



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Igor Shakhman  
(360) 735-7278

**RENOWNED VIOLINIST RYU GOTO**  
**AND GUEST CONDUCTOR JESUS MEDINA HIGHLIGHT**  
**VSO CONCERT JANUARY 18 & 19, 2014**

*Goto returns to VSO stage after electrifying local audiences in 2008*

(Vancouver, WA) His style has been described as “ferocious” and “fiery” as VSO audiences discovered in the 2008-2009 season when he was a soloist when still a student at Harvard. Now, violinist Ryu Goto is even more of a force to be reckoned with. After selling out Skyview four years ago, and subsequent concerts around the world, he returns to play Lalo’s spirited *Symphonie Espagnole for Violin and Orchestra* on January 18 & 19, 2014. Joining Mr. Goto and The VSO will be one of Mexico’s greatest conductors, Jesus Medina.

Ryu has appeared as a soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras and ensembles including the National Symphony Orchestra, Münchner Philharmoniker and London Philharmonic and has worked with legendary conductors such as Lorin Maazel and Tan Dun.

The concert will commence with Chabrier’s *España* and conclude with Mendelssohn’s famous Symphony No. 4. Performances are at 3 pm on Saturday, January 18 and 7 pm Sunday, January 19 at Skyview Concert Hall at 1300 NW 139th Street, Vancouver.

“It is a real testament to the strength of The VSO that Ryu Goto is returning to play with us,” said VSO Executive Director Igor Shakhman. “In the past four years, he has become a creative force and one of the most dynamic violinists playing on the concert scene today. He electrified our sold-out audiences in 2008 and we expect nothing less in 2014.”

**About Ryu Goto**

Japanese-American violinist Ryu Goto has established himself as a significant voice in classical music, with a large and growing public in Asia, North America and Europe. Ryu's career began at age seven when he made his debut at the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan, playing Paganini's Violin Concerto No.1. Since then, Ryu has appeared as a soloist with many of the world's leading orchestras, ensembles including National Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic, Wiener Symphoniker, European Union Youth Orchestra, China Philharmonic Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. He has worked with conductors including Lorin Maazel, Tan Dun, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Fabio Luisi, Myung-Whun Chung and Jonathan Nott. Ryu has already performed in such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Tokyo Suntory Hall, Shanghai Grand Theater, Taipei National Concert Hall, Munich's Herkulesaal and the Musikverein in Vienna.

### **About Jesus Medina**

Jesus Medina is one of Mexico's outstanding conductors. Currently, he's Music Director of Mexico's Thin Monterrey and founder and Music Director of The Millennium Sinfonietta. Medina was Music Director of some important Mexican orchestras, like the Bellas Artes Chamber Orchestra, the UNAM Philharmonic and the Queretaro Philharmonic.

In a short period of time, he has become one of the most sought-after conductors in his country, regularly guest conducting Mexico's most prominent orchestras. He has conducted orchestras in the United States, Brazil, Singapore, Czech Republic, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Venezuela, Serbia, Hungary, Guatemala, Ecuador, El Salvador and Colombia. Future engagements include presentations in Italy, Brazil, Czech Republic, Ukraine, South Korea and Poland.

### **About The VSO**

Now in its 35th season, 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. 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, 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](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org).

**THE VANCOUVER SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
**PO Box 525 Vancouver, WA 98666-0525 Phone (360) 735-7278**  
**Fax: (360) 906-0355      [www.vancouverSymphony.org](http://www.vancouverSymphony.org)**