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Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra appoints new Principal Oboe

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announces the appointment of Jennifer Christen as the new Principal Oboe of the Orchestra. Christen was selected among 62 applicants from around the world in a competitive audition process and has officially begun her tenure this season. She fills the post vacated by Malcolm Smith who retired in 2007 after 34 years of distinguished service.

Christen comes to the ISO from the New World Symphony in Miami, where she served for one season under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas. Previous posts include Assistant Principal Oboe of the New Haven Symphony and substitute with the Metropolitan Opera and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. She has appeared at the Verbier, Marlboro and Blossom summer music festivals and was a member of the *Puff* Woodwind Quintet that won First Prize in the J.C. Arriaga Treetops Chamber Music Competition in 2008 in Stamford, Connecticut. Christen was a semi-finalist in the Fischhoff Competition in 2009 and a finalist in the prestigious Naumberg Competition that same year.

Christen attended The Juilliard School of Music, where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees under teachers Nathan Hughes, Elaine Douvas and John Mack and was runner-up in the prestigious school's Concerto Competition in 2010. She also was the recipient of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra's Millonzii Scholarship.

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