

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ May 9, 2008

**BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY, THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR,
BERNADETTE PETERS, THE 5 BROWNS,
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN ON STAGE AND SCREEN,
AND A FREE CONCERT IN SAN FRANCISCO'S DOLORES PARK HIGHLIGHT
SUMMER IN THE CITY JULY 9-26**

Presented by the San Francisco Arts Commission and the San Francisco Symphony

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – May 9, 2008 - The San Francisco Arts Commission and the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) today announced the schedule for the 2008 *Summer In The City* series. This annual summer music celebration, to be held July 9-26, showcases the best of classical favorites, Broadway, and popular music, all in the relaxed elegance of Davies Symphony Hall. Festive decor, dramatic concert lighting, an array of dining options, and nightly lobby entertainment all add to the summer fun. Tickets go on sale Monday, May 12 at the SFS box office, at 415-864-6000, and online at the SFS website at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Highlights of this year's *Summer In The City* performances include a free outdoor community concert at beautiful Dolores Park; conductor James Gaffigan leading the SFS and 23-year-old violinist Stefan Jackiw in a program that includes music by Bach, Mendelssohn, and Mussorgsky; James Gaffigan leading the SFS and 20-year-old pianist Natasha Paremski in program featuring works by Beethoven and Dvořák; two concerts featuring Rodgers & Hammerstein On Stage and Screen with conductor George Daugherty; the African Children's Choir; a night of Mozart with piano prodigies Peng Peng and Conrad Tao; an evening with British trumpet virtuoso Alison Balsom; Big Bad Voodoo Daddy with the San Francisco Symphony; a night of tango music with Latin quartet Quartango and tango dancers Roxana and Fabian Belmonte; a program featuring music from France with pianist Inon Barnatan; Broadway star Bernadette Peters; and a performance by The 5 Browns.

"The Arts Commission has been delighted to present this diverse and affordable music series to our community for more than 50 years. We have been sponsoring these summer concerts since 1952, and this year's lineup will again appeal to a wide range of Bay Area music lovers," said Arts Commission President P.J. Johnston. "We're also thrilled to present a free concert on July 20 in Dolores Park and invite everyone to join us for an afternoon of sunshine and great music by our world-renowned San Francisco Symphony."

SUMMER IN THE CITY WEEK ONE

James Gaffigan conducts the SFS and 23-year-old violinist **Stefan Jackiw** at the Flint Center in Cupertino for the **Opening Night** of the 2008 *Summer In The City* series at **8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 9**. The program includes Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor with Stefan Jackiw, and Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The program will be performed again at **8:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 10** in Davies Symphony Hall. At 17, pianist Stefan Jackiw was awarded an Avery Fisher career grant and has performed with orchestras across the country and in London, St. Petersburg, and Seoul.

At **8:00 p.m. on Friday, July 11**, Mr. Gaffigan leads the SFS and pianist 20-year-old **Natasha Paremski** in a program that includes Dvořák's Slavonic Dance No.8 in G minor, Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, *Emperor*, and Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 in E minor, *From the New World*. Natasha Paremski was born in Russia, emigrated to the United States in 1995, and studied at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music before moving to New York to study at the Mannes College of Music. She has won a host of prizes including the Gilmore Young Artist Award. She was recently featured in a film for BBC Television on the life and work of Tchaikovsky. Shot on location in St. Petersburg, she performed excerpts from Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto and other works. She also recently began filming "Twin Spirits," a project starring Sting and Trudie Styler that explores the music and writing of Robert and Clara Schumann.

At **8:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 12** and **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 13**, conductor **George Daugherty** leads the SFS in "**Rodgers & Hammerstein On Stage and Screen.**" The great songwriting team produced classic American musicals that Hollywood has embraced – works such as *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, and *Oklahoma!* The evening and matinee performances include screening of clips from the great Rodgers & Hammerstein movies accompanied by the SFS.

The following evening the **African Children's Choir** presents *Journey of Hope* at **8:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 13**. The African Children's Choir has been working with the most vulnerable children in Africa for 23 years raising the awareness of the plight of the orphaned and abandoned. The choir members, children ages seven to 12 from Africa's most desperate villages, share dance, music and culture from countries all over the African continent.

SUMMER IN THE CITY WEEK TWO

At **8:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 17**, James Gaffigan leads the SFS and piano prodigies **Peng Peng** and **Conrad Tao** in a program that features Mozart's Concerto No. 10 in E-flat Major for Two Pianos, Ballet Music from *Idomeneo*, and Symphony No. 41 in C major, *Jupiter*. 15-year-old Peng Peng and 13-year-old Conrad Tao recently performed with the SFS at the 2008 Chinese New Year Celebration. Both young pianists have traveled the world, performed with orchestras around the country, and captured major awards.

