



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DR. IGOR SHAKHMAN NAMED
VANCOUVER SYMPHONY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Clarinetist promoted from Orchestra Manager to top job

(Vancouver, WA) After conducting a year-long search, **The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra** has promoted Dr. Igor Shakhman to the position of executive director effective immediately, it was announced by VSO Chair Kathy McDonald.

Igor moved to the Northwest in 2005 and joined The VSO in 2007 as principal clarinet. He was named orchestra manager and librarian in April 2011.

“Igor is not only a world-class musician, but under his leadership as orchestra manager for the past year, The VSO has thrived financially and creatively,” said Ms. McDonald. “Coming off one of our greatest seasons ever, we are lucky to have him at the helm.”

Dr. Shakhman has been seen in recitals, chamber concerts and concerto appearances throughout the Northwest and the U.S., as well as in Russia, Ukraine, Switzerland, France, Greece and Germany.

As an orchestral clarinetist, Igor has collaborated with orchestras around the world under the batons of such conductors as Sir Georg Solti, Michael Tilson Thomas, Mstislav Rostropovich, Gennadi Rozhdestvenski and Gerard Schwarz, among others.

With strong background as teacher and educator, Igor has participated in music festivals around the world, and has taught locally at The University of Portland, Willamette University, Marylhurst University and Corban College. He is also an Oregon State Chair for the International Clarinet Association and a founding Director of the Portland International Clarinet Symposium. As a principal clarinetist and on-stage soloist, in 2009-2010, Igor participated in the critically acclaimed North American tour of “Fiddler on the Roof” which featured legendary Israeli actor Chaim Topol (star of the 1971 Oscar- winning movie) and later Harvey Fierstein and Theodore Bikel.

Igor was a 1993 Summa Cum Laude graduate of the Moscow Conservatory before receiving a scholarship to Peabody Conservatory of The Johns Hopkins University later that year. He was a full scholarship student at the Aspen Music Festival for six consecutive years and received Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Colorado in Boulder in 2000.

About The VSO

Led by Music Director and Conductor Salvador Brotons, now in his 22nd season, 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, 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.

THE VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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