

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

**Vancouver Recital Society presents internationally acclaimed duo
Christian Tetzlaff, violin and Leif Ove Andsnes, piano**

For Immediate Release – January 14, 2009



(Vancouver, BC) – The dynamic duo of Christian Tetzlaff (violin) and Leif Ove Andsnes (piano) will perform together in what promises to be a most compelling recital at **The Chan Centre on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 8.00pm.** The concert is presented by the Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) in collaboration with The Chan Centre, and the programme will include Mozart, Brahms, Janáček and Schubert.

Tetzlaff and Andsnes both made their Canadian debuts with the VRS and have gone on to become musicians of great international renown.

Whilst they are acclaimed artists in their own right with thriving careers, they are also long-time friends who share a deep connection and compatibility as chamber musicians. Shortly after their engagement in Vancouver, they will perform together at Carnegie Hall where they are familiar faces, having performed there previously as both soloists and duo recitalists.

Tetzlaff is an incisive musician with an intense and somewhat edgy technical assurance. He is known for his keen musical imagination and highly individual interpretations of the violin concertos of Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Ligeti and Shostakovich. Andsnes is noted for the sensitivity and lyricism of his playing which he combines with incredible technical virtuosity. As recital partners, Tetzlaff and Andsnes have a wonderfully intuitive musical rapport which makes for truly compelling performances. Critics clearly agree - *The Independent (London)* was left “wondering whether there was any more versatile, searching, and sheerly musical violin-and-piano partnership before the public today”, whilst *The New York Times* has described their collaborations as “brilliant and probing” and infused with “spontaneity and greatness”.

Andsnes was born in Karmøy, Norway, in 1970 and studied at the Bergen Music Conservatory under the renowned Czech professor Jiri Hlinka. He is a professor at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo, and a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Music. In addition to giving recitals and playing concertos each season in the world’s leading concert halls and with all the foremost orchestras, he is an avid chamber musician who joins favourite colleagues every summer in Norway at the Risør Chamber Music Festival, of which he is co-artistic director. He has received Norway’s most distinguished honor, Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav and in 2007, he received the prestigious Peer Gynt Prize. He has also received the Royal Philharmonic Society’s Instrumentalist Award, the Gilmore Artist Award, three Gramophone Awards and numerous Grammy nominations. Saluting his many achievements, *Vanity Fair* named Andsnes one of the “Best of the Best” in 2005. He records exclusively for EMI Classics. Andsnes currently resides between his homes in Copenhagen and Bergen.

Tetzlaff was born in Hamburg in 1966 and began playing the violin and piano at six years of age. He did not begin intensive study of the violin until the age of 14, and attributes the establishment of his musical outlook to his teacher at the conservatory in Lübeck, Uwe-Martin Haiberg, who placed equal stress on interpretation and technique. Tetzlaff has been in demand as a soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras and conductors, establishing close artistic partnerships that are renewed season after season. He has performed with the orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Philadelphia, New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Toronto in addition to major European ensembles including the Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony, Orchestre de Paris, Vienna Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic and

the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam. In honour of his artistic achievements, Musical America named him "Instrumentalist of the Year" in 2005. Tetzlaff lives near Frankfurt with his wife and three children. He has made a number of recordings for Virgin Classics and EMI. He currently performs on a violin modeled after a Guarneri del Gesù made by the German violin maker, Peter Greiner.

Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca

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