



Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra

William Whitson founder



Benjamin Simon music director

Kris Yenney director of SuperStrings and Preparatory Orchestras

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 42<sup>nd</sup> SEASON FINAL CONCERT  
A PROGRAM OF CLASSICAL, ROMANTIC AND CONTEMPORARY MUSIC**

***June 1 Concert Features Prominent Local Pianist Sujeeva Hapugalle,  
and Concertmaster Evie Chen, Winner of PACO Concerto Competition***

DATE & TIME: Sunday, June 1, 2008, 3:00 p.m.  
PLACE: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University

PROGRAM: Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 1 in C Major, Op. 15  
Elizabeth Lim: Crossroads (World Premiere)  
Ralph Vaughan-Williams: The Lark Ascending  
Arthur Foote: Suite in E Major for String Orchestra

TICKETS: \$15 adults, \$10 seniors, \$6 students  
CONTACT: (650) 856-3848  
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<http://www.pacomusic.org>

PALO ALTO, Calif., April 28, 2008 – The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will perform their final concert of the 2007-08 season on Sunday June 1, with a program combining Classical, Romantic and Contemporary music.

June 1 concert features concertmaster Evie Chen, winner of PACO concerto competition, performing Vaughan-Williams' lovely ode to Spring, "The Lark Ascending" for violin and orchestra. Prominent local pianist Sujeeva Hapugalle will be performing Beethoven's wonderful First Piano Concerto, and the program will also include the world premiere of Elizabeth Lim's "Crossroads", written for the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra. Ms. Lim is a 21-year old senior at Harvard College and the winner of PACO 2008 Youth-for-Youth commissioning project. Two chamber ensembles from within the orchestra will perform music by Brahms and Dvorak. The program will conclude with little-known American composer Arthur Foote's Suite in E Major for String Orchestra, composed in 1907.

The concert, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at 3:00 p.m. at Dinkelspiel Auditorium on the Stanford University campus.

## About the Soloists

Evie Chen, 16, a junior at Palo Alto High School, began studying the violin at age 4 and currently a student of Mrs. Jenny Rudin of Palo Alto. She made her first debut with Fremont Symphony Orchestra at age 8, as being the youngest contestant to win the Nafisa Taghioff Award of the Fremont Symphony Orchestra 2000 Young Artists Competition. Recently, Evie won the UC Davis Mondavi Center 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Young Artist Competition, senior division instrumental prize. In the fall of 2007, she was the first place winner of American String Teachers Association, California State Solo Competition. Her other awards include the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra Concerto Competition 2004 and 2006, the Nova Vista Symphony Young Artist Competition 2002, and the Cal-ASTA State Solo Competition 2002.

Steinway Artist, Sujeeva Hapugalle has been highly acclaimed for her versatile presentations of wide ranging repertoire, rare artistry, pianism and communication in performance, earning a special affinity with her audiences around the world. Her work as Solo Recitalist, Concerto Artiste and Lecture Recitalist has taken her to Europe, North America, South America, Australia, the Middle East, Japan, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka-often combined with Master Classes. She has performed extensively as solo recitalist and chamber musician at many prestigious venues throughout the UK. Amongst other festivals, she has been a frequent solo concert artist for the Chopin Society and the Beethoven Piano Society of Europe in their concert series in London at St Martin's in the Fields and St Johns Smith Square. Sujeeva was a select artist for Sir Yehudi Menuhin's "Live Music Now" series in the UK and has been a keen supporter and performing artist for several charities. She is also a popular guest solo concert artist for the two leading six star luxury cruise lines, Crystal Cruises and Radisson Seven Seas and was invited to present three recitals on the RMS Queen Mary 2 on her much publicized Maiden World Cruise sailing to San Francisco in February 2007. She has been dedicated to supporting many musical organizations and is presently delighted to serve on the Board of the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra.

## About PACO

Founded in 1966 by William Whitson, who served as the orchestra's music director for 36 years, the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive audition. As being one of the few youth orchestras in the nation devoted exclusively to chamber music, PACO performs adventurous repertoires, features first class soloists, tours internationally and accomplishes frequent recordings. Appointed music director in 2002, violist Benjamin Simon has brought with him a new level of energy and creativity in directing PACO programs, while continuing its tradition of excellence in performance. For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit <http://www.pacomusic.org>.

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## **Public Service Announcement**

### **PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 42<sup>nd</sup> SEASON FINAL CONCERT JUNE 1**

PALO ALTO, Calif., April 28, 2008 – The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will perform their final concert of the 2007-08 season on Sunday June 1, 2008, 3:00 pm. The concert features concertmaster Evie Chen, winner of PACO concerto competition, performing Vaughan-Williams' lovely ode to Spring, "The Lark Ascending" for violin and orchestra. Prominent local pianist Sujeeva Hapugalle will be performing Beethoven's wonderful First Piano Concerto, and the program will also include the world premiere of Elizabeth Lim's "Crossroads", written for the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra. Ms. Lim is a 21-year old senior at Harvard College and the winner of PACO 2008 Youth-for-Youth commissioning project. Two chamber ensembles from within the orchestra will perform music by Brahms and Dvorak. The program will conclude with little-known American composer Arthur Foote's Suite in E Major for String Orchestra, composed in 1907. The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra is composed of the Bay Area's most talented and promising high school musicians chosen by competitive audition. For more information call 650-856-3848 or visit <http://www.pacomusic.org>.

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