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**NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL, *PETER AND THE WOLF* WITH LINDA RONSTADT,
CHORAL CHRISTMAS AND DECK THE HALL CONCERTS
ARE HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS AT THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

**Cirque de la Symphonie, Colors of Christmas, Mariachi Sol de México, Preservation Hall Jazz Band,
Barbara Cook, and Holiday Pipe Dreams organ concerts also on holiday performance schedule**

SAN FRANCISCO, October 8, 2009 – Circus aerialists and contortionists from Cirque de la Symphonie, Barbara Cook singing the American songbook, the San Francisco Symphony Chorus's Choral Christmas concerts, the annual Deck the Hall party and concerts, and an elegant new New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball are highlights of the San Francisco Symphony's holiday concert lineup at Davies Symphony Hall for 2009.

Starting Thanksgiving weekend, when the Orchestra and Chorus perform selections from Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, through New Year's Eve, with the Orchestra and rising star tenor Alfie Boe singing light operetta, a solo turn by 15-year-old prodigy violinist Chad Hoopes, Viennese waltzes, and polkas in an elegant masquerade ball, the Symphony offers a variety of festive, memorable celebrations and events for the entire family to celebrate the 2009 holiday season.

Mexican mariachi troupe Mariachi Sol de México brings Mexican and traditional Christmas favorites and performs with the Orchestra December 3. Soprano Barbara Cook sings holiday chestnuts and standards from the American songbook with the Orchestra on December 4. Soprano Lisa Vroman, a favorite guest with the Symphony, and a quintet of San Francisco Symphony brass musicians join organist David Higgs December 13 for this year's Holiday Pipe Dreams concert, showcasing Davies Symphony Hall's magnificent Ruffatti organ.

Singers Peabo Bryson, Sheena Easton, Maxi Priest and Jennifer Holliday appear at the Colors of Christmas concerts with the Orchestra December 14, 15 and 16. The San Francisco Symphony Chorus performs three Choral Christmas concerts, December 17, 18 and 19, with Chorus Director Ragnar Bohlin leading the ensemble and performing on piano. On December 19, New Orleans' Preservation Hall Jazz Band raises the Davies Symphony Hall roof with a rollicking Creole Christmas concert.

The holiday concert lineup includes several concerts suitable for children and families to attend together, with special half-price tickets for children 17 and under. On December 5, the aerialists and acrobats of Cirque de la

Symphonie join the Orchestra. On December 6, the Orchestra performs two shows in the annual Deck the Hall concert and party for thousands of Bay Area children; on December 12 at Flint Center and December 13 at Davies Symphony Hall, singer Linda Ronstadt narrates the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra's ever-popular *Peter and the Wolf* concerts, with conductor Donato Cabrera leading the Orchestra.

BACH'S CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

November 27 and 28 at 8 p.m. and November 29 at 2 p.m. at Davies Symphony Hall

San Francisco Symphony Chorus Director Ragnar Bohlin leads the Orchestra and the SFS Chorus in selections from the six cantatas of Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* in three performances during Thanksgiving weekend. Joining the Orchestra are soprano Malin Christensson, contralto Marie-Nicole Lemieux, tenor Lothar Odinius, and baritone Anders Larsson. These performances will be sung in English.

MARIACHI SOL DE MÉXICO HOLIDAY SHOW with SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
December 3 at 8 p.m. at Davies Symphony Hall

Mariachi Sol de México, the Grammy-nominated 14-piece ensemble led by José Hernández, performs a program of favorite Mexican and U.S. Christmas and holiday music with the San Francisco Symphony. SFS Assistant Conductor Donato Cabrera conducts.

BARBARA COOK with SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
December 4 at 8 p.m. at Davies Symphony Hall

Soprano Barbara Cook joins the San Francisco Symphony for a concert of holiday music and American songbook standards Friday, December 4 at 8 p.m. Michael Kosarin conducts the Orchestra.

CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE with SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
December 5 at 8 p.m. at Davies Symphony Hall

The acrobats, aerialists, jugglers and contortionists of Cirque de la Symphonie join the Orchestra for a holiday concert of derring-do and evocative holiday music Saturday, December 5 at 8 p.m. SFS Assistant Conductor Donato Cabrera conducts.

