

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

Vancouver Recital Society opens its 08-09 season with violinist Valeriy Sokolov and pianist David Fray

For Immediate Release – September 23, 2008

(Vancouver, BC) – With an exciting 2008-2009 line-up that includes some of classical music's biggest stars including Lang Lang, Cecilia Bartoli and Yo-Yo Ma, the **Vancouver Recital Society** is in a buoyant mood as it opens the new season with violinist **Valeriy Sokolov** and pianist **David Fray** on **Sunday, October 5 at 3.00pm at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts**. Their programme will include Bach, Beethoven and Schumann.

Both in their twenties, Sokolov and Fray are establishing their reputations as artists destined for big careers both as soloists and chamber musicians. Writing about their recital at the St. Denis Festival in 2007, Gérard Mannoni of *Altamusica* described "a moment of absolute musical beauty which only major interpreters know to create, and rarely experienced by classical music audiences."



Born in Ukraine in 1986, Sokolov was nine when he was admitted into the class of Professor Sergueï Evdokimov at the Kharkov Secondary Special Music School. He was just eleven when he appeared as soloist with an orchestra for the first time. Two years later, following successes at home in Ukraine and in international competitions in Eastern Europe, he was awarded the Study Grant Prize at the International Pablo Sarasate Competition in Pamplona, Spain. Funded by Vladimir Spivakov, the prize provided a scholarship for Valeriy to pursue his studies at the Yehudi Menuhin School in England, where he was a pupil of Natalia Borarskaya. He was awarded the Gold Medal at the 2005 Enesco Violin Competition.



David Fray was born in France in 1981 and studied at the Paris Conservatoire with Jacques Rouvier, Christian Ivaldi and Claire Désert. He studied abroad with pianists Dimitri Bashkirov, Menahem Pressler and Paul Badura-Skoda. His outstanding performances have won him numerous prizes and awards, including the Jeune soliste de l'année (Young Soloist of the Year) award, and the Révélation classique (Classical discovery) prize from ADAMI. He has given numerous recitals in Europe, America and Asia and in May 2007 signed an exclusive contract with Virgin Classics. His first recording of works by Bach and Boulez garnered critical acclaim.

Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca

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The Vancouver Recital Society's 2007/2008 Season is generously sponsored by HSBC Securities

Chan Centre Concerts Primary Benefactor - The Chan Endowment Fund of the University of British Columbia

This concert is a co-presentation with the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at UBC