



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FOURTH VSO CHAMBER SERIES SEASON
CELEBRATES “AUTUMN GLORY” WITH SOPRANO
CHRISTINA KOWALSKI OCTOBER 19**

Six-concert chamber season begins second year at historic Kiggins Theatre

(Vancouver, WA) The 2014-2015 VSO's Chamber Music Series arrives for the second consecutive season at one of the area's most storied theaters when the The Vancouver Symphony Chamber Series presents its opening concert, “Autumn Glory” on Sunday, October 19 at 3 pm. Our initial guest artist is renowned soprano Christina Kowalski.

The concert will feature guest artist Christina Kowalski, soprano; Dr. Michael C. Liu, piano; Dr. Igor Shakhman, clarinet and Kathryn Hobbie, piano.

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.

Concert selections will include:

Music for soprano and piano

Christina Kowalski, soprano Michael Liu, piano

Gustav Mahler--*Rückert Lieder*, five songs based on poems by Friedrich Rückert
Robert Stolz--*Du sollst der Kaiser meiner Seele sein* from the operetta *Der Favorit*
Franz Lehar--*Meine Lippen, sie Küssen so Heiss* from the opera *Giuditta*

Music for soprano, clarinet and piano

Christina Kowalski, soprano Igor Shakhman, clarinet Michael Liu, piano

Arnold Cooke--*Three Songs of Innocence*
Kees Schoonenbeck--*Three Winter Songs*

Music interlude for piano 4-hands

Michael Liu, piano Kate Hobbie, piano

George Gershwin--*Three Preludes*
Christoph Gluck--*Melody* from the opera *Orfeo ed Euridice*
Robert Schumann--*Impromptus* from *Pictures from the East*
Gioachino Rossini--*William Tell Overture* as arranged by Louis Moreau Gottschalk

Upcoming VSO Chamber Series Concerts

Sunday, November 16, 2014 at 3 pm A Bountiful Harvest

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| Sunday, January 11, 2015 at 3 pm | A Bright New Year |
| Sunday, March 8, 2015 at 3 pm | Easter Parade |
| Sunday, April 5, 2015 at 3 pm | Signs of Spring |
| Sunday, May 3, 2015 at 2 pm | Sunbreaks |

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 or by calling (360) 735-7278.

About Christina Kowalski

A native of Germany, she earned her Master's Degree in Music and Drama from the Hochschule für Musik und Kunst in Frankfurt am Main. Ms. Kowalski appeared in productions of the Frankfurt Opera Studio as the Governess in *Turn of the Screw* and *Parascha* in Stravinsky's *Mavra*. She toured with Febi Armonici under Maestro Michael Schneider throughout Germany and appeared as Amore in *Poppea* at the Stadttheater Eisenach and the Berlin Philharmonic. Ms. Kowalski held an all-Schubert Recital in Vienna, and was a member of the Lied-Klasse of Professor Charles Spencer in Frankfurt, Kammer Saengerin Gundula Janowitz in Vienna and Ms. Elena Lazarska in Salzburg.

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

Entering its fourth season, this series was created by Dr. Michael C. Liu, the 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

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 and The Columbian. Additional support for the orchestra is provided by Oregon Public Broadcasting. 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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