DECK THE HALL ANNUAL FAMILY HOLIDAY CONCERT
December 6 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. at Davies Symphony Hall

The San Francisco Symphony's annual Deck the Hall event celebrates the holiday season with a magical stage show designed for children ages three to ten. Led by Conductor Randall Craig Fleischer, the concert includes performances by the Orchestra, dancers from San Francisco Ballet School, the San Francisco Boys Chorus, Chhandam Youth Dance Co., and Stephen Saxon and the New Klezmerim and more. Deck the Hall will take place on Sunday, December 6 at 11 a.m., with a second performance at 3 p.m. Davies Symphony Hall will be transformed into an evergreen wonderland with towering trees, each one uniquely decorated by local schools and community groups. The post-show party in the lobbies includes entertainment, arts and craft activities and refreshments. These concerts are presented in conjunction with San Francisco Arts Commission.

PETER AND THE WOLF

San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, conducted by Donato Cabrera
Narrated by Linda Ronstadt
December 12 at 3 p.m. at the Flint Center in Cupertino
December 13 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall

In the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra's (SFSYO) annual performances of Prokofiev's whimsical tale of *Peter and the Wolf*, conductor Donato Cabrera leads the ensemble and guest narrator Linda Ronstadt in three concerts. The program will be performed on December 12 at 3 p.m. at the Flint Center in Cupertino as well as

on December 13 at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall. The entire family will enjoy singing along with carols and traditional holiday songs. The orchestra also performs selections from *The Nutcracker*.

**HOLIDAY PIPE DREAMS with David Higgs, organ
December 13 at 7 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall**

Soprano Lisa Vroman and a quintet of San Francisco Symphony brass musicians — Principal Trumpet Mark Inouye, Principal Horn Robert Ward, Principal Trombone Timothy Higgins, Principal Tuba Jeffrey Anderson, and Acting Second Trumpet Jeff Biancalana — join organist David Higgs for this year's Holiday Pipe Dreams concert, showcasing Davies Symphony Hall's magnificent Ruffatti organ, December 13 at 7 p.m.

**COLORS OF CHRISTMAS
December 14, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall**

Singers Peabo Bryson, Sheena Easton, Jennifer Holliday and Maxi Priest celebrate at the Colors of Christmas concerts with the Orchestra December 14, 15 and 16 at 8 p.m. Herman Jackson conducts.

**CHORAL CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR
December 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. and December 19 at 2 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall**

The Grammy Award-winning SF Symphony Chorus, conducted by Chorus Director Ragnar Bohlin, joins with the San Francisco Symphony to perform a stirring selection of holiday choral favorites, including audience sing-alongs of the best-loved carols.

**PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND
December 19 at 8 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall**

On December 19 at 8 p.m., New Orleans' traditional jazz standard-bearers Preservation Hall Jazz Band raises the Davies Symphony Hall roof with a rollicking Creole Christmas concert.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL
WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
December 31 at 9:00 p.m. in Davies Symphony Hall
Doors open at 8:00 p.m.**

Ring in the New Year and the New Decade with the city's most elegant celebration, the New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball with the San Francisco Symphony. The December 31 event stars the San Francisco Symphony, tenor Alfie Boe, and 15-year-old violin prodigy Chad Hoopes. Bramwell Tovey conducts the Orchestra and performs on piano. Enjoy party favors, live music with The Martini Brothers, and dancing, and a full-length Orchestra performance of Viennese classics, operetta, waltzes, and polkas, including costumed dancers and special New Year's Eve surprises. Party at a post-concert bash with the Peter Mintun Orchestra and 80s cover band Tainted Love in the hall and lobbies, with complimentary Champagne, desserts, and savories, and dancing on the Davies Symphony Hall stage. Special pre-concert dinner packages, including an elegant buffet supper at Davies Symphony Hall and dinner at Caffé Delle Stelle, are also available. Call the box office for more details at (415) 864-6000 or visit sfsymphony.org/newyears.

Special thanks to our media partners KPIX CBS5, Classical 102.1FM KDFC, 92.5FM KOIT, and BART.

Deck the Hall concerts are made possible through the generosity of Presenting Sponsor the Louise M. Davies Foundation, Supporting Sponsors McKesson and J.P. Morgan Chase Foundation, Sustainability Partner PG&E, Contributing Partner McLean, and the SF Arts Commission. The Colors of Christmas concerts are sponsored by US Bank.

San Francisco Arts Commission is a partner for the Mariachi Sol de México and the Colors of Christmas concerts.

**CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:
SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY'S 2009 HOLIDAY CONCERTS**

Friday, November 27 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 28 at 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 29 at 2:00 p.m.
BACH'S *CHRISTMAS ORATORIO*

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Ragnar Bohlin, conductor
Malin Christensson, soprano
Marie-Nicole Lemieux, contralto
Lothar Odinius, tenor
Anders Larsson, baritone
San Francisco Symphony Chorus
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
J.S. Bach/*Christmas Oratorio* (selections from all six cantatas)

TICKETS: \$15-\$135; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Thursday, December 3 at 8:00 p.m.
MARIACHI SOL DE MÉXICO

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Donato Cabrera, conductor
Mariachi Sol de México
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
Mariachi Sol de México, the Grammy-nominated 14-piece ensemble led by José Hernández, performs a program of favorite Mexican and U.S. Christmas and holiday music with the San Francisco Symphony.

TICKETS: \$15-\$65 (children 17 and under half price); available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Friday, December 4 at 8:00 p.m.
BARBARA COOK

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Michael Kosarin, conductor
Barbara Cook, soprano
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
Soprano Barbara Cook joins the San Francisco Symphony for a concert of holiday music and American songbook standards.

TICKETS: \$15-\$70, available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Saturday, December 5 at 8:00 p.m.
CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Donato Cabrera, conductor
Cirque de la Symphonie
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
The acrobats, aerialists, jugglers and contortionists of Cirque de la Symphonie join the Orchestra for a holiday concert of derring-do and evocative holiday music.

TICKETS: \$15-\$65 (children 17 and under half-price); available through SFS Tickets Services at (415) 864-6000 or at sfsymphony.org.

Sunday, December 6 at 11:00 a.m. and 3 p.m.
DECK THE HALL

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Randall Craig Fleischer, conductor
San Francisco Ballet School
San Francisco Boys Chorus
Chhandam Youth Dance Co.
Stephen Saxon and the New Klezmerim
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
The San Francisco Symphony's annual Deck the Hall event celebrates the holiday season with a magical stage show designed for children ages three to ten. The concert includes performances by the Orchestra, dancers from San Francisco Ballet School, the San Francisco Boys Chorus, Chhandam Youth Dance Co., and Stephen Saxon and the New Klezmerim. Davies Symphony Hall will be transformed into an evergreen wonderland with towering trees, uniquely decorated by local schools and community groups. The post-show party in the lobbies includes entertainment, arts and craft activities and refreshments. These concerts are presented in conjunction with San Francisco Arts Commission.

TICKETS: \$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at sfsymphony.org. For priority seating and Angel Reception information please call (415) 503-5500.

Saturday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 13 at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.
PETER AND THE WOLF

Donato Cabrera, conductor
Linda Ronstadt, narrator
San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra

Flint Center, Cupertino
Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

PROGRAM:
Tchaikovsky/Russian Dance from *The Nutcracker*
Prokofiev/Troika from *Lieutenant Kijé Suite*
Tchaikovsky/March from *The Nutcracker*
Tchaikovsky/Arabian Dance from *The Nutcracker*
Tchaikovsky/Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy from *The Nutcracker*
Johann Strauss, Sr./*Radetzky* March
Tchaikovsky/Waltz of the Flowers from *The Nutcracker*
Prokofiev/*Peter and the Wolf*
Traditional/Carol Sing-Along
Pierpont (arr. Romero)/“Jingle Bells”
Marks/“Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer”
Traditional/“We Wish You a Merry Christmas”

TICKETS: \$15-\$57 Davies Symphony Hall; \$15-\$48 Flint Center (children 17 and under half price); available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Sunday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.
HOLIDAY PIPE DREAMS

David Higgs, organ
Lisa Vroman, soprano
Members of the SFS Brass:
Mark Inouye, trumpet
Jeff Biancalana, trumpet
Robert Ward, French horn
Timothy Higgins, trombone
Jeffrey Anderson, tuba

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

PROGRAM:
Soprano Lisa Vroman and a quintet of San Francisco Symphony brass musicians — Principal Trumpet Mark Inouye, Principal Horn Robert Ward, Principal Trombone Timothy Higgins, Principal Tuba Jeffrey Anderson, and Acting Second Trumpet Jeff Biancalana — join organist David Higgs for this year’s Holiday Pipe Dreams concert, showcasing Davies Symphony Hall’s magnificent Ruffatti organ.

TICKETS: \$15-\$65 (children 17 and under half price); available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Monday, December 14 at 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 15 at 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 16 at 8:00 p.m.
COLORS OF CHRISTMAS

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Herman Jackson, conductor
Peabo Bryson, vocalist
Jennifer Holliday, vocalist
Sheena Easton, vocalist
Maxi Priest, vocalist
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
“The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”
“The Christmas Song”
“Joy To The World”
“Do You Hear What I Hear”
“If Ever You’re In My Arms Again” (Bryson)
“For Your Eyes Only” (Easton)
“Close To You” (Priest)
“And I’m Telling You (I’m Not Going)” (Holliday)

TICKETS: \$15-\$85; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at sfsymphony.org.

