

North Carolina's
Musical Treasure™



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Press Release

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CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS TO BE
SHOWCASED IN YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRAS
SERIES' LAST TWO CONCERTS

Greensboro, NC- Five exceptional Young Artists, chosen as winners of EMF's 2009 Concerto Competition, will be featured in two concerts to take place during the festival's closing week. Starting on **Thursday, July 30, 2009** violinist **Sophie Pariot** will perform Sibelius' Violin Concerto in D minor, op.47 (movt. I) followed by pianist **Fang-Wei Hsu** with Liszt's *Totentanz*, S.126. This concert brings together the aforementioned Young Artists along with the Eastern Symphony Orchestra and **resident conductor José-Luis Novo**.

On **Friday, July 31, 2009** the Guilford Symphony Orchestra led by **guest conductor Chelsea Tipton II** will welcome interpretations by the following Young Artists: **trumpeter Daniel Taubenheim** playing Tomasi's Trumpet Concerto (movt. I), **clarinetist Jason Spencer** with Manevich's Clarinet Concerto, and **pianist Jeong Choe** performing Prokofiev's Piano Concerto in C major (movt. I).

Both concerts will take place **at 8pm** in **Dana Auditorium at Guilford College** (5800 West Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410). Tickets may be purchased for \$31 for reserved seating and \$25 for general admission by calling the EMF Box Office at Triad Stage at 336.272.0160 or 866-579-TIXX, or online at www.EasternMusicFestival.org.

Every Thursday and Friday this season is Family Night at EMF. Adults bringing children ages 18 and under are eligible for special prices – adults \$5; children \$1 (limit 2 children per adult). Additionally, student tickets are available for \$8 to those with valid student IDs.

Thursday's concert will offer a unique musical experience showcasing two of the five Young Artists Concerto Competition winners. The program will also include a range of challenging orchestral works, such as: Coleridge-Taylor's *Danse Nègre*, op.35, no.4 (from *African Suite*), Peck's Peace Overture and Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio Italien*, op.45.

Friday's performance will highlight the three remaining winners, as well as *El sombrero de tres picos* (The Three-Cornered Hat): Suite No.2 (Three Dances) by Manuel De Falla and *Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche* (Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks), op.28. TrV 171 by Richard Strauss. The breadth of impressive classical masterworks programmed for these last two concerts, ranging from concertos to high level symphonic pieces, will offer a spectacular culmination to this season's Young Artists Orchestras Series.

More about the featured Young Artists

Sophie Pariot, 16, was born in France and now lives in Connecticut. She started taking violin lessons at the age of six with Brittany McWilliams, and in 2001 she joined the Starling String project. Several of her other teachers include Kurt Sussmanhaus, Won Bin Yim, and Gabriel Pegis. During her time at Starling String Project she was recognized with several awards from the UC prep division. At age 10 Sophie made her first solo debut with the Starling Chamber Orchestra and was invited for a solo performance with the U.C. Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2004 she was accepted into the Juilliard Pre-college division and began studying under Naoko Tanaka, and was chosen as a finalist that year in the Juilliard Mozart Competition. In 2005 she attended *En Graves* Summer Music Festival in France and was selected to participate in a master class by Maxim Vengerov, which led to a solo performance on Radio France Music (live broadcast). In 2007 Sophie was featured on *From The Top*, national radio show, live at Music Hall in Cincinnati, OH. Other master classes she has been selected for include: Robert Lipsett, Pamela Frank, Dong Suk Kang, and Midori. Sophie has also attended summer music festivals such as: the Aspen Music Festival, Encore in Cleveland, Salzburg Summer Academy in Austria, Young Pyung International Music Festival in Korea, MusicAlpes in Courchevel and *En Graves* in Bordeaux France, and for the second summer, the Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina. Sophie is currently studying with Stephen Clapp at the Juilliard Pre-college in N.Y.

Fang-Wei Hsu, 18, born in Taipei, Taiwan, began her piano studies at the age of six when her mother desired her entrance into the world of music. Following years of study, she entered into the Interlochen Arts Academy for her high school education and continued her piano studies with Yoshikazu Nagai and Michael Coonrod. Fang-Wei won first prize at the 2008 Bradshaw & Buono International Piano Competition and performed on the winner's recital in Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. In 2009, she earned the Honorable Mention Award at the youngARTS program by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Fang-Wei was also featured on National Public Radio's, "From the Top". In addition, she also performed with the Interlochen Chamber Orchestra in Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall. This is Fang-Wei's third summer at the Eastern Music Festival. Now eighteen, she will be attending the Eastman School of Music this fall.

