



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Clarinetist David Shifrin, Pianist Orli Shaham and
The VSO Goes to the Movies Highlight
2016-2017 Vancouver Symphony Season
*Maestro Salvador Brotons returns for his 26th Season***

(Vancouver, WA) The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra is proud to announce its 38th season, featuring legendary clarinetist David Shifrin and the return of acclaimed pianist Orli Shaham, violinist Mayuko Kamio, harpist Valerie Muzzolini Gordon, pianist Sofya Melikian, and guest conductor Marcelo Lehninger. Also, this season marks the addition of a much-requested December pops concert featuring the music of John Williams and other iconic film scores, conducted by Maestro Brotons, entering his 26th season as music director and conductor.

Overall, this season will be comprised of an unprecedented seven symphony concerts, six Chamber Series concerts, a free outdoor concert and our 23rd Annual Young Artist Competition.

Each symphony concert is performed at Skyview Concert Hall in Vancouver Saturdays at 3 pm and Sundays at 7 pm. Each Chamber Series Concert is performed at the Kiggins Theatre and the outdoor concert will be in the band shell at Esther Short Park in Vancouver.

For more information, go to vancouversymphony.org or call 360-735-7278.

July 28, 2016--Outdoor Concert at Esther Short Park

A free concert as part of the City of Vancouver's "Six to Sunset" series.

Oct 1 & 2, 2016

Ruslan and Ludmila

Glinka

Violin Concerto

Tchaikovsky

Mayuko Kamio, violin

Symphony No. 6

Tchaikovsky

November 5 & 6, 2016

Suite for Harp and Orchestra

LeGrand

Valerie Muzzolini Gordon, Harp

Nocturnes

Debussy

Daphnis and Chloe No.2

Ravel

December 3 & 4, 2016

The VSO Goes to the Movies: the music of John Williams and other iconic film scores

January 21 & 22, 2017*Marcelo Lehninger, guest conductor*

Suite No.3	Bach
Symphony No.8	Beethoven
Piano Concerto No. 2	Brahms
<i>Orli Shaham, piano</i>	

February 25 & 26, 2017

<i>Iphigenia in Aulis</i> overture	Gluck
<i>Concertino</i>	Weber
<i>Introduction, Theme and Variations</i> <i>for Clarinet and Orchestra</i>	Rossini
<i>David Shifrin, clarinet</i>	
Symphony No. 40	Mozart

April 22 & 23, 2017

<i>Young Artist Winners</i>	TBA
<i>Lyric Suite</i>	Grieg
<i>Pines of Rome</i>	Respighi

June 3 & 4, 2017

<i>Audience Choice</i>	TBA
<i>Burleske for Piano and Orchestra</i>	R. Strauss
<i>Sofya Melikian, piano</i>	
Symphony No. 2	Khachaturian

Guest Artists**David Shifrin, clarinet**

One of only two wind players to have been awarded the Avery Fisher Prize since the award's inception in 1974, Mr. Shifrin is in constant demand as an orchestral soloist, recitalist and chamber music collaborator. Mr. Shifrin has appeared with the Philadelphia and Minnesota Orchestras and the Dallas, Seattle, Houston, Milwaukee, Detroit and Denver symphonies among many others in the US, and internationally with orchestras in Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Japan, Korea and Taiwan. In addition, he has served as principal clarinetist with the Cleveland Orchestra, American Symphony Orchestra (under Stokowski), the Honolulu and Dallas symphonies and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and New York Chamber Symphony. Mr. Shifrin has also received critical acclaim as a recitalist, appearing at such venues as Alice Tully Hall, Weill Recital Hall and Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall and the 92nd Street Y in New York City as well as the the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. A sought after a chamber musician, he collaborates frequently with such distinguished ensembles and artists as the Guarneri, Tokyo, and Emerson String Quartets, Wynton Marsalis, and pianists Emanuel Ax and André Watts.

Orli Shaham, piano

A consummate musician recognized for her grace, subtlety and vitality, Orli Shaham has established an impressive international reputation as one of today's most gifted pianists. Hailed by critics on four continents, Ms. Shaham is in demand for her prodigious skills and admired for her interpretations of both standard and modern repertoire. The Chicago Tribune recently referred to her as "a first-rate Mozartean," London's Guardian said Ms. Shaham's playing at the Proms was "perfection," and The Winnipeg Free Press declared Ms. Shaham's piano skills "almost too good to be true." Ms. Shaham's 2014-2015 season is highlighted by the release of a new solo CD, *Brahms Inspired*, which includes music by Brahms and Chopin, along with new works by Brett Dean, Avner Dorman, and Bruce Adolph. Highlights of the season include the Aspen Music Festival, Arizona Musicfest, the "Chicago Symphony Presents" series, and concerto performances with Orchestre National de France in Paris, the San Francisco Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, and Colorado Springs Philharmonic. In addition, Ms. Shaham serves as the Artistic Director for Pacific Symphony's chamber music series in Costa Mesa, California, a position she has held since 2007, and for the interactive children's concert series, *Baby Got Bach*, which she founded in 2010.

