

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, October 04, 2010

VIRTUOSO PIANIST SARA DAVIS BUECHNER OPENS THE SEASON

LONDON – Orchestra London conductor laureate **Timothy Vernon** opens the Masterworks series with Beethoven's revered **Piano Concerto No. 4**, on Saturday, October 16 at **Centennial Hall**.

Guest artist, pianist Sara Davis Buechner, remarks, "Playing and interpreting any of the Beethoven Concertos is a challenge! But perhaps Concerto No. 4 could be called the most *personal* of Beethoven's five Concertos for Piano and Orchestra."

Mr. Vernon adds, "I would say this piece is intimate and searching -- not all composers are searching but Beethoven was a great thinker. The piano starts first in this piece, which was daring for its time, and the effect is as if there's a dialogue between the piano and orchestra. The orchestra is almost stern in the second movement and the piano acts as if it's taming it. There's wonderful drama in the music!"

"It has many subtleties of dynamics and the rhythmic control is paramount, particularly in the finale." notes **Ms. Buechner**. "For the audience, though, I think they can enjoy the luxury of listening and sensing if they are thrilled, moved, excited, put into a reflective mode, etc. Because at the moment of live performance the only thing that really matters is the message in the music, and how well the musicians deliver it."

"While it takes absolute virtuosity to play it, the point of this piece is really to enjoy it." agrees **Mr. Vernon**.

Says **Ms. Buechner** enthusiastically, "Saying things in music is always preferable to saying things in words, isn't it? Everybody will have their own personal message direct from Ludwig, and they don't even have to turn on a Blackberry to receive it!"

Conductor Timothy Vernon is a Member of the Order of Canada and also the Founder and Artistic Director of Pacific Opera Victoria.

Pianist Sara Davis Buechner is a classical concert pianist of noteworthy accomplishment, virtuosic mastery, artistic sensitivity and extraordinary versatility. With an active repertoire of over 100 piano concertos ranging from A (Albeniz) to Z (Zimbalist), she has appeared as soloist with North America's most prominent orchestras and performed with many Canadian symphonies.

A major prizewinner of many of the world's most prestigious international piano competitions, **Ms. Buechner** established her career by winning the Gold Medal of the 1984 Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah, and was a Bronze Medalist of the 1986 Tschaikowsky International Piano Competition in Moscow.

CONCERT SUMMARY

Who:

Sara Davis Buechner

What:

Masterworks series: **Viennese Classics**

Selections include *Piano Concerto No.4* by **LW Beethoven**, *The Impresario Overture* by **WA Mozart**, *Serenade No. 1* by **Johannes Brahms**.

When:

Saturday, October 16

Where:

Centennial Hall
609 Wellington St., London

Prices:

Adults: \$37.87-\$58.23

Subscriptions: For 7 concerts, starting at \$166.67

For Tickets or More Information:

Orchestra London Box Office (519) 679-8778

609 Wellington St. (at Central)

www.orchestralondon.ca

*Orchestra London's 2010-2011 Season is sponsored by: **Pacific & Western Bank of Canada***

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