At **8:00 p.m. on Friday, July 18**, Mr. Gaffigan leads the SFS and young British trumpet virtuoso **Alison Balsom** in Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major. The program also includes L. Mozart's Symphony in C major, *Toy Symphony*, and Tchaikovsky's Act II from *The Nutcracker*. A highly acclaimed artist, Alison Balsom was named Best Young British Performer at the 2006 Classical Brit Awards and was honored with the Classic FM Listener's Award at the September 2006 Gramophone Awards. The Echo Klassik Awards recently hailed Alison Balsom "Rising Artist of the Year 2007." Ms. Balsom performs a wide range of recital and concerto repertoire, from Albinoni to Zimmerman, and performs on both modern and baroque trumpets.

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy performs with the San Francisco Symphony at **8:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 19**. The Los Angeles-based swing band has been performing for more than a decade. Big Bad Voodoo Daddy has toured the world, playing everywhere from small clubs to concert halls, and have expanded their style to include elements of New Orleans Jazz and Blues.

At **2:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 20**, the **San Francisco Symphony performs a free Outdoor Concert in San Francisco's Dolores Park**. This beloved San Francisco summertime tradition features a concert in the open air, food and beverage vendors, and an opportunity to meet Orchestra members demonstrating their instruments before the concert. James Gaffigan will lead the SFS and British trumpet virtuoso **Alison Balsom** in a program that includes Dvořák's Slavonic Dance No. 8 in G minor, Haydn's Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major, and Tchaikovsky's Act II from *The Nutcracker*.

At **8:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 20**, *Summer In The City* highlights the tango with Latin quartet **Quartango** and dancers **Roxana and Fabian Belmonte**. Quartango, a classically trained quartet, celebrates one of the richest, sensual and fun dance forms: the tango. Equally at home in small clubs and large arenas, Quartango has played all over the world, bringing the old style and Tango Nuevo to delighted audiences. Roxanna and Fabian Belmonte, an award-winning tango couple, conjure the magic of Buenos Aires as they take dance to a new level.

SUMMER IN THE CITY WEEK THREE

James Gaffigan leads the SFS and pianist **Inon Barnatan** at **8:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 24** in a program that includes Bizet's *Carmen*, Suite No. 1, Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Offenbach's Overture to *Orpheus in the Underworld* and Intermezzo & Barcarolle from *The Tales of Hoffman*, and Ravel's *La Valse*. Mr. Barnatan, a native of Israel, is a pianist for one of America's great music institutions, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He has received many awards and prizes, including the Young Artist of the Year award from the Classical Recording Foundation in New York, an honorary Concert Artist diploma from Ecole Normale in Paris, the America Israel Cultural Foundation piano award and public award, the Hattori Foundation Award, the Royal Overseas League Young Musician of Promise Award, the Verbier Festival Public Prize and others.

Bernadette Peters performs with the SFS at **8:00 p.m. on Friday, July 25**. Throughout her illustrious career the Tony Award-winner has dazzled audiences and critics with her performances on stage and television, in concert, and through recordings. In 2003, she received her seventh Tony Award nomination for her electrifying portrayal of Momma Rose in *Gypsy*. Ms. Peters first performed with the SFS in 1991, and most recently during the 1998 *Summer In The City* series. She will perform an evening of show tunes from some of her favorite composers including Sondheim and Rodgers & Hammerstein. Get ready to enjoy a magical evening of songs that prove why she is one of the gems of the American stage.

The 2008 *Summer In The City* series comes to a close the following evening when **The 5 Browns** perform at **8:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 26**. Three sisters, two brothers, five pianos. This piano-playing, Juilliard-groomed family generates an orchestra of sound from their five keyboards. Whether performing individually or together in various combinations from duo to complex five-piano arrangements, The 5 Browns reveal a deep connection to their material while bringing a fresh energy and dynamic character to their sound. Their recordings, which have topped the *Billboard* charts, prove that talent is a family affair.

DINING IN DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Summer In The City patrons may enjoy a variety of dining options with nightly cabaret entertainment in Davies Symphony Hall, enabling them to leave their picnic baskets at home and still enjoy the unbeatable combination of good food, good company, and great music. An array of dining options will be featured throughout all the Davies Symphony Hall lobbies, with limited table seating in the First Tier lobby and Orchestra level.

TICKETS

Tickets for the 2008 *Summer In The City* series in Davies Symphony Hall are priced from \$20-\$85. Tickets for concertgoers 17 and under are priced from \$10-\$34 for selected concerts. Concert packages available include a 3-Classics Pack from \$75-\$174 (15% savings) and a “Create Your Own” subscription – choose three or more *Summer In The City* concerts and save 10%. Group discounts are available for all concerts except Bernadette Peters. All tickets are available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

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Summer in the City is presented and made possible by the Arts Commission of the City and County of San Francisco.

Chevron is the lead sponsor of Summer in the City.

The free community concert at Dolores Park is sponsored by McKesson.

Summer in the City's media sponsor is KGO Newstalk AM 810.

Infiniti is the official vehicle of the San Francisco Symphony.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

Wednesday, July 9 at 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 10 at 8:00 p.m.

