

# VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY

## MEDIA RELEASE

### THE DAY OF THE RECITAL IS OVER

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**(Vancouver, BC)** – “The day of the recital is over.” Such were the pronouncements when the Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) launched its first season of 5 concerts at the Arts Club Theatre on Granville Island in 1979. 31 years later, the VRS has firmly established itself as one of North America’s leading classical music presenters. Today the VRS announced details of the forthcoming 31<sup>st</sup> Season. The 2010-2011 Season, generously sponsored by Odlum Brown Limited, consists of 18 concerts in 5 venues featuring some of the world’s most exciting musicians.

Leila Getz, Artistic & Executive Director of the VRS, is particularly enthusiastic about the variety offered on the new series. “The range of concerts we are presenting in our 2010-2011 Season perfectly encapsulates what the VRS does best: to present our audiences with internationally acclaimed musicians whilst at the same time being the launch pad and nurturer of emerging young artists whom we believe are destined for big careers.”

In the 2010-2011 Season, there are 16 recitals spread over five series which take place at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts at the University of British Columbia, the Vancouver Playhouse and the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver. There are also two stand alone concerts at the Orpheum Theatre – piano sensation **Lang Lang** on Friday, January 21, 2011 at 8.00pm and **The Silk Road Ensemble** with cellist **Yo-Yo Ma** on Sunday, April 10, 2011 at 7.30pm.

Every season, the VRS presents piano recitals from some of the world’s most celebrated pianists. The 2010-2011 Season does not disappoint and includes recitals from a number of big names in the piano firmament including VRS audience favourites **Paul Lewis**, **Yevgeny Sudbin** and **Simon Trpčeski**. Young up-and-coming pianists who are creating names for themselves in the classical music world include **Inon Barnatan**, **Ingrid Fliter** and **Martin Helmchen**.

Canadian soprano **Measha Brueggergosman** returns to the VRS series having made her Vancouver debut back in 2003. Described by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as “a singer of rare gifts and artistic intensity”, Brueggergosman is truly a force of nature. Mezzo-soprano **Christianne Stotijn** will make her Vancouver debut at the Vancouver Playhouse. A rising star from the Netherlands, Stotijn received the 2005 Borletti Buitoni Award and was winner of the prestigious Dutch Music Prize in 2008. She is a BBC New Generation Artist.

The string family is represented in the higher register by violinists **Daniel Hope**, **Stefan Jackiw** and **Nikki Chooi**. Nikki is the VRS’ newest discovery and hails from Victoria. He is currently studying at the Curtis Institute and is one of a select few musicians awarded his instrument, a 1729 Guarneri del Gesù violin, by the Canada Council for the Arts Musical Instrument Bank. Daniel Hope, who enjoys a stellar career as a solo violinist, has visited Vancouver in the past as a member of the Beaux Arts Trio. Daniel’s collaborative partner is the wonderful pianist/conductor **Jeffrey Kahane** who was a regular visitor to the VRS at the beginning of his career.

In an interesting twist, Jeffrey's son **Gabriel Kahane** (who was an infant when his father first performed for the VRS) is also performing on the 2010-2011 series. Gabriel is making his career as a singer, songwriter and pianist. He'll be performing with the prodigiously talented cellist **Alisa Weilerstein**, another VRS Alum. Alisa performed for President and Mrs. Obama at the White House in November 2009. Young German cellist **Marie-Elisabeth Hecker** will be making her Vancouver debut in a duo recital with pianist Martin Helmchen.

In an unusual move, the VRS is presenting three string quartets in the 2010-2011 Season. The **Arcanto Quartet**, described by *The Telegraph* as "one of the most stimulating, enjoyable ensembles to listen to", features three musicians who have performed individually on the VRS series to great acclaim – violinist Antje Weithaas, violist Tabea Zimmermann and cellist Jean-Guihen Queyras. The **Tetzlaff Quartet** features the return of another VRS favourite, violinist Christian Tetzlaff. There's another family connection in this instance - his sister Tanja Tetzlaff is the quartet's cellist. The **Aviv Quartet** is making its Vancouver debut with pianist **Robert Kulek**. Canadian Rachel Mercer, the cellist of the Aviv Quartet, is another Canada Council for the Arts Musical Instrument Bank prizewinner - she was awarded a 1696 Bonjour Stradivari.

Reaching out to a younger audience, the VRS will present an interactive workshop/concert with an environmental message called **Bash the Trash**. This event, which is specifically geared towards 3-6 year olds, will take place at Sunset Community Centre in November 2010. A group of New-York based musicians and educators will build and perform on musical instruments made from re-cycled materials. Bash the Trash has been enchanting audiences since 1992 and has performed with Yo-Yo Ma and featured on 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood'.

There are seven different ways to subscribe to the VRS' 2010-2011 season. Seat-owning series include the Super Classic Series (13 concerts), Classic Afternoons at the Chan Centre Series (4 concerts), Great Performances at the Chan Centre Series (4 concerts), Next Generation Series at the Vancouver Playhouse (5 concerts) and Next Generation Series at the Kay Meek Centre (3 concerts). Subscribers can also opt for a Mini Subscription (3 concerts) or a Build Your Own Subscription (5 concerts or more), both of which offer the flexibility to accommodate specific musical preferences, times, locations and budgets. Subscribing to the VRS offers a variety benefits - the largest discounts, easy ticket exchange and replacement, and personalized service.

Subscriptions start at \$111 and are available through the VRS box office at **604 602 0363** or visit **[www.vanrecital.com](http://www.vanrecital.com)**.

The VRS also offers **Youth Club subscriptions** starting at just \$45 for prime seats. Youth Club members also get other exclusive benefits. Visit [www.vanrecital.com](http://www.vanrecital.com) for more information.

Tickets to all VRS concerts go on sale to the general public September 1, 2010 through Ticketmaster.

The VRS is also delighted to welcome **Odlum Brown** as the 2010-2011 Season Sponsor. Odlum Brown has partnered with the VRS in various sponsorship capacities since 2002, including an ongoing sponsorship of the VRS Youth Club and, for three seasons from 2007 – 2010, as sponsor of the Next Generation Series at the Kay Meek Centre in West Vancouver. "We are thrilled that Odlum Brown has become our Season Sponsor, we feel that they are a perfect fit for our organization," says Getz.

The Vancouver Recital Society's 2010/2011 recital season is generously sponsored by Odlum Brown.

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Media Contact:

Leila Getz

Vancouver Recital Society

Telephone: 604-602-0363

email: leilagetz@vanrecital.com

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