

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

Announcing the Vancouver Recital Society's 2008-2009 Season
18 captivating performances in intimate venues

For immediate release
March 6, 2008

(Vancouver, BC) – The Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) today announced an exciting new 2008/2009 Season. The new season will mark the organization's 29th year of presenting recitals in Vancouver and will feature 18 performances by some of the biggest names in classical music and some newcomers who are on the brink of major international careers. "Every year we challenge ourselves to bring the best musicians from around the world to Vancouver," commented Leila Getz, Artistic & Executive Director of the VRS. "We are particularly thrilled to have lined up such an incredible group of artists for our coming season - it will be a hard act to follow!"

The season is comprised of five series which take place at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at the University of British Columbia, the Vancouver Playhouse, and the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver. There are two stand-alone recitals this year neither of which are part of any series. The first is mezzo-soprano **Cecilia Bartoli** at the Orpheum Theatre on Wednesday, February 25, 2009 at 8:00pm. The second, cellist, **Yo-Yo Ma**, makes a welcome return to the Chan Centre for a **solo** performance of Bach works on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 8.00pm. This concert will be **free** to Super Classic Subscribers. VRS subscribers will be first in line for tickets for these two concerts before they go on sale to the general public on September 2, 2008.

Other musicians returning to the Vancouver Recital Society include pianists, **Piotr Anderszewski**, **Leif Ove Andsnes** (with violinist, **Christian Tetzlaff**), **Inon Barnatan**, **Yevgeny Sudbin** and **Nicolai Lugansky** (who was last heard on the VRS series with violinist Vadim Repin). The singers who are returning to the VRS are counter-tenor, **David Daniels** singing Bach and Handel with **The English Concert** under their new music director, **Harry Bicket**. Mezzo-soprano **Angelika Kirchschrager** returns to the Chan Centre with pianist **Malcolm Martineau** singing Schubert, Wolf, Korngold & Weill. We are also thrilled to have been able to organise the convergence of the tours of **Martin Fröst** and **The Jerusalem Quartet** who'll appear together in concert at the Chan Centre.

The phenomenal young Chinese double bass player, **DaXun Zhang** will perform a recital at the Vancouver Playhouse with **Inon Barnatan** (who will also be heard solo at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver). These two musicians wowed audiences with their appearances at the Vancouver Chamber Music Festival two years ago.

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Two more young Chinese-born musicians will make their Vancouver debuts for the Vancouver Recital Society. 19-year-old pianist, **Yuja Wang** will appear at the Kay Meek Centre, and guitarist **Xuefei Yang** will play a recital at the Playhouse.

There are four other auspicious debuts: Swiss cellist, **Christian Póltera** appears with pianist, **Dénes Várjon**, and German violinist **Arabella Steinbacher** plays at the Kay Meek Centre with pianist **Robert Kulek**. Two wonderful young Russian-born-British-trained violinists will appear with two pianists who are also on the verge of international careers. **Valeriy Sokolov** will open the season at the Chan Centre on Sunday, October 5 with French pianist, **David Fray**; and violinist, **Alina Ibragimova** will appear with French pianist **Cedric Tiberghien** at the Vancouver Playhouse.

There are six different ways to subscribe to the Vancouver Recital Society's 2008/2009 season. Subscribers may select a series that suits them best or opt for the 'Build Your Own Series' which offers the flexibility to suit their taste, time and budget. Subscribing to the VRS offers a variety benefits - the biggest discounts, easy ticket exchange and replacement, and personalized service. Subscriptions start at \$100 and are available through the VRS box office at **604 602 0363** or visit **www.vanrecital.com**.

The Vancouver Recital Society also offers Youth Club subscriptions starting at just \$45 for prime seats. Youth Club members also get other exclusive benefits. Visit www.vanrecital.com for more information.

Tickets to all VRS concerts go on sale to the general public September 2, 2008 through Ticketmaster.

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The Vancouver Recital Society's 2008/2009 recital season is generously sponsored by HSBC Securities (Canada) Inc.

Other sponsors:

The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC & The Chan Endowment Fund of British Columbia
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