Flint Center, Cupertino
Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **OPENING NIGHT**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Stefan Jackiw, violin
San Francisco Symphony

PROGRAM:
Bach (Stokowski) / Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565
Mendelssohn / Violin Concerto in E minor, Opus 64
Mussorgsky (Ravel) / *Pictures at an Exhibition*

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Friday, July 11 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **NEW WORLDS, FOREVER**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Natasha Paremski, piano

PROGRAM:
Dvořák / Slavonic Dance No. 8 in G minor, Op. 46, no. 8
Beethoven / Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Opus 73, *Emperor*
Dvořák / Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Opus 95, *From the New World*

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Saturday, July 12 at 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN ON STAGE AND SCREEN**

George Daugherty, conductor

PROGRAM:
See clips from your favorite Rodgers & Hammerstein movies, including *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *Carousel* and *Oklahoma!*, accompanied by the San Francisco Symphony.

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Sunday, July 13 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **AFRICAN CHILDREN’S CHOIR**

African Children’s Choir

PROGRAM:

Ambassadors of good will, the African Children’s Choir presents *Journey of Hope*. The choir members, children ages 7 to 12 from Africa’s most desperate villages, share dance, music and culture from countries all over the African continent.

TICKETS: \$20-\$50; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Thursday, July 17 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **ALL ABOUT MOZART**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Peng Peng, piano
Conrad Tao, piano

PROGRAM:

Mozart / Ballet Music from *Idomeneo*
Mozart / Concerto No. 10 in E-flat Major for Two Pianos, K.365 (316a)
Mozart / Symphony No. 41 in C major, K. 551, *Jupiter*

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Friday, July 18 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **BEAUTIFUL BRASS**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Alison Balsom, trumpet

PROGRAM:

L. Mozart / Symphony in C major, *Toy Symphony*
Haydn / Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major
Tchaikovsky / Act II from *The Nutcracker*, Opus 71

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Saturday, July 19 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **BIG BAD VODOO DADDY WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

Randall Craig Fleischer, conductor
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

PROGRAM:
Swing meets New Orleans jazz meets the San Francisco Symphony.

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Sunday, July 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Dolores Park, 18th & Dolores
San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **FREE CONCERT IN DOLORES PARK**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Alison Balsom, trumpet

PROGRAM:
The San Francisco Arts Commission presents a free outdoor concert at beautiful Dolores Park in San Francisco. James Gaffigan conducts the SFS and British trumpet virtuoso Alison Balsom in a program featuring Dvořák's Slavonic Dance, Haydn's Trumpet Concerto, and music from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*. This is the sixth year the concert has been held in this popular Mission District venue. The park is conveniently accessible by public transportation. This year's event will feature food and beverage vendors and an opportunity to meet Orchestra members demonstrating their instruments before the concert.

Dvořák / Slavonic Dance No. 8 in G minor, Op. 46, no. 8
Haydn / Trumpet Concerto in E-flat major
Tchaikovsky / Act II from *The Nutcracker*, Opus 71

TICKETS: This concert is free. For information, call (415) 864-6000 or visit sfsymphony.org/summer.

Sunday, July 20 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **TANGO TONIGHT!**

Quartango Latin Quartet
Roxana and Fabian Belmonte, dancers

PROGRAM:
These four musicians are devoted to the mystery and enchantment of tango. Roxana and Fabian Belmonte, an award-winning tango couple, conjure the magic of Buenos Aires as they take dance to a new level.

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Thursday, July 24 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **FROM FRANCE**

James Gaffigan, conductor
Inon Barnatan, piano

PROGRAM:

Bizet / *Carmen*, Suite No. 1
Saint-Saëns / Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Opus 22
Offenbach / Overture to *Orpheus in the Underworld*
Offenbach / Intermezzo & Barcarolle from *The Tales of Hoffmann*
Ravel / *La Valse*

TICKETS: \$20-\$68; 17 & under \$10-\$34; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Friday, July 25 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **BERNADETTE PETERS WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

Bernadette Peters
Marvin Laird, musical director

PROGRAM:

Tony Award-winner Bernadette Peters performs an evening of show tunes from some of her favorite composers including Sondheim and Rodgers & Hammerstein. Get ready to enjoy a magical evening of songs that prove why she is one of the gems of the American stage.

TICKETS: \$20-\$85; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

Saturday, July 26 at 8:00 p.m.

Davies Symphony Hall

SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION/SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
SUMMER IN THE CITY – **THE 5 BROWNS**

Ryan Brown, piano
Melody Brown, piano
Gregory Brown, piano
Deondra Brown, piano
Desirae Brown, piano

PROGRAM:

Three sisters, two brothers, five pianos. This piano-playing, Juilliard-groomed family generates an orchestra of sound from their five keyboards. Whether performing individually or together in various combinations from duo to complex five-piano arrangements, The 5 Browns reveal a deep connection to their material while bringing a fresh energy and dynamic character to their sound. Their recordings, which have topped the *Billboard* charts, prove that talent is a family affair.

TICKETS: \$20-\$50; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or online at sfsymphony.org/summer.

For further press information, contact Caitlin Hartney in the SFS Communications Department at (415) 503-5425.

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