



V E R M O N T S Y M P H O N Y

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Violinist Soovin Kim Returns to Vermont to Perform with the VSO

Noted American violinist Soovin Kim will be the guest soloist for the forthcoming Vermont Symphony Orchestra concert on Saturday, March 8, 2008, at the Flynn Center in Burlington at 8 p.m. A Vermont Youth Orchestra alumnus, he returns to Vermont to team with his former teacher, VSO Music Director Jaime Laredo, to perform the Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in d minor by Jean Sibelius. This exciting concert, part of the VSO's 2007/2008 Masterworks series, also includes Symphony No. 3, "Rhenish," by Robert Schumann and Radiance by VSO Composer-in-Residence David Ludwig. Principal oboist Nancy Dimock will solo in this recently-composed work.

Soovin Kim is a very talented young player who, building on his early successes in various youth competitions, has emerged as a mature artist, equally gifted in concerto, recital, and chamber music repertoire. Born in the United States into a family of non-musicians, he was given a violin at age 4, at his request. At 15, he was accepted to the Cleveland Institute of Music, and ultimately moved to the Curtis Institute of Music where he studied with Jaime Laredo and received his Bachelor of Music Degree in 1999. He has worked with some of the finest pedagogues and artist-teachers in the world blending qualities from various violin traditions. His musical activities encompass a wide range of repertoire from Bach to the works of living composers. Soovin Kim's fifth recording is about to be released. Today he plays on a 1709 Stradivarius, the "ex-Kempner."

Nancy Dimock regularly performs throughout the northeast. She has served as principal oboist of the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra, and has performed on the Prairie Home Companion radio show, PBS Great Performances television broadcast, and numerous recordings.

A "Town Meeting," hosted by Mr. Ludwig, will precede the concert and is free to ticket-holders. Alan Jordan, VSO Executive Director, and Laredo will be discussing the 2008/2009 Masterworks series and the build-up to the VSO's 75th anniversary.

Sponsors for this concert include KBS, Automaster, and Malcolm and Gladys Severance.



*Soovin Kim
(photo by Woo-Ryong Chai);
Nancy Dimock;
David Ludwig*

Tickets are available through the FlynnTix Regional Box Office at (802) 86-FLYNN (863-5966).

This Masterworks concert will also be presented at the Paramount Theatre in Rutland on Sunday, March 9, 2008 at 4:00 p.m., as part of the "Sunday Matinee Series." Tickets are available through the Paramount Box Office, (802) 775-0903, and at the Book King on Merchants Row in Rutland.

Please contact the VSO office at (800) VSO-9293, extension 10, or visit on-line at www.vso.org, for more information.

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FROM THE WINGS

by Eleanor Long

I'm writing this upstairs in my house, longhand, which comes naturally to me (haha) and also gives me a chance to sit in adjacent armchairs with my cat Toby—for all the world like an old married couple. Now there's a scary thought. Especially since he's just been diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma and has at most a few weeks to live. Three cats off to the Elysian catnip fields in 18 months! I must have been a rotter in a previous incarnation.

Toby was given to me by Tom Phillion (the VSO's E.D. before Alan Jordan), when Tom moved on to (couldn't be greener) *bigger* pastures—first in Oklahoma, then Buffalo, then Greensboro, and now Seattle. Talk about nine lives! When Tom came to the VSO, he called himself a “firefighter,” and if you've been following the news about the Seattle Symphony, you'll join me in hoping he kept all his gear.

So this is installment #2 regarding Music-on-Demand on YOUR desert island. My readers' poll yielded the following:

John Helzer (our new music champion who started this whole ball rolling) thought it might be important to promote brain plasticity by bringing works of Bolcom, Berg, Schoenberg, and Golilov. (I've never heard of two of those: clearly I need to be stretched.) Wally Tapia said that if his waterlogged iPod could only retrieve one composer's works, it would have to be Chopin. “My overall favorite composer is Beethoven, and I acknowledge Bach and Mozart to be in a dead heat for the greatest musical geniuses of all time, but I'm partial to the piano!”

Angelica McLennan's thoughts turned towards choral and piano music: Dvorak Stabat Mater...Brahms Intermezzi, Ballades, and Requiem...Bach B Minor.... John Dinse admits to being “soft on Tchaikovsky” because his music is “very hummable.” Tamme Haskell's list includes Brahms, Mendelssohn, Dvorak, and Rachmaninoff; also (interesting!) Villa Lobos and Peter Lieberon. A sign of a great marriage: Carol and Allen Shepherd agree right down the line on Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart.

Now me, since I know you're not going to let me off the hook. I'm tempted to be outrageous and say Johann Strauss (impossible not to feel happy listening to a polka) but—with fond nods to Schubert, Prokofiev, and Respighi—at the end of the day I'm going to have to agree with Barbie Parker. In a word, “Wolfie!”

