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Contact: Jessica Di Santo, (317) 229-7082

### **Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra announces 2015-2016 season**

*In his fifth season with the ISO, Music Director Krzysztof Urbański programs major works of Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich and a three-week “Out of this World: Cosmos Music Festival”*

*Distinguished guest conductors include Roberto Abbado, Andrey Boreyko, Giancarlo Guerrero, Hans Graf, Jun Märkl, Gilbert Varga, and world renowned guest artists include Emanuel Ax, Menahem Pressler, Garrick Ohlsson and André Watts*

*ISO presents Caroline Shaw’s Violin Concerto, a co-commissioned work with North Carolina Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony and Princeton Symphony*

*ISO Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly’s Pops Series includes appearances by Kenny Rogers and Pink Martini as well as orchestral tributes to Frank Sinatra, Alfred Hitchcock films, choral masterpieces and Broadway divas featuring actress, singer and YouTube sensation, Christina Bianco*

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra today unveiled its 86<sup>th</sup> season of classical, pops and family series concerts, which runs from Sept. 18, 2015 – June 2, 2016, at the ISO’s home venue, the Hilbert Circle Theatre.

In his fifth season with the ISO, Music Director Krzysztof Urbański has programmed a mixture of masterworks by Beethoven, Brahms, Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky and will be collaborating with several renowned soloists, including violinist Joshua Bell and pianists Emanuel Ax, Dejan Lazić and Garrick Ohlsson. After this season’s successful multi-week festival based on the music of Russian composers, Urbański has created another three-week musical celebration in the 2015-16 season, this time with a celestial theme. From Jan. 22-Feb. 5, 2016, the ISO’s *Out of this World: Cosmos Music Festival* presents Holst’s *The Planets*, classical works from the film *2001: A Space Odyssey* and masterpieces by Mozart, Beethoven and Stravinsky that were included in a time capsule on the spacecraft Voyager in 1977.

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“Although I’ve enjoyed every season with this great Orchestra, I must say, this next season is particularly special for me as a conductor,” said Urbański. “I love presenting large-scale works by composers I admire, such as Brahms, Beethoven and Shostakovich, and the ‘Cosmos Festival’ blends two subjects I love most – music and science. We have much to look forward to in this next season.”

The 2015-2016 season includes the debut of Menahem Pressler, one of the world’s most revered pianists and distinguished faculty member of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. In addition, the ISO welcomes to the stage 32-year-old violinist, singer and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, Caroline Shaw, who will be performing her Violin Concerto – a new joint commission from the ISO, North Carolina Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Princeton Symphony. Shaw is represented by NewAm, the non-profit artist-service organization that has previously partnered with the ISO to showcase the innovative works and artists on the NewAm label.

### **Lilly Classical Series – Highlights**

- On Sept. 18-19, Urbański kicks off the 2015-2016 season with pianist **Emanuel Ax** performing Beethoven’s “Emperor” Concerto.
- The following weekend on Sept. 26, Urbański leads the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in its annual **Opening Night Gala** concert in a blockbuster evening featuring renowned violinist **Joshua Bell** and a special appearance by ISO artists-in-residence, **Time for Three**.
- Maestro Urbański conducts Brahms’ Piano Concerto No. 1 and 2 with **Dejan Lazić**; Beethoven’s Symphony No. 1; Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 10; Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 4; and Szymanowski’s *Symphonie concertante* with pianist **Garrick Ohlsson**.
- The *Out of this World: Cosmos Music Festival* opens with Urbański conducting music from the Voyager time capsule – Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5 and Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*; continues with Holst’s *The Planets* with guest conductor **Jun Märkl**; and closes with Urbański leading the ISO in a performance of the great classical works from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, anchored by Strauss’ *Also sprach Zarathustra*.
- Distinguished guest conductors who return to the ISO this season are **Andrey Boreyko**, **Hans Graf**, **Giancarlo Guerrero**, **Matthew Halls** and **Gilbert Varga**. Conductors making their debut with the ISO include **Roberto Abbado**, **Santtu-Matias Rouvali** and **Alexander Shelley**.
- Artist debuts include **Jinjoo Cho**, the Gold Medalist of the Ninth Quadrennial International Violin Competition in Indianapolis; soprano **Malin Christensson**; clarinetist **Kari Kriikku** performing the U.S. premiere of Kimmo Hakola’s Clarinet Concerto; organist **Paul Jacobs**; and the legendary **Menahem Pressler** for Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 27.