Thursday, December 17 at 8:00 p.m.
Friday, December 18 at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 19 at 2:00 p.m.
CHORAL CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

Ragnar Bohlin, conductor and piano
San Francisco Symphony Chorus
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
Trad. (arr. Hillerud)/*Veni, veni Emmanuel*
Nyberg/“Prepare Ye the Way”
Trad. (arr. Willcocks)/“Good King Wenceslas”
Hamilton/*Ave Maria*
Lloyd-Webber/*Pie Jesu*
Gruber (arr. Sixten)/“Silent Night”
Rutter/*Gloria*
Bach/*Gloria* from Mass in B Minor, BWV 232
Bach/Gounod/*Ave Maria*
Mendelssohn (arr. Willcocks)/“Hark the Herald
Angels Sing”
Humperdinck/*Pantomime* from *Hänsel und Gretel*
Trad./“Away in a Manger”
Blane, Martin (arr. Rutter)/“Have Yourself a Merry
Little Christmas” from *Meet Me in Saint Louis*
Leontovich/“Carol of the Bells”
Adam/“O Holy Night”
Trad. (arr. Willcocks)/“O Come All Ye Faithful”

TICKETS: \$15-\$65 (children 17 and under half price); available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at sfsymphony.org.

Saturday, December 19 at 8:00 p.m.
PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

PROGRAM:

New Orleans' traditional jazz standard-bearers
Preservation Hall Jazz Band raises the Davies
Symphony Hall roof with a rollicking Creole Christmas
concert.

TICKETS: \$15-\$65 (children 17 and under half price); available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000
or at *sfsymphony.org*.

Thursday, December 31 at 9:00 p.m.
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco

ORCHESTRA CONCERT:

Bramwell Tovey, conductor and piano
Alfie Boe, tenor
Chad Hoopes, violin
San Francisco Symphony
Dance Through Time, dancers

PRE-CONCERT ENTERTAINMENT:

The Martini Brothers

POST-CONCERT PARTY

The Peter Mintun Orchestra
Tainted Love

Ring in the New Year and the New Decade December 31 with the city's most elegant celebration – the New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball with the San Francisco Symphony. Joining the Orchestra are tenor Alfie Boe and 15-year-old violin prodigy Chad Hoopes. Enjoy party favors and live music with The Martini Brothers before the concert. Then celebrate with a full-length evening of operetta, waltzes, polkas, and Viennese classics performed by the San Francisco Symphony, joined by the costumed dancers of Dance Through Time. Bramwell Tovey conducts the Orchestra and performs on piano. Welcome 2010 with a post-concert bash featuring complimentary Champagne, desserts, and savories. Dance on the Davies Hall stage to The Peter Mintun Orchestra, and to 80s cover band Tainted Love on the First Tier.

PROGRAM:

Lehár / *Gold and Silver* Waltz, Opus 79
Lehár / "You Are My Heart's Delight" ("*Dein ist mein ganzes Herz*") from *The Land of Smiles*
Lehár / "On My Lips Every Kiss is Like Wine" ("*Meine Lippen sie küssen so heiss*") from *Giuditta*
Novello (arr. Tovey) / "Waltz of My Heart"
Strauss, Jr. / *Egyptian March*, Opus 335
Kreisler / *Caprice viennois*, Opus 2
Strauss, Jr. / *Thunder and Lightning*, Quick Polka, Opus 324
Strauss, Jr. / *Perpetuum mobile*, Opus 257
Strauss, Jr. / *Champagne Polka*, Opus 211
Lehár / "Vilja" from *The Merry Widow*
Strauss, Jr. / *Artist's Quadrille*, Opus 201
Sieczynski / "Vienna, City of my Dreams" ("*Wien, du Stadt meiner Träume*")
Kreisler / *Liebesfreud*
Coward (arr. Tovey) / "Someday I'll Find You"
Coward (arr. Tovey) / "I Went to a Marvelous Party"
Strauss, Jr. / *By the Beautiful Blue Danube* Waltz, Opus 314

TICKETS: \$80-\$195; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at sfsymphony.org. For special dinner packages, including an elegant buffet supper at Davies Symphony Hall or dinner at Caffé Delle Stelle, please call the Box Office at (415) 864-6000 or visit <http://www.sfsymphony.org/newyears>.