



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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VSO BREAKS ATTENDANCE RECORDS WITH MAY CONCERTS

The Planets Featuring OMSI plays to packed houses

(Vancouver, WA) Playing to two nearly sell-out crowds at Skyview Concert Hall, **The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** concluded one of its most extraordinary and best-attended concert seasons in its thirty-three year history. On May 26 and 27, *The Planets*, featured a 3-D interactive video presentation with narration by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry's Planetarium Director Jim Todd.

Maestro Salvador Brotons, conducting in his 21st season, also led the orchestra through Ravel's piano concerto and a movement of Grieg's *Peer Gynt Suite*, which was chosen by the audience. Both concerts were underwritten by a generous grant from Beaches Charitable Fund.

At the annual "In School Concerts," preceding the concert weekend, over 1,800 Clark County elementary, middle and high school students filled Skyview Friday morning for two concerts of *The Planets*.

"With full houses and such a memorable conclusion, this was the ultimate concert experience our audience deserved," said VSO Chair Kathy McDonald. "Now, we're focused on building on this success with a six concert season starting this October."

"I thank every musician, board member, Friend and everyone who came to our concerts. I hope you enjoyed this season as much as we did," said Maestro Salvador Brotons.

The five-concert season ran from October 2011 through May 2012 and also included three concerts by the VSO Chamber Group under the direction of Dr. Michael Liu and Dr. Igor Shakhman and a Big Horn Brass Christmas Concert in December 2011.

Our coming season features the return of Maestro Brotons conducting The VSO for our October 6 & 7 concert at Crossroads Church in Vancouver featuring returning Israeli guest artists Nitai Zori, violin and Hillel Zori, cello. The VSO welcomes international rising star Gregory Vajda as guest conductor in November, a dramatic "All Hamlet" concert in January, February's romantic Love Notes for Melissa, April's Young Artists with a monumental masterpiece, one of the most renowned cantatas of the 20th century – Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky* with expanded orchestra, chorus and mezzo soprano soloist for April and the memorable Mahler Symphony No. 5 in May.

Tickets are on sale now for the 2012-2013 season at www.vancouversymphony.org or (360) 735-7278 at a special reduced rate through June 30, 2012.

About The VSO

Led by Music Director and Conductor Salvador Brotons for 21 seasons, The VSO has become 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. With a full-sized professional orchestra of over 70 core members, many of whom are teachers in our school districts and beyond, the orchestra provides our region with a multi-concert classical season every year. The VSO performs at Skyview Concert Hall, 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver. Season support for The VSO is provided by the Firstenburg Family and *All Classical 89.9*.

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