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- Other significant works presented this season include Beethoven's *Missa solemnis* with the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir; Mahler's Symphony No. 4; Strauss' *Don Quixote*, Nielsen's Symphony No. 4 ("Inextinguishable") and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

### **Printing Partners Pops Series**

Now in his 16<sup>th</sup> season as the Principal Pops Conductor for the ISO, Maestro Jack Everly has put together an eclectic mix of programs in the Orchestra's Printing Partners *Pops Series*. Highlights include:

- The legendary entertainer, **Kenny Rogers**, with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.
- The return of **Pink Martini**, the 12-piece ensemble that blends cabaret, samba, pop and jazz.
- This season's nod to the Great White Way includes the greatest hits from *Les Misérables*, *Dreamgirls*, *My Fair Lady*, *Annie* and much more, sung by the leading ladies of Broadway, led by American singer, actress and YouTube sensation, **Christina Bianco**.
- For Valentine's weekend, a tribute to the centennial birthday celebration of Frank Sinatra, with his signature hits sung by **Tony DeSare** and **Frankie Moreno**.
- A tribute to the great choral masterpieces in a variety of genres – pops, standards, Broadway and gospel – sung by Indy's finest choirs: the **Indianapolis Symphonic Choir**, **Indianapolis Children's Choir**, the **Indianapolis Men's Chorus**, and more.
- Symphonic presentations dedicated to the hits of Motown presented by guest artists, **Spectrum** and **Radiance**; a symphonic tribute to four decades of rock and pop in *Classic FM: Radio Hits of the Decades*; and a *Tribute to Alfred Hitchcock: Films + Orchestra*.

### **symFUNy Sundays Series presented by Dow AgroSciences**

Children can wiggle and giggle in their seats during the Orchestra's *symFUNy Sundays* presented by Dow AgroSciences concert series, which are Sunday matinee performances that feature engaging music and interactive entertainment at family-friendly prices. During *symFUNy Sundays*, families are encouraged to take part in pre-concert activities in the lobby and are invited to meet the artists after the performance. The programs are approximately one hour in length, with no intermission and are designed especially with the young listener in mind.

This season's programs will include:

- ***Symphonic Spooktacular*** on Oct. 25;
- a performance **of IPL Yuletide Celebration** on Dec. 6;
- ***Musical Mechanics***, on Jan. 17 and
- Magic Circle Mime Company's presentation of Prokofiev's musical tale, ***Peter and the Wolf***, on April 24.

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### **ISO's Artists-in-Residence: Time for Three**

In 2009, Time for Three became the ISO's first artists-in-residence and embarked on bringing its unique, genre-bending style to Indianapolis and the greater community. The group's members – violinists Zach De Pue and Nick Kendall and double bassist Ranaan Meyer – have transformed the ISO's **Stella Artois Happy Hour at the Symphony** series into an innovative orchestral experience for the after-work crowd. Next seasons *Happy Hour* concerts are October 24, January 23, May 15 and July 17.

In addition to *Happy Hour*, Time for Three's musical contributions will expand into a weekend-long event to be held next spring. Details will be announced in the coming months.

### **ISO in the Community and Serving its Community**

For the 2015-2016 season, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra remains committed to broadening its reach within the central Indiana community through a number of initiatives and programs.

- Now in its third year, the ISO's "**Community Day**" at the Hilbert Circle Theatre will be held in the afternoon of Sunday, Sept. 27 and is free and open to the public. Patrons can take part in musical activities throughout the day, meet ISO musicians, win prizes and free tickets to upcoming concerts, and enjoy an Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra performance led by Krzysztof Urbanski.
- The ISO will continue its presence in the communities of Greater Greenwood and Hendricks County as part of its *317 Series*, launched this year and now generously sponsored by Duke Energy. The **Duke Energy 317 Series** will offer a series of concerts, special events and school programs in each location.
- The ISO honors the **Metropolitan Youth Orchestra's** 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the 2015-2016 season with a series of special celebrations leading up to an anniversary event in the spring of 2016. Founded by artistic director Betty Perry, the MYO is a youth and family development program that utilizes music-making as a way to develop the skills needed to become successful citizens. Since MYO became a part of the ISO in 2008, 100 percent of all graduating seniors have gone on to some kind of post-secondary education. On Feb. 4, 2015, Roche Diagnostics Corporation became the first title sponsor of the program, and the MYO was recently awarded a significant grant from the Getty Foundation through the League of American Orchestras.

### **ISO Subscriptions – Free concerts with purchase**

Subscriptions continue to be the best way to experience the ISO, offering the greatest value and the most benefits. For the Lilly *Classical Series*, patrons who subscribe to the full 19-concert package will receive the equivalent of seven concerts for free; 14 concert subscribers will receive four free concerts; and eight-concert subscribers will receive one free concert. For the Printing Partners *Pops Series*, patrons who subscribe to the eight-concert series receive one free concert. For every adult subscription purchased to *symFUNy Sundays*, a child subscription is free.

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**ISO Subscriptions – on sale Feb. 11**

Patrons may renew current subscriptions or become a new subscriber beginning **Wednesday, Feb. 11**, by visiting the ISO's website at [www.IndianapolisSymphony.org](http://www.IndianapolisSymphony.org), by phone at (317) 639-4300, by mail or in person at the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office. The deadline for subscription renewals is **Friday, April 10**.

Among many of the benefits of becoming an ISO subscriber is advance ticket buying opportunities for and discounts to special events such as *Opening Night Gala* and the annual holiday tradition, *IPL Yuletide Celebration*, which sold out well in advance of opening night for the last two years.

For more information about all Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra presentations, call the Hilbert Circle Theatre Box Office at (317) 639-4300. Outside Indianapolis, call toll free (800) 366-8457.

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