



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BVSO PLANS “UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS” IN 2015-2016 SEASON

August 21, 2015 College Station, TX—The Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra is truly excited to announce its schedule for the upcoming 34th season. The 2015-2016 subscription series includes five classical performances and will feature a captivating Van Cliburn finalist, an acclaimed String Quartet, our Concertmaster who leads a double musical life, and a dazzling Brazilian pianist. Music Director Marcelo Bussiki and your professional orchestra will bring a collection of exciting programs to the community from traditional favorites such as Beethoven and Brahms, to new works composed just for this season, to the universally loved works of Gershwin. There is certainly something for all to enjoy in the BVSO’s upcoming season of “Unforgettable Moments”. We are proud to once again partner with **St. Joseph Health System** as the official sponsor of the 2015-2016 Season.

“A season needs to be fun for the audience, it needs to be fun for the musicians, and it needs to be sellable for the symphony. Those are three elements that I constantly try to balance,” according to Music Director Bussiki. “So I have to make sure that I have something that will encourage people to leave their houses: the comfort of their homes, of a good sound system, of a good video, and go to a concert hall,” explained Bussiki.

The 2015-2016 season of “Unforgettable Moments” promises to deliver on the Maestro’s goals with a stunning opening concert set for Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 5pm in Rudder Theatre on the Texas A&M University campus. The first performance of the season, “Fei-Fei Plays Rachmaninoff” will feature Beethoven’s light-hearted Symphony No. 8 and Rachmaninoff’s impassioned Piano Concerto No. 3. The BVSO is proud to announce the guest artist for the opening concert is Fei-Fei Dong, a Van Cliburn International Piano Competition finalist. Dong has been charming audiences throughout the country and the world with her “passion, piquancy and tenderness” as well as her “winning stage presence” (*Dallas Morning News*).

“I think that people really need to come see this tremendous pianist,” said Bussiki. “I had the opportunity to attend the Van Cliburn competition, and saw one of her performances. Although she did not win the Gold Medal, she was one of the most exciting pianists of the entire competition.”

The subscription season closes with “Non-Stop Gershwin” on April 24, 2016 at 5pm as Bussiki presents a series of works highlighting legendary American composer, George Gershwin. The performance includes Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue*, and features acclaimed Brazilian pianist, Alexandre Dossin. The following is a summary of the entire classical subscription series.

What: “Fei-Fei Plays Rachmaninoff”

When: Sunday, October 25, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Where: Rudder Theatre on Texas A&M University Campus in College Station

Program:

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|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Beethoven | Symphony No. 8, Op. 93, F Major |
| Rachmaninoff | Piano Concerto No. 3, Op. 30, D Minor |

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Guest Artist Fei-Fei Dong, piano
Concert Sponsor Fund-a-Concert Donors from Derby Day 2015



What: "Requiem"

When: Sunday, November 22, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Where: Rudder Auditorium on Texas A&M University Campus in College Station

Program:

Brahms A German Requiem, Op. 45

Featuring Brazos Valley Chorale, Texas A&M Century Singers, and Blinn College Choir

Guest Artists Mela Dailey, *soprano*
Kelly Markgraf, *baritone*

Concert Sponsor St. Joseph Health System & Rose P. VanArsdel



What: "Jazz, Romance, and Javier!"

When: Sunday, January 31, 2016 at 5:00 PM

Where: Rudder Theatre on Texas A&M University Campus in College Station

Program:

Bolling Suite for Violin and Jazz Piano Trio

Chaparro Romantic South American and Latin Jazz

Guest Artists Javier Chaparro and Salúd



What: "Follow the Drinking Gourd"

When: Sunday, February 21, 2016 at 5 PM

Where: Rudder Theatre on Texas A&M University Campus in College Station

Program:

Walker Lyric for Strings

McNair Follow the Drinking Gourd

Grant Still Symphony No. 1, "Afro-American"

Guest Artists Marian Anderson String Quartet

Concert Sponsor Briaud Financial Advisors



What: "Non-Stop Gershwin"

When: Sunday, April 24, 2016 at 5 PM

Where: Rudder Theatre on Texas A&M University Campus in College Station

Program:

Gershwin arr. Brubaker Crazy for You, Selections

Gershwin arr. Bennett Porgy and Bess – A Symphonic Picture

Gershwin Rhapsody in Blue

Gershwin An American in Paris

Guest Artist Alexandre Dossin, piano

Concert Sponsor Population and Survey Analysts



BVSO patrons can also enjoy free pre-concert talks one hour prior to each subscription performance in the Rudder Theatre Complex. Ann Thompson will again present her delightful and witty insights into the composers, the history, and meaning behind the music. Then after each subscription concert, a patron social hour at Napa Flats will keep the enjoyment going to

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top off an exquisite evening of music and entertainment. The Maestro and select guest artists are scheduled to attend these socials as well!

The orchestra is additionally pleased to present the 7th Annual Holiday Pops Concert, which is designed to offer patrons a way to start their holiday season with great, festive music. The Canticle Bells and Sanctuary Choir of Christ United Methodist Church, organist James Faith, and the CSHS Varsity Women's Choir will join BVSO musicians for a beautiful as well as fun, holiday themed concert on December 13th.

Maestro Bussiki explained, "This concert is an opportunity for people to have a good time and enjoy holiday music . . . This program is meant to directly touch the heart . . . a direct message from the stage to your heart."

The Holiday Pops Concert is an add-on to the season and not included in the price of season tickets. Cost for this concert is \$25 for adults and \$10 for children. This concert is sponsored by Sterling Auto Group, Spirit of Texas Bank, and System Computing.

"It's so exciting when the audience and the musicians create a moment together in live performance. It is symbiotic: the performers and the audience need one another, there is nothing else quite like it," according to Symphony Executive Director, Mary Koeninger. "I encourage everyone attending our concerts to go ahead and get your tickets now, we don't want anyone to miss out on this season—it will truly be unforgettable."

Patrons can purchase season tickets securely on-line at www.bvso.org or by phone through the Symphony Office (979) 696-6100. A full season adult ticket is \$170 and the full season student ticket is \$60, a \$10 processing fee is added to each order. Individual tickets to all concerts go on sale Sept. 1 at the MSC Box Office. Call (979) 845-1234 or go on-line to boxoffice.tamu.edu. All programs are subject to change. Please call the Symphony Office with any further questions.

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About the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra: The BVSO is a non-profit performing arts organization with the mission to maintain a symphony of high artistic standards, and to promote the musical arts for cultural and education purposes in the Brazos Valley. For more information about the Symphony's 2015-2016 Season, please visit the Brazos Valley Symphony Orchestra Web site at www.bvso.org.

The Brazos Valley Symphony Society wishes to recognize and thank our programming sponsors, grant funding providers, and charitable trust contributors:

Nina Astin Winkler Charitable Trusts, Joe S. & Florence S. Ham Charitable Trust, Gilbert & Thyra Plass Arts Foundation, and Gilbert & Thyra Plass Charitable Trust

Official Sponsor of the BVSO 2015-2016 Season:



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