Daniel Taubenheim, 17, of Lake Bluff, Illinois has been studying trumpet since the fifth grade. He is principal trumpet with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra and also plays in their select Encore Chamber Orchestra, Brass Choir and Brass Quintet. Daniel recently placed second both in the High School Division of the National Trumpet Competition in Fairfax, Virginia and in the International Trumpet Guild Youth Competition in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He appeared in January 2009 on the NPR show "From the Top". In 2008 Daniel won the Winds and Brass Division of the Midwest Young Artists Concerto Competition and was the winner of the Chicago Union League Civic and Arts Foundation Scholarship for Winds and Brass. Last summer he attended Interlochen Center for the Arts on a full Emerson Scholarship and also participated in master classes with Barbara Butler and Charles Geyer at Northwestern University. Daniel has studied privately with former EMF faculty member Christopher Richardson for five years. This is Daniel's first summer at the Eastern Music Festival.

Jason Spencer, 20, a native of Chapel Hill, NC, began studying clarinet at the age of 10. He is a rising junior at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro where he studies clarinet with Dr. Kelly Burke. He currently performs with the UNCG Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra, as well as numerous chamber ensembles. He attended the North Carolina School of the Arts for his senior year of high school. Past ensemble experience includes his participation in the Triangle Youth Philharmonic, NC School of the Arts Orchestra and NC All-State bands and orchestras. In 2008, Jason was selected principal clarinet in the National Collegiate Wind Ensemble held in Carnegie Hall under the direction of H. Robert Reynolds. A member of the International Clarinet Association, Jason has participated in master classes with Jon Manasse, Charles Neidich and Mark Nuccio. Prior to attending EMF for the past two summers, Jason spent summers at the Brevard Music Center and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute.

Jeong Eun Choe, 19, began her piano studies at age six. She has been recognized in numerous competitions and festivals including the Northwest Chopin Festival, Seattle Young Artists Music Festival, October Bach Festival, Performing Arts Festival of Eastside, Washington State Music Teachers Association, the MTNA Washington State Competition, and the Washington Music Educators Association State Solo and Ensemble Competition. Also, Jeong was a recipient of Barton Scholarship, Roslyn and Martha Annin Memorial Scholarship, and National Foundation for Advancement of the Arts merit award. Jeong made her orchestral debut at age fourteen performing Schumann Piano Concerto in A Minor with Skagit Valley Symphony, and performed with Seattle Symphony in 2008. In previous summers, she attended Indiana University Piano Academy, IYYM and International Music Academy Pilsen. Jeong currently attends the Eastman School of Music as a student of Nelita True. This is Jeong's first summer at the Eastern Music Festival.

More about José Luis Novo

Praised by audiences and critics alike for his fresh interpretations and dramatic presentation style, pianist **José-Luis Novo** is currently music director and conductor of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (Md.) and the Binghamton Philharmonic (N.Y.). Prior to these appointments, Mr. Novo held the positions of assistant conductor of the

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; music director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Oxford Chamber Orchestra (Ohio), and the Miami University Symphony Orchestra; associate conductor of the National Repertory Orchestra; and assistant conductor of the National Youth Orchestra of Spain and the Yale Symphony Orchestra.

Recent engagements include the Baltimore, Syracuse, Modesto, Tulsa, Ridgefield, Tallahassee, and Stamford symphonies, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, and the Abilene Philharmonic.

Previous guest conducting engagements have included appearances with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, the Windsor Symphony, the Cleveland Philharmonic, and the Echternach Festival Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. He has guest conducted on tour in Luxembourg and Germany and with numerous Spanish orchestras, including performances at the National Auditorium and at the Royal Opera House in Madrid, and the Palau de la Musica in Barcelona. Mr. Novo holds music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, Yale University, and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Brussels.

Mr. Novo returns for his tenth year as resident conductor of EMF.

More about Chelsea Tipton II

Entering his fourth season as Resident Conductor of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, American conductor **Chelsea Tipton II** has won over audiences and critics alike with his vibrant musicality, accessibility, versatility and extraordinary commitment to education outreach. As a sought-after guest conductor, Tipton has appeared with major orchestras in the United States, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony Orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, among others. The 2006-2007 season saw Tipton in guest conducting engagements with the Cleveland Orchestra as well as Houston, Detroit, Atlanta and New Jersey symphonies. These were in addition to his regular Toledo Symphony season appearances that feature a Pops Series and a Family Series. Recent highlights included a last minute replacement for Robert Spano to conduct an all-Gershwin season finale with the Brooklyn Philharmonic in 2005. The *New York Times* applauded Tipton for “[leading] sweeping and vibrant performances of *Rhapsody* and *An American in Paris*.”

