The Grammy Award-winning Parker Quartet continues the Society’s Beethoven: The Late Great celebration with a performance of the last piece Beethoven completed: String Quartet No. 16 in F major, Op. 135, followed by Pärt’s Fratres for String Quartet and Britten’s String Quartet No. 2 in C major (1945). Comprised of four New England Conservatory graduates, this dynamic young chamber ensemble came to international attention after winning the Concert Artists Guild Competition as well as the Grand Prix and Mozart Prize at France’s Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition. Pre-concert lecture by Dean Corey at 7pm. (Saturday, October 20, 2012, 8pm, Irvine Barclay Theatre)

To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of German composer Richard Wagner, the Society celebrates the glory of Wagner’s music with a recital by French-Canadian pianist Louis Lortie. Admired for the broad spectrum of his interpretive voice, Lortie will play Wagner opera excerpts transcribed and arranged by Franz Liszt, whose bicentennial we celebrated two seasons ago also with a recital by Louis Lortie. Program includes Wagner’s Prelude (trans. Lortie) and Liebestod (trans. Liszt) from Tristan und Isolde, Fire music from Die Walküre (trans. Hugo Wolff), Siegfried’s Idyll (trans. Josef Rubinstein), Wagner/Liszt’s Recitative and Air “Evening Star” from Tannhäuser, Overture from Tannhäuser, and Mozart/Liszt’s Réminiscences de Don Juan, A Concert Paraphrase. (Saturday, January 26, 2013, 8pm, Soka Performing Arts Center)
One of classical music’s most celebrated artists, Grammy Award-winning superstar cellist Yo-Yo Ma, returns to Orange County for a special recital accompanied by longtime collaborator Kathryn Stott. A recent Kennedy Center Honoree, Yo-Yo Ma’s illustrious career has been defined by artistic excellence, and his explorations across a wide range of cultures and genres are testament to his commitment to artistic growth and renewal. Recognized internationally as one of Britain’s most versatile and imaginative musicians, Kathryn Stott’s wide-ranging interests have allowed her to establish a unique career and rare reputation. The Los Angeles Times has deemed her “…an excellent soul-mate for Ma.” (Saturday, February 2, 2013, 8pm, Soka Performing Arts Center)

Acclaimed for his exceptional talent, legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman has appeared all over the world and given special performances for numerous dignitaries, including Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh, and performed at the 2009 Inauguration of President Barack Obama. Honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, his recordings regularly appear on the best-seller charts and have earned fifteen Grammy Awards to date. In spite of contracting polio at the age of four, Perlman became one of the world’s most celebrated musicians, and today, the polio survivor uses crutches or an electric scooter for mobility and performs on the violin while seated. After 25 years of hard work, Rotary International and its partners are on the brink of eradicating this tenacious disease—there were just 600 reported cases worldwide in 2011—but a strong push is needed to root it out once and for all. For this special performance, the Philharmonic Society will partner with Rotary International in its efforts to end polio by selling a select number of seats to contribute to this cause. Program is to be determined. Part of the Donna L. Kendall Classical Series. (Sunday, February 10, 2013, 3pm, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall)

We have a very special concert that will connect all of you to a great world achievement about to take place. Twenty-five years ago, Rotary International undertook the daunting challenge of helping rid the world of polio. They have raised and contributed more than $1 billion to the cause, and in 2011, there were just 600 reported cases worldwide. Itzhak Perlman contracted polio at the age of four. He completely recovered but uses crutches to this day. Area Rotarians are selling a select number of seats to his recital for us, to contribute to the end of this horrible scourge. As a subscriber, you will be a part of this and have the opportunity to contribute to this cause.
Virtuoso violinist Ray Chen will delight audiences with a recital repertoire spanning the Classical, Romantic and contemporary genres. Praised for his brilliant technique, Ray Chen has been profiled by The Strad and Gramophone magazines as “the one to watch.” His debut CD Virtuoso, released just last year, received glowing reviews from major media outlets and won the prestigious Echo Klassik Award. Performing with pianist Julio Elizalde, the evening’s program includes Mozart’s Sonata for Piano and Violin in B-flat, K. 454, Brahms’ Violin Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Op. 108, Ysaÿe’s Sonata No. 2 for solo Violin, Saint-Saëns’ Havanaise and Introduction et Rondo Capriccioso. (Saturday, April 6, 2013, 8pm, Irvine Barclay Theatre)

The Grammy-nominated St. Lawrence String Quartet makes its Orange County debut as part of the Society’s Beethoven: The Late Great celebration, performing the first of Beethoven's late string quartets: String Quartet No. 12, Opus 127, and other works to be determined. Noted by The New York Times for having “a rare gift for combining interpretive spontaneity and fierce musical commitment,” the St. Lawrence String Quartet currently serves as Ensemble-in-Residence at Stanford University. Pre-concert lecture by Dean Corey at 7pm. (Sunday, April 21, 2013, 8pm, Irvine Barclay Theatre)

_All dates, times, programs, artists and prices are subject to change._

For more information and to receive a brochure of the Philharmonic Society’s 2012-2013 season, please call (949) 553-2422 or visit our website at www.PhilharmonicSociety.org. Subscriptions go on sale January 28, 2012. Single tickets are scheduled to go on sale in summer 2012.

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