

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

MEDIA RELEASE

PIANIST EMANUEL AX TO PERFORM THE MUSIC OF CHOPIN AND SCHUMANN IN CELEBRATION OF THE BICENTENARY OF THE COMPOSERS' BIRTHS

For Immediate Release – April 13, 2010



(Vancouver, BC) – The Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) will present esteemed pianist **Emanuel Ax** in a solo recital **at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts on Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 8.00pm**. His programme features a number of works by Chopin and Schumann. 2010 marks the joint anniversaries of these two classical greats - both were born in 1810. Ax will also perform Thomas Adès *Three Mazurkas*, recently described by the New York Times as “modern-day riffs on Chopin”. Ax performed the world premiere of *Three Mazurkas* at Carnegie Hall in February 2010.

Revered by his peers, Ax is one of today's pre-eminent pianists. His repertoire ranges from Bach to the 20th Century, and his warmth and intelligence make him one of the most endearing and approachable musicians around. His career has included appearances with major symphony orchestras worldwide, recitals in celebrated concert halls and a variety of chamber music collaborations including his celebrated partnership with cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

Born in Lvov, Poland, Emanuel Ax moved to Winnipeg with his family when he was a young boy. His studies at the Juilliard School were supported by the sponsorship of the Epstein Scholarship Program of the Boys Clubs of America, and he subsequently won the Young Concert Artists Award. Additionally, he attended Columbia University, where he majored in French. Ax captured public attention in 1974 when he won the first Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Competition in Tel Aviv. In 1975 he won the Michaels Award of Young Concert Artists followed four years later by the coveted Avery Fisher Prize.

Ax has received Grammy awards for the second and third volumes of his cycle of Haydn's piano sonatas. He has also made a series of Grammy-winning recordings with cellist Yo-Yo Ma of the Beethoven and Brahms sonatas for cello and piano. Ax resides in New York City with his wife, pianist Yoko Nozaki. They have two children together, Joseph and Sarah. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and holds honorary doctorates of music from Yale and Columbia Universities.

Tickets available at www.ticketmaster.ca

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