



Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra

William Whitson founder



Benjamin Simon music director

Kris Yenney director of SuperStrings and Preparatory Orchestra

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PALO ALTO CHAMBER ORCHESTRA 43rd SEASON

**Concert venue: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford
Conductor: Benjamin Simon, PACO Music Director**

PALO ALTO, Calif., September 2, 2008 – The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will launch its forty third season on October 18 with a series of concerts featuring PACO concerto competition winner, noted Bay Area artist and alumni who have gone on to acclaimed professional music careers.

Season highlights include a Handel Fest to celebrate the life and music of George Frederick Handel, a music tour with World-famous cellist and PACO alumnus Matt Haimovitz to the East Coast. The award-winning PACO ensemble will make its Lincoln Center debut with a concert at Alice Tully Hall in New York City.

Our fall concert features PACO concerto competition winner, Aki Toyoshima, PACO principal cellist performing Dmitri Shostakovich's brilliant Cello Concerto No. 1. Our holiday concert features noted Bay Area pianist, Robert Schwartz performing Mozart's lovely Piano Concerto #17 in G major. Our first spring concert in March features San Francisco Opera Orchestra concertmaster, Kay Stern performing Felix Mendelssohn great violin concerto in E minor. Our last concert will proudly present Cello superstar and PACO alumnus, Matt Haimovitz who returns to PACO stage to perform Schubert's delightful "Arpeggione Sonata" and noted composer Luna Pearl Woolf's "Max's Moon" All concerts, to be conducted by PACO Music Director Benjamin Simon, will take place at Dinkelspiel Auditorium on the Stanford University campus.

Season Program

Saturday, October 18, 2008 – 8pm

Northern Lights

Aki Toyoshima, cello

Haunting and beautiful music from the land of the midnight sun. Aki Toyoshima, PACO's principal cellist, takes center stage to perform Dmitri Shostakovich's brilliant Cello Concerto No. 1, Plus music from Norway and a nighttime serenade by Mozart. Fight global warming — come north with us!

Saturday, December 13, 2008 – 8pm

The Mozart Effect

Robert Schwartz, piano

Noted Bay Area pianist Robert Schwartz makes his PACO debut performing Mozart's lovely Piano Concerto #17 in G Major, plus Beethoven's titanic Fifth Symphony, tackled by the combined forces of PACO and Sinfonia.

Sunday, March 8, 2009 – 3pm

Mostly Mendelssohn

Kay Stern, violin

Happy 200th birthday, dear Felix! Classical music's second most famous child prodigy (after Mozart, of course!) takes center stage in this special program featuring two of his most beloved works: the great violin concerto in E minor with San Francisco Opera Orchestra concertmaster Kay Stern as our soloist and his rambunctious Italian Symphony.

Sunday, May 31, 2009 – 3pm

Traveling Man

Matt Haimovitz, cello

Cello superstar (and PACO alumnus) Matt Haimovitz returns to the PACO stage to perform Schubert's delightful "Arpeggione Sonata", plus the West Coast premiere of noted composer Luna Pearl Woolf's "Max's Moon". Josef Suk, son-in-law of the great Dvorak, wrote his romantic "Serenade for Strings" as an homage to his native Bohemia. This program is being prepared for PACO's upcoming East Coast tour in June 2009.

Special Event - Handel Fest

Celebrate the Life & Music of George Frederic Handel

Sunday, March 22, 2009 – 4pm

Valley Presbyterian Church

945 Portola Road, Portola Valley

featuring Peter Lemberg, oboe ;Lara Bruckman, soprano and the Handel Festival Chorus

Special Event – East Coast Tour

The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra embarks on a tour to the East Coast in late June, 2009. World-famous cellist and PACO alumnus Matt Haimovitz will be the soloist, performing Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata and noted composer Luna Pearl Woolf's "Max's Moon". The award-winning PACO ensemble will make its Lincoln Center debut with a concert at Alice Tully Hall in New York City, and performances in Boston, New Haven, Philadelphia, and Washington are being planned

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 43rd SEASON CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENT

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