

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

Vancouver Recital Society presents Young Concert Artists winners Louis Schwizgebel-Wang and the Modigliani String Quartet in two concerts at the Kay Meek Centre

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(Vancouver, BC) – The Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) continues its mission to present classical music's stars of tomorrow with two upcoming concerts on the 'Next Generation Series' at the **Kay Meek Centre** in West Vancouver. Fittingly, both presentations feature musicians who have won the prestigious, New-York-based Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

First up is the young Swiss-Chinese pianist **Louis Schwizgebel-Wang** making his Canadian debut on **Sunday, November 8, 2009** at **3.00pm**. *The Washington Post* noted that he possesses "Acute sensitivity, wonderfully expressive, powerhouse technique and a sly sense of humor." His programme will feature works by Mozart, Chopin and Schubert. A pre-concert talk will commence at 2.15pm.



The following week the **Modigliani String Quartet** will perform a selection of works by Haydn, Ravel and Mendelssohn on **Sunday, November 15, 2009** at **3.00pm**. A pre-concert talk will commence at 2.15pm. Praised by France's *Le Progrès* for their "Stunning technical expertise, outstanding ensemble and a particularly accomplished musical identity," the Quartet has become one of the world's most sought after young chamber ensembles.

The Quartet made its Canadian debut on the VRS' 2007-2008 Series to an enthralled Vancouver Playhouse audience. The Kay Meek Centre performance will showcase their recently acquired 'Evangelists,' a rare matching set of four instruments made in 1863 by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume in Paris. The Quartet will also

perform at the VRS' special 'Free Classics-for-Kids' concert at the Roundhouse Community Centre on Monday, November 16, 2009. This concert is part of the VRS' commitment to community outreach and a number of schools from East Vancouver have been invited to attend.

Biographies

Born in 1987 in Geneva, Louis Schwizgebel-Wang began his piano studies at the age of six. He entered the Lausanne Conservatory and gave his first performances at the age of nine. He represented Switzerland in the 9th Steinway Festival in Hamburg and won First Prize and the Paderewski Prize in the Swiss Youth Music Competition. He won First Prize in the 2007 Young Concert Artists International Auditions and was presented by the Young Concert Artists Series in his New York debut at Carnegie's Zankel Hall and his Washington, DC debut at the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater in November 2007. He currently works with Pascal Devoyon at the Universität der Künste in Berlin. His mother, who is Chinese, and his father, who is Swiss, are both visual artists.

The Modigliani String Quartet was formed in 2003 by four young musicians studying at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris. After studying there with the Ysaÿe Quartet, they were invited by the Artemis Quartet to work with them at the Universität der Künste in Berlin. The Quartet won the 2006 Young Concert Artists International Auditions in New York and the 2005 Young Concert Artists European Auditions in Paris. They were also awarded the Jerome L. Greene Foundation Prize, which sponsored their New York debut at Carnegie's Zankel Hall, and the Washington Performing Arts Society Prize, which sponsored their Washington, DC debut at the Kennedy Center. The Modigliani Quartet plays "The Evangelists," a rare matching set of four instruments made in 1863 by Jean-Baptiste Vuillaume in Paris, on loan from the Swiss Global Artistic Foundation.

Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca

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Media contact:
Niamh Small, Marketing and PR Coordinator
Vancouver Recital Society
Telephone: 604 602 0363
email: niamhsmall@vanrecital.com

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