

# VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Vancouver Recital Society opens its 2009-2010 Season with the legendary American pianist Murray Perahia**

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(Vancouver, BC) – Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) will open its 2009-2010 Season with a solo piano recital by the legendary American pianist **Murray Perahia** at the **Chan Centre for the Performing Arts on Sunday, October 4, 2009 at 3.00pm**. A pre-concert talk will commence at 2.15pm. The programme will include works by Bach, Beethoven, Schumann and Chopin.

This will be the seventh time the VRS has presented Perahia in concert in its thirty-season history. He has been a leading figure in the classical music world for over three decades and few musicians garner as much respect as this distinguished pianist. He has become one of the most sought-after and cherished pianists of our time, performing in all of the major international music centres and with every leading orchestra.

Born in New York, Perahia started playing piano at the age of four, and later attended Mannes College where he majored in conducting and composition. His summers were spent at the Marlboro Festival, where he collaborated with such musicians as Rudolf Serkin, Pablo Casals, and the Budapest String Quartet. He also studied at the time with Mieczyslaw Horszowski. In subsequent years, he developed a close friendship with Vladimir Horowitz, whose perspective and personality were an abiding inspiration. In 1972, he won the Leeds International Piano Competition, and in 1973 he gave his first concert at the Aldeburgh Festival, where he worked closely with Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears. He was co-artistic director of the Festival from 1981 to 1989. Perahia is an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Music and the Royal Academy of Music, and he holds honorary doctorates from Leeds University and Duke University. In 2004, he was awarded an honorary KBE by Her Majesty The Queen, in recognition of his outstanding service to music.

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*Additional media resources & high resolution images are available at [www.vanrecital.com/press](http://www.vanrecital.com/press)*

**The Vancouver Recital Society's 2009/2010 Season is generously sponsored by HSBC Securities**

**This concert is sponsored by the past & current Presidents of the Vancouver Recital Society's Board of Directors**

**Co-presented with the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts  
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