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ISO Music Director Krzysztof Urbański begins his third season with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra on Sept. 20 with *Opening Night Gala*

Concert evening includes dinner in The Roof Ballroom, pre-concert food and drink sampling in the Hilbert Circle Theatre lobby, performance featuring Brahms' Second Symphony and an after-party with ISO artists-in-residence Time for Three

Opening Night Gala is first concert event featuring new Hilbert Circle Theatre seats

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra opens its 2013-2014 season with an *Opening Night Gala* concert evening like none held before – complete with a new format, dinner venue, and after-party event – and an unveiling of the recently upgraded seats and more accessible configuration in its historic home at the Hilbert Circle Theatre.

Conducted by ISO Music Director Krzysztof Urbański, the ISO will perform Bruch's melodic *Scottish Fantasy* with award-winning and renowned violinist [Hilary Hahn](#) and Brahms' warm and lyrical Symphony No. 2 at **9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 20**, without intermission. A pre-concert reception begins at 7:30 p.m. in the theater's lobby and includes complimentary beverages and specialty dishes prepared by local restaurants such as Eddie Merlot's, Seasons 52, Platt 99, Harry and Izzy's among others. After the concert, guests can stay for a special after-party celebration featuring the ever-popular ISO artists-in-residence, Time for Three.

For the first time since the *Opening Night Gala* began in 1989, the dinner portion of the evening precedes the concert and reception and is held in the beautiful Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis. Benefactor (\$500), Patron (\$400) and Friend (\$250) packages are available and include dinner, priority seating to the concert and VIP parking options/shuttle services between the two venues. The Gala dinner begins at 6 p.m. and seating arrangements can be made by calling 317-262-5225. A portion of the proceeds from the Gala dinner benefit the ISO's Annual Fund.

Single tickets to the *Opening Night Gala* range from \$40 to \$90 and include the pre-concert reception and the after-party for all concertgoers. Tickets may be ordered by calling the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at (317) 639-4300 or purchased online at www.IndianapolisSymphony.org.

The *Opening Night Gala* is sponsored by the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation.

The \$1 million seat upgrade in the Hilbert Circle Theatre was made possible by a special grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. in December of 2012. Although the Hilbert Circle Theatre had been renovated quite extensively since its early days as a movie palace to a concert hall in 1984, the previous seats dated back to the 1930s. The new seats retain the historic integrity of the theater, and the installation allows for greater comfort and accessibility for patrons.

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Artist Biographies:

September 2013 marks the start of **Krzysztof Urbański's** third season as Music Director of Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. He also continues as Chief Conductor of the Trondheim Symfoniorkester, which appointed him Artistic Leader in recognition of the major contribution he has made to the orchestra. Urbański's performances this season include the world premiere of *Pastorale e capriccio*, which both orchestras have co-commissioned from Wojciech Kilar. In 2013-2014, he takes the Trondheim Symfoniorkester on tour to Vienna, Cologne, Warsaw and Kraków. He also holds the position of Principal Guest Conductor of Tokyo Symphony Orchestra.

This season sees debuts with Berliner Philharmoniker and Chicago Symphony Orchestra (at the Ravinia Festival) and the following season with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Tonkünstler-Orchester Niederösterreich and Münchner Philharmoniker. He will also return to the Philharmonia Orchestra, Wiener Symphoniker, Orquesta y Coro Nacionales de España, NDR Sinfonieorchester Hamburg, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. In the US, engagements include a return to Los Angeles Philharmonic and Washington's National Symphony Orchestra.

Last season he conducted major European tours with both the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra and the European Union Youth Orchestra, and returned to Schleswig Holstein Musik Festival to conduct their Akademie Orchestra. In November 2013, he participates in an internationally-televised concert in Warsaw with Sinfonia Varsovia to mark the 80th birthday of his compatriot Krzysztof Penderecki – conducting his *Threnody to the Victims of Hiroshima*, and sharing the podium with Charles Dutoit and Valery Gergiev.

