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## **VSO CHAMBER SERIES PRESENTS 1926 SILENT FILM CLASSIC “THE GENERAL” WITH LIVE OR- CHESTRA MAY 3 AT KIGGINS THEATRE**

(Vancouver, WA) One of the highlights of the entire VSO Chamber Series season happens at 3 pm on Sunday, May 3 at the Kiggins Theatre in downtown Vancouver. The American Film Institute names it the 19<sup>th</sup> best movie ever made and now you can see it on the big screen, accompanied by a live orchestra.

“The General” stars (and was co-directed by) Buster Keaton, and is his most well-known film, presented with a score by a five-piece orchestra and conducted by pianist Rodney Sauer, who also arranged the music.

Railroad engineer Buster Keaton is rejected by the Confederate Army and by his sweetheart, Annabelle (Marion Mack). But when Northern spies kidnap both Annabelle and The General (his beloved train engine), it sets in motion cinema’s most perfectly structured comic epic. This 1926 silent film is presented in a beautiful transfer from an archival print. The five-piece orchestra uses historic “photoplay music” to create an authentic, exciting, and compelling score of the kind heard in movie theaters in the 1920s.

As it did when “City Girl” was presented in 2014, this concluding concert to the Chamber Series season will provide the perfect opportunity for concert attendees to not only watch a fabulous staging in comfortable surroundings, but also enjoy wine, soft drinks and refreshments at the newly-renovated Kiggins.

### **About the Kiggins Theatre**

The Kiggins Theatre offers a unique concert environment that is intimate and informal, with a fully-staffed concession stand offering beer, wine, soft drinks, popcorn and candy. Immediately following the concert, a food and drink reception will be held next door to the theatre at Niche—a wine and art bar, which is open to all concert attendees.

The Kiggins Theater, located at 1101 Main Street in downtown Vancouver, will house the fourth season of The VSO’s Chamber Music Series. The collaboration with the Kiggins is part of the City’s substantial effort to revitalize downtown Vancouver.

Tickets to these concerts, as well as all VSO performances are available now at [vancouversymphony.org](http://vancouversymphony.org) or by calling (360) 735-7278.

### **About the Kiggins Theater**

Primarily known as a movie theater, the Kiggins was designed in the Art Deco style by architect Day Walter Hilborn and named for former Vancouver mayor and businessman

John P. Kiggins. Opened in 1936, the theater was renovated and reopened in September 2011. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2012. The theatre is owned and operated by Dan Wyatt.

**About The VSO Chamber Series**

Now in its fourth season, this series was co-created by Dr. Michael C. Liu, the VSO pianist and board member and Dr. Igor Shakhman, VSO Executive Director and Principal Clarinetist and aims to present great musicians playing in a very intimate setting. The content of each concert is unique, and most of the participating musicians are members of The Vancouver Symphony.

**About The VSO**

For 36 seasons The VSO has been a cornerstone of Southwest Washington's arts community, providing world-renowned classical music, promoting young musicians, and opening doors to classical music for young audiences through events such as the annual In-School concerts, Young Artists Competition and various family-styled special events and performances. Many of our musicians are teachers in our school districts and beyond. The VSO provides our region with a multi-concert classical season every year and performs at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver. Season support for The VSO is provided by NW Equity Holdings LLC, All Classical Portland, The Columbian and OPB. Tickets for the VSO Chamber Series and all VSO symphony concerts are on sale now at (360) 735-7278 or [www.vancouversymphony.org](http://www.vancouversymphony.org).

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