Laredo, Robinson Featured in Final Concert of 2007/2008 Masterworks Series

On Saturday, May 3, 2008, VSO Music Director Jaime Laredo, violin, and Sharon Robinson, cello, will join the VSO to present a double concerto by Daron Hagen. Written for Laredo and Robinson, the piece will first be performed by them in Sacramento, California, on February 16, 2008. Troy Peters, Music Director and Conductor of the Vermont Youth Orchestra, will conduct the VSO for this piece as well as the Overture to *Nabucco* by Verdi. Laredo will return to the podium to conduct Shostakovich Symphony No. 5. The concert begins at 8:00 p.m.

Laredo and Robinson, internationally acclaimed and prize-winning artists, live in Guilford, Vermont, when they are not teaching, recording, or performing.

Sponsors of this concert include Dr. and Mrs. John P. Tampas; Dinse, Knapp & McAndrew, P.C.; Hilton Burlington Hotel; and Westaff.

For additional information and to purchase tickets, contact the FlynnTix Regional Box Office, 802-863-5966 (86FLYNN).



Sharon Robinson and Jaime Laredo

Coming Soon: The Radio Auction

On Thursday evening, March 27, 2008, the Radio Vermont Group proudly hosts the Vermont Symphony Orchestra's 11th Annual Radio Auction. Items available during this fun and exciting broadcast include one-of-a-kind experiences such as conducting a piece during a VSO summer concert or traveling to a NASCAR race. There are also incredible getaways, overnight stays at hotels and B&Bs, gift certificates for fine restaurants, ski passes, and concert tickets. The Radio Auction offers great deals, and is the perfect way to support the VSO this spring. All proceeds from the Radio Auction support the VSO's activities across the state, including more than 40 orchestral presentations and over 175 educational performances annually.

The auction begins at 6:00 p.m. and runs until 11:00 p.m. on March 27, and can be heard on the following radio stations: WDEV 550 AM and 96.1 FM (Waterbury), WDEV 96.5 FM (Barre), WCVT 101.7 FM (Stowe-Burlington) and 102.5 FM (Montpelier), and WLVB 93.9 FM (Morrisville). To receive a bidder number, call WDEV at 800-639-9338 starting at 9:00 a.m. on March 17. They will ask for your name, address, phone number, and credit card number. Look for clip-and-save ads in your local newspaper detailing the items and auction phone numbers.

For more information, visit www.vso.org or contact Mike Peluse at (800) VSO-9293, extension 25, or via e-mail: mike@vso.org.

Subscription Renewals Start in March

Subscribers: Watch your mailbox around the middle of March for information on renewing your Masterworks subscription for the upcoming 2008/2009 season! You'll be the first to learn about the VSO's exciting line-up of conductors, soloists, and programs for our five-concert series at the Flynn Center in Burlington. Return your subscription renewal form promptly to guarantee your current seats. If you are interested in a seat change or are a new subscriber, let us know early, since those requests are filled, in the order received, after renewals are seated. Contact Ann at (800) 876-9293 (864-5741 in the Burlington area), extension 10.

Waltz Night — Celebrating a Milestone

Friends old and new celebrated Waltz Night's 30th anniversary in style on February 2 at the Dudley Davis Center at the University of Vermont. Thank you so much to everyone who helped make Waltz Night possible! We are indebted to the musicians, sponsors and underwriters, patrons and table purchasers, staff, event coordinators, governing and regional board members, and especially the dedicated steering committee chaired by John and Catherine Bodnar. Bravo!

Sponsor Spotlight: The Rutland Herald

by Randal Smathers, editor, Rutland Herald

The *Rutland Herald* is delighted to be the series sponsor for the Sunday Matinee Series in conjunction with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra.

The VSO holds a special place in the hearts of all Vermont's music lovers, and the *Herald* is happy to be able to help bring their talents to our readers and the community at large.

The *Herald* has expanded its arts coverage in the past two years, adding the hugely successful inViTe section every Thursday, and more recently introducing an entertainment-only website, www.invitevt.com. The site was developed in conjunction with our partners in the Rutland Creative Economy Committee, including most of the major arts groups in the area. That includes the Paramount Theatre, our city's performance gem, where the concerts are held.

Now, inViTe and invitevt.com have also expanded to our sister paper, the Barre-Montpelier *Times-Argus*, and we are covering and supporting the arts statewide.

The invitevt.com calendar, a completely searchable resource for audience and artists alike, has thousands of events and activities listed by arts groups across the state, with more coming online everyday.

The *Herald* is proud that through community partnerships like this one and through our ongoing coverage of arts and entertainment across Vermont, we are able to support the VSO in its ongoing work of bringing great music to our state.

2007/2008 Season Concert Sponsors and Underwriters

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This list was compiled on January 28, 2008. It recognizes gifts and pledges of \$250 or more for presentations during the period March 1, 2008, through May 31, 2008, including VSO concerts, *SymphonyKids* educational outreach programs, and other special events. It also includes donors to past events not previously recognized in *Fanfare*. If you would like more information about how you or your business could benefit from a partnership with the VSO, please contact Mike Peluse, Development Director, at (800) VSO-9293, ext. 25, or mike@vso.org.

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