

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

**One weekend
Two radically different concerts
Seven amazing musicians**

For Immediate Release – April 7, 2009

(Vancouver, BC) – Spring is here at last and during the month of April the Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) is presenting seven incredible musicians from Sweden and Israel in two very different concerts at **The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC.**

Fröst Trio, Friday, April 17, 2009 at 8.00pm



The **Fröst Trio** is comprised of three of Sweden's most charismatic and talented instrumentalists – clarinetist Martin Fröst, pianist Roland Pöntinen, and cellist, composer, and improviser Svante Henryson. They will perform an intriguing programme entitled 'The **BACH** Project' (**Beyond All Clarinet History**). This Project is a classical fusion of the music of Bach with contemporary pieces by Högberg, Henryson and Hillborg. It is a constantly evolving musical drama that combines elements of music, dance, mime and film through to a virtual duet with the 'subconscious', projected onto a video screen. Many of the more modern pieces in this drama include elements of movement, choreography and lighting.

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According to *The Times (London)*: "Until you've heard Martin Fröst, you really haven't heard the clarinet." Fine praise indeed, but a Fröst performance is about so much more than music alone. It truly is an experience. While this charismatic and multi-talented clarinet virtuoso is renowned for his tonal purity, sensuous style and technical brilliance, he is also regarded as an innovator with an unconventional and daring approach to music making. His performances often challenge conservative performances codes and his exploration of new aspects of musical creativity is a great inspiration to many composers.

Jerusalem Quartet, Sunday, April 19, 2009 at 3.00pm



The highly acclaimed **Jerusalem Quartet** will be joined by Martin Fröst two days later for an extraordinary collaboration. The programme includes Haydn, Brahms and Debussy. Although this concert will be quite different in style and content from the Fröst Trio, the Quartet shares the same intensity and exuberance. Critics have taken note of their electrifying style. *The Times (London)* opined: "Passion and a feverish energy characterise this young Israeli quartet."

The VRS first brought the Jerusalem Quartet to Vancouver in 2001 and they subsequently performed at the VRS' Chamber Music Festival in 2004. In 2006, on the 100th anniversary of the birth of Shostakovich, they returned to Vancouver to perform his complete cycle of 15 string quartets in five concerts. *The Vancouver Sun* applauded their "fresh, vital playing and blistering intensity" and described their performance as "music-making of unforgettable power". In recent years they have come to be recognized

as one of the most dynamic and exciting quartets currently performing. They have a growing reputation in North America and have appeared in Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland and Washington.

The four fresh-faced young musicians - violinist Alexander Pavlovsky, violinist Sergei Bresler, violist Amihai Grosz and cellist Kyril Zlotnikov - joined forces as high school students in Israel in 1993. It wasn't long before they were claiming prizes such as the Franz Schubert Competition in 1997, the first BBC New Generation Artist title in 1999 and the first Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in 2003. The Jerusalem Quartet regularly partners Mitsuko Uchida, Jessye Norman, Daniel Barenboim, Elena Bashkurova, Tabea Zimmermann, Natalia Gutman, Itamar Golan, Boris Pergamenshikov, and the Vermeer and Praák Quartets.

Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca

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The Fröst Trio concert is part of the Great Performances Series at the Chan Centre. This Series is sponsored by Cathay Pacific.

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The Vancouver Recital Society's Children's Community Outreach Program is sponsored by Odlum Brown.