

For Release: Monday, May 14, 2012

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**Evening Concerts with Joshua Bell and Indianapolis Symphony Nearly Sold Out June 1 & 2; Seats Available for Thursday Morning KeyBank Coffee Series Concert May 31**

*Krzysztof Urbański conducts music of Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki, Brahms and Beethoven*

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announced today that tickets are nearly sold out for its two Lilly *Classical Series* concerts with renowned Hoosier violinist Joshua Bell on Friday and Saturday, June 1 and 2, but his performance on Thursday morning, May 31, at 11 a.m. at the Hilbert Circle Theatre still has prime seats available.

One of the world's most-sought-after classical artists, Bell continues his decades-long affiliation when he will play Johannes Brahms' celebrated Violin Concerto with the ISO, with whom he made his professional debut at age 14 at Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie*. Conducted by ISO Music Director Krzysztof Urbański, these concerts will open with contemporary Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki's chilling and emotional *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima* and the Friday and Saturday evening programs will feature Beethoven's majestic and jubilant Symphony No. 3, "Eroica." The Beethoven Symphony will not be performed in the Thursday morning program.

Ticket prices for the Thursday morning KeyBank *Coffee Classical Series* concert range from \$20-\$50 each with Friday and Saturday evening prices from \$20 to \$80 each and may be ordered by calling the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at (317) 639-4300, in person, or online by visiting [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org). To order by telephone outside of Indianapolis, call toll free (800) 366-8457. Performance times are at 11 a.m. Thursday and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Eli Lilly and Company is the Title Sponsor of the entire 2011-2012 Lilly *Classical Series* and ExactTarget is the Premiere Sponsor for the Lilly *Classical Series*. KeyBank is the Title Sponsor for the Thursday morning KeyBank *Coffee Classical Series* and Indianapolis Power and Light Company is the Premiere Sponsor for the Thursday morning series. Words on Music is sponsored by Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield.

**Artist Biographies**

Conductor **Krzysztof Urbański** began his tenure as the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra's seventh Music Director in concerts last September and at age 29 is the youngest music director among major orchestras in the United States. He also serves as Chief Conductor of the Trondheim Symphony Orchestra, where he is celebrating his second season in that post. He was appointed to that role the week after his highly successful debut. In April of 2010, Maestro Urbański made his highly-acclaimed U.S. debut with the Indianapolis Symphony, made a second podium appearance during Marsh *Symphony on the Prairie* in June and last May, conducted his first Lilly *Classical Series* concerts since accepting the post in October 2010. Other North American debuts included Chicago's Grant Park Orchestra and the Houston Symphony. This season, Urbański debuted at the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Bamberger Symphoniker, the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, the MDR Sinfonieorchester Leipzig and the Stockholm Philharmonic. Polish repertoire plays an important part in Urbański's programming. He led the opening concert of the Polish focus at the 2010 Schleswig-Holstein Festival with Sinfonia Varsovia, conducting Górecki's Symphony No. 3 and Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with Eva Kupiec. He made his debut at the 2010 Grant Park Festival in Chicago with a program including Lutosławski's *Concerto for Orchestra* and conducted Penderecki's *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima* with NDR Sinfonieorchester Hamburg in autumn 2010. He graduated from the Chopin Music Academy in Warsaw in 2007 and in the same year was the unanimous First Prize Winner of the Prague Spring International Conducting Competition. He served as Assistant

Conductor to the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra from 2007-2009. He also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Music (Orchestral Conducting) at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

Grammy Award-winning violinist **Joshua Bell** has been performing for 25 years and has become one of the great classical artists of our time. A native of Bloomington, Indiana, Bell returns for his 20<sup>th</sup> set of appearances presented by the Orchestra since his debut on the very first *Marsh Symphony on the Prairie* Series concert in June 1982. He came to national attention a few months after his ISO debut when he made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut with Riccardo Muti that same year. Over the years, he has expanded his artistic horizons and has continued to earn international honors and accolades in classical, crossover repertoire and even films, when he recorded the soundtrack and was the body double in *The Red Violin*, and played himself in the film *Music of the Heart*. His discography includes many prizewinners, and his 2004 album, *Romance of the Violin*, topped the *Billboard* charts and led to his selection as *Billboard* "Classical Artist of the Year." Bell was inducted into the Hollywood Bowl Hall of Fame in 2006, and in April 2007, he received one of the most prestigious honors in classical music, the coveted Avery Fisher Prize, and became the first classical artist to appear in the popular *Dennis The Menace* comic strip, which was dedicated to his earning of the award. In 2010, *Musical America* selected him as Instrumentalist of the Year. 2012 highlights included a 15-city US tour with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, with whom he was recently named as Music Director, and a North American recital tour with pianist Sam Haywood. In Europe, Bell will tour with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Vladimir Jurowski and in recital with Jeremy Denk in cities to include London, Paris and Berlin.

**In Brief:**

Renowned violinist Joshua Bell returns to perform Brahms' Violin Concerto and ISO Music Director Krzysztof Urbański conducts Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony in final *Classical Series* concerts of the 2011-12 season.

Performers: Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra

Conductor: Krzysztof Urbański

Soloist: Joshua Bell, Violin

Locations: Hilbert Circle Theatre

Dates & Times: Thurs., May 31, 11 a.m.; Fri. & Sat., June 1 & 2, 8 p.m.

Repertoire:

PENDERECKI *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima*

BRAHMS Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 77

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, Op. 55 ("Eroica")

Tickets: \$20-\$46 (Thurs. a.m.); \$20-\$80 (Fri. & Sat.); (317) 639-4300; Toll Free (800) 366-8457; online at [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org)

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