Mayuko Kamio, violin

Japanese violinist Mayuko Kamio, the gold medalist of the 2007 International Tchaikovsky Competition, is widely praised for her luxurious silken tone, long expressive phrasing and virtuoso techniques. The New York Times has called Ms. Kamio an "exciting young musician" and "a radiant talent." Ms. Kamio made her concerto debut in Tokyo at the age of ten under the baton of Charles Dutoit, in a concert broadcast on NHK television. Since then, she has appeared as soloist with the Boston Pops conducted by Keith Lockhart, the Tonhalle Orchestra in Zurich with Mstislav Rostropovich, and the Israel Philharmonic under Zubin Mehta.

Valerie Muzzolini Gordon, harp

Valerie Muzzolini Gordon is Principal Harp of the Seattle Symphony, a position she has held since the age of 23. In demand both nationally and internationally, she has performed as guest principal harp of both the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and the Nice Philharmonic, and has appeared with The Philadelphia Orchestra. As soloist, she has performed with the Seattle Symphony, Nice Philharmonic and Vancouver (BC) Symphony. An active chamber musician and proponent of new music, she performs regularly with the Seattle Chamber Players and Music of Remembrance. Muzzolini Gordon began her musical education in Nice, France and continued her studies at the Curtis Institute of Music, followed by graduate work at Yale University.

Sofya Melikian, piano

Hailed for her "magnificent singing line and an exquisite artistic sensibility", Armenian-born pianist Sofya Melikyan is recognized as an artist with a unique voice, who combines "high-wire virtuosity" with "deep musical intuition and ability to connect with the audience" (Mundoclasico). To date, Ms. Melikyan toured throughout Europe, the US, Canada, Japan and Australia with performances in such venues as Carnegie Hall in New York, Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona, Belgrade Philharmonic Hall, Armenian Philharmonic Hall, Jordan Hall in Boston, Salle Cortot in Paris, among many others. She appeared as a soloist

with the Armenian Philharmonic Orchestra, Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra of Spain, Cordoba Symphony Orchestra, Valencia Symphony Orchestra, New Europe Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonic Orchestra of Andalucía, and the Spanish National Orchestra.

Marcelo Lehninger, guest conductor

Brazilian-born Marcelo Lehninger is Music Director of the New West Symphony Orchestra in Los Angeles. For his work there, he was awarded the Helen M. Thompson Award for Emerging Music Directors in 2014 by the League of American Orchestras. He recently concluded an appointment as Associate Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The 2015-16 season includes Mr. Lehninger's debut with the Pittsburgh, North Carolina, Ft. Worth, Knoxville, Winnipeg and Kitchener-Waterloo Symphonies, the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and The Orchestra Now; as well as return engagements with the Deutsche Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Grand Rapids Symphony, and Minas Gerais Philharmonic. His recent debuts included the Detroit and Milwaukee Symphonies, and Rochester Philharmonic; and return engagements with the Florida Orchestra and Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra. In Europe, he appeared with the Lucerne Symphony, Lausanne Chamber Orchestra and Slovenian Philharmonic, and assisted Mariss Jansons on tour with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra.

About Maestro Brotons

Born into a family of musicians, Brotons began studying flute at an early age with his father. He has written more than 100 works, mainly for orchestra and chamber ensembles and has received many commissions. Several of his pieces have been published and recorded on CDs in Europe and the USA. In addition to his 25 seasons at The VSO, he was also the conductor and music director of the Vallès Symphony Orchestra in Barcelona and is currently conductor and music director of the Balearic Islands Symphony Orchestra in Palma de Mallorca as well as the Orquestra Simfònica de Balears Ciutat de Palma. He is on the faculty of the Escola Superior de Música de Barcelona, where he teaches orchestra conducting and composition. Dr. Brotons resides in Barcelona with his wife, Dr. Melissa Brotons.

About The VSO

World-renowned Maestro Salvador Brotons is entering his 26th season leading the professional orchestra of over 70 core members. For 38 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 All Classical Portland, Oregon Public Broadcasting, The Community Foundation for SW Washington and The Columbian. Pianos provided by Michelle's Pianos. *Iphgenie in Aulis* Tickets for the VSO Chamber Series and all VSO symphony concerts are on sale now at (360) 735-7278 or www.vancouversymphony.org.

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