Urbański 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. From 2007-2009 he served as Assistant Conductor to the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, working under Music Director Antoni Wit with whom he also studied at University. He holds the position of Adjunct Professor of Music (Orchestral Conducting) at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

In the 30 years Grammy winner **Hilary Hahn** has been playing the violin, she has brought technical virtuosity, expansive interpretations, and daring repertoire choices to diverse global audiences. Hahn took her first lessons in the Suzuki program shortly before her fourth birthday. When she was five years old, she met Odessa native Klara Berkovich, with whom she studied until being admitted to the Curtis Institute of Music at the age of ten. There, Hahn was a pupil of Jascha Brodsky, who had trained with both the

Franco-Belgian master Eugene Ysaÿe and the Russian pedagogue Efrem Zimbalist. She completed her university requirements at Curtis at 16, after orchestral debuts with the Baltimore Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic. Hahn delayed graduation a few years in order to take further courses in languages, literature, and writing. By the time she received her Bachelor's Degree at 19, she was a full-time touring musician. Hahn's ever evolving approach to music-making and her curiosity about the world around her have made her a fan favorite.

At the age of 16, Hahn embarked on her recording career. Since then, she has released 14 albums on the Deutsche Grammophon and Sony labels, in addition to three DVDs, an Oscar-nominated movie soundtrack, an award-winning recording for children, and various compilations. In repertoire as diverse as Bach, Stravinsky, Elgar, Beethoven, Vaughan Williams, Mozart, Schoenberg, Paganini, Spohr, Barber, Bernstein, Ives, Higdon, Tchaikovsky, and others, her recordings have received every critical prize in the international press, and have met with equal popular success. All of her recordings have debuted in the top ten of the Billboard classical chart. Most notably, Hahn shows a remarkable ability to honor traditional repertoire while expanding listeners' horizons. A recording that paired the Schoenberg and Sibelius concerti spent twenty-three weeks on the Billboard classical chart. This acclaimed album brought Hahn her second Grammy: the 2009 Award for Best Instrumental Soloist Performance with Orchestra. Her first Grammy win came in 2003 for her Brahms and Stravinsky concerto album. In 2010, Hahn paired Tchaikovsky with Jennifer Higdon's Pulitzer Prize winning concerto, written specially for Hahn. 2011's *Charles Ives: Four Sonatas*, sees Hahn bringing her lyrical sensibilities to the chamber music of one of America's most experimental minds. Hahn's most recent album, *Silfra*, captured her collaboration with prepared-pianist Hauschka. The record was produced by Valgeir Sigurðson and was entirely improvised by the two performers.

The 2013-14 season marks the 30th anniversary of Hahn's first violin lesson. For decades, Hahn has had a passion for adventurous programming, delving into core repertoire, contemporary music, and less familiar classic compositions with equal commitment. This season, she revisits pieces by Mozart, Vaughan-Williams, Sibelius, Barrett, García Abril, Vieuxtemps, and Brahms, among others, while broadening her range with works by Bruch, Schoenberg, Nielsen, Schubert, Telemann, and Rautavaara. Between September and June, Hahn will give performances in nearly 50 cities in 14 countries throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. She will join the Camerata Salzburg, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra on tour, and make guest appearances with such ensembles as the Los Angeles and Berlin Philharmonics and the Detroit, Atlanta, Indianapolis, New Jersey, and New World Symphony Orchestras. In the spring, Hahn will dedicate two months of the season to her ongoing recital collaboration with pianist Cory Smythe.

Autumn 2013 will see the release of Hahn's long-awaited album, *In 27 Pieces: the Hilary Hahn Encores*, with Smythe at the piano. This recording is the culmination of a project to renew the encore genre. Over the course of several years, Hahn commissioned 26 composers from around the world to write contemporary interpretations of the short form. For the 27th encore, she held an open contest that drew more than 400 entries. The international premiere tours, from 2011 to 2013, were met with wide critical acclaim.

An engaging personality, Hahn is an avid writer and interviewer, posting journal entries and information for young musicians and concertgoers on her website, hilaryhahn.com. Additionally, she produces a YouTube channel, youtube.com/hilaryhahnvideos. Elsewhere, her violin case comments on life as a traveling companion, on Twitter and Instagram at @violincase. Hahn's gregarious personality reaches out to anyone with an interest in music and the arts, to students, and to new listeners. She has appeared on the covers of most major classical music publications and has been featured in mainstream periodicals such as *Vogue*, *Elle*, *Town & Country*, and *Marie Claire*. In 2001, Hahn was named "America's Best Young Classical Musician" by *Time Magazine*. In January 2010 she appeared as guest artist, playing Bartok and Brahms, on *The Tonight Show* with Conan O'Brien. Hahn has participated in a number of non-classical musical productions, appearing in two records by the alt-rock band ...And You Will Know Us By

The Trail of Dead; on the album *Grand Forks* by Tom Brosseau; and on tour with folk-rock singer-songwriter Josh Ritter.

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