



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VSO CHAMBER MAY 18 SEASON FINALE FEATURES
SILENT CLASSIC *CITY GIRL* WITH LIVE ENSEMBLE OF
SOLOISTS CONDUCTED BY COMPOSER JOHN PAUL**

(Vancouver, WA) **The Vancouver Symphony's Chamber Music Series** concludes its 2013-2014 season at the Kiggins Theatre with "Sunbreaks" on Sunday, May 18 at 2 pm.

In an exciting concept that combines film with a remarkable score, this concert brings *City Girl*, the 1930 silent film to the big screen at the Kiggins with an original score conducted by the composer and featuring four members of **The Vancouver Symphony**. Oregon composer/conductor John Paul leads Eva Richey, violin; Angelika Furtwangler, viola; Dieter Ratzlaf, cello and Igor Shakhman, clarinet in the quartet accompanying F.W. Murnau's classic silent film.

About John Paul

John F. Paul has served as chair of the Department of Music and held the Joseph Naumes Chair in Music at Marylhurst University for 13 years. During his tenure he has strengthened the school's choral and music therapy programs and re-established its composition degree. He is an active composer in both traditional and contemporary formats. His original score to *City Girl* previously was presented with live accompaniment at the Oregon Sesquicentennial Film Festival and Astoria Music Festival. As violinist, he has performed in faculty chamber groups at Marylhurst, with the Columbia Gorge Chamber Players and the Austin Symphony Orchestra.

About *City Girl*

The film tells the story of beautiful Kate, a tough, hard-working Chicagoan who works at a bustling lunch counter constantly patronized by a horde of leering, demanding goons, and Lem, a naive Minnesota farm boy who is sent to the city by his father with the all-important task of selling the family's wheat crop for that year. Subsequently they fall in love and get married, much to Lem's family's chagrin, and Kate follows Lem back to the wheat fields of Minnesota (actually filmed in 1928 outside Athena in Eastern Oregon) trying to gain acceptance from Lem's family and adjust to life on the farm.

Paul's composition shows a wide range of textural variation throughout; having only four instrumentalists, making maximum use of the many timbres available to these skilled players.

The May concert provides the perfect opportunity for concert attendees to watch a fabulous staging in comfortable surroundings, while enjoying wine, soft drinks and

refreshments at the newly-renovated Kiggins. 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 Theatre, located at 1101 Main Street in downtown Vancouver, houses the third 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.

Final Vancouver Symphony Concerts:

Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1 2014

Guest artists Orli Shaham and Igal Kesselman, piano. Salvador Brotons conducts.

About the Kiggins Theater

Primarily known as a movie theatre, 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 theatre 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 third season, this series was created by Dr. Michael C. Liu, VSO pianist and board member 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

Acclaimed Maestro Salvador Brotons is now in his 23rd season of leading the professional orchestra of over 70 core members. For 35 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 the Firstenburg Family, All Classical Portland and The Columbian. 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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