For the 2004-2005 season, Chelsea Tipton guest conducted the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony, the Louisville Philharmonic, the Windsor Symphony and the Oberlin Conservatory Chamber Orchestra. In June of 2004, the conductor led the Boston Pops Orchestra in their annual Gospel Night Concert that the *Boston Globe* called an “impressive debut.”

In October 2001, Tipton was one of the ten conductors selected to conduct the New York Philharmonic in a Special Reading Session mentored by Kurt Masur. His strong commitment toward education was shown through his dedicated work with the Sphinx Competition to promote African American and Hispanic emerging artists in classical music in addition to working with the New World Symphony to involve local high school students in concerts.

Prior to his appointment with the Toledo Symphony, Tipton was associate conductor with the Savannah Symphony Orchestra for four seasons and music director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra for three seasons.

He has held faculty positions at Central Michigan University (CMU) as assistant professor where he was director of the CMU Symphony and a visiting professor in clarinet and chamber music at Western Michigan University. He has served on the faculty of the Apple Hill Chamber Music Festival in New Hampshire and served four seasons as assistant conductor with the Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina during the summers.

Tipton earned a master of music degree in orchestral conducting from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance from the Eastman School of Music, with additional studies at the University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music and the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors in Hancock, Maine. As a clarinetist, Mr. Tipton has performed with several orchestras, including the Rochester Philharmonic, the Heidelberg Festival Opera Orchestra (Germany) and the Chicago Sinfonietta. He has appeared on the NBC "Today" show with Wynton Marsalis and has performed as a section clarinet player with James Galway and the Eastman Philharmonia, Wynton Marsalis and the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra on recordings with RCA Classical, CBS Masterworks and Pro Arte labels.

A devotee of the Japanese martial art form aikido, Chelsea Tipton II is dedicated to using positive and harmonious forces in challenging difficulties.

Tickets: Triad Stage Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579.TIXX or www.EasternMusicFestival.org.

*a service fee will apply

Discounts are available for full-time students with a valid ID, seniors aged 65 or older, and groups of 10 or more for most performances. Young Artists and EMF*kids* concerts offer family-friendly packages. Please call the box office about packages. This season most discounts will be available at the door. Discounts and gift certificates will not be accepted for concerts designated as special events.

**Dates, programs, venues, and artists are subject to change.*

More About Eastern Music Festival

Now in its 48th year, the Eastern Music Festival & School is recognized for its prodigious contributions to the field of American music and its commitment to nurturing talented American and international youth through a collaborative learning process. The program brings together a cross-section of America's most sought-after artists with pre-professional students in a five-week schedule of 100 concerts and music-related events. **Music Director Gerard Schwarz** heads a distinguished list of participating artists scheduled for 2009, including **Peter Serkin, Sarah Chang, Awadagin Pratt, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Xavier Phillips**, plus many others.

The Festival also produces a popular EMF*fringe* series of alternative programming, featuring everything from Americana to alt country, blues, jazz and gospel with artists such as **Mike Cross, The John Cowan Band, Laurelyn Dossett, Steep Canyon Rangers, Waybacks, The Chris Hicks Band**, blues artist **Larry McCray** and more. EMF*kids* offers camps and concerts with each uniquely designed to foster a love and knowledge for classical and non-classical music. This year's concerts are **Shana Banana** and **Dan Zanes**. EMF*jazz&blues* runs each spring and EMF Fringe in the Fall each autumn. Singles tickets and FlexPasses are on sale now. www.EasternMusicFestival.org; Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579-TIXX.

The 2009 Eastern Music Festival season is sponsored in part by the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro, the North Carolina Arts Council, Lincoln Financial Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Southern Arts Federation, WFDD Triad Arts Station, Greensboro's News and Record, Continental Airways, Yes! Weekly, and Piedmont Music Center (Steinway Pianos).

For more information about EMF or its programs, please visit www.EasternMusicFestival.org, or call toll free: 1.877.833.6753

The Eastern Music Festival's mission is to promote musical enrichment, excellence, professional collaboration, innovation and diversity through a nationally-recognized teaching program, music festival, concerts and other programs which will enhance the quality of life, health and vitality of our region.

EMF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
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