



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2012

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THE VSO CHAMBER SERIES CELEBRATES
“A BRIGHT NEW YEAR” JANUARY 12

Trinity Lutheran Church houses 2013’s first winter concert

(Vancouver, WA) Winter is here and **The Vancouver Symphony Chamber Series** is in full swing. The fifth concert of the season, *A Bright New Year*, offers a joyous musical celebration under the direction of Dr. Michael C. Liu on Saturday, January 12 at 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 309 West 39th Street, Vancouver. The VSO Chamber Music Series features musicians of the Vancouver Symphony and guest artists in a very intimate setting.

This concert features VSO pianists Dr. Michael C. Liu and guest artist Katherine Hobbie; VSO Principal Clarinet Dr. Igor Shakhman, VSO horn James Cameron and special guest artist Christina Kowalski, soprano.

The program will include:

- * Opera arias by Puccini, Bizet, and Granados.
- * Art songs by Schubert and others.
- * Songs for soprano, clarinet, and piano and soprano, french horn, and piano by Schubert.
- * Overture to *Die Fledermaus* by Strauss for piano 4-hands.
- * *Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2* by Liszt for piano 4-hands.

A native of Germany, Christina Kowalski 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*. Ms. Kowalski made her Debut in the United States as Marzeline in Beethoven’s *Fidelio* at the Mark Theater in Portland. Since then she has performed, among others, with Portland Opera, the Portland Summer Fest, Kitsap Opera, Skagit Opera, Washington East Opera, the Metthow Valley Chamber Music Festival, the Seattle and Bellevue Philharmonic Orchestras, Seattle Concert Opera, Bravo Vancouver Orchestra, Vashon Opera, Sinfonia Concertante and Coeur D’Alene Opera. With Coeur d’Alene Opera alone she has portrayed Lauretta in *Schicci*, Adina in *E’lisir*, the Contessa in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Clorinda in *La Cenerentola* and Mimi in *La Boheme*. She most recently performed Cio Cio San in *Butterfly* with the Seattle Opera Guild, Nedda with Skagit Opera and Beethoven 9th with the Olympia Symphony Orchestra. Her future engagements include Cio Cio San in *Butterfly* with Rogue Opera and Lauretta with Vashon Opera. Her CD *The Seven* is available on amazon.com.

This 2012-2013 chamber season presents some of the world's greatest music performed in an intimate setting. The VSO Chamber Group will feature a recital by one of Northwest's newest string quartets DTQ in March and a combined performance of audience's favorites Columbia Brass Quintet and Con Grazie woodwind quintet in April.

Upcoming VSO Chamber Group concerts will include:

<i>Wintertide</i>	February 23, 2013
<i>Easter Parade</i>	March 16, 2013
<i>Signs of Spring</i>	April 20, 2013
<i>Sunbreaks</i>	May 11, 2013

Individual tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students. Generous package deals are available at vancouverSymphony.org or (360) 735-7278.

About The VSO Chamber Series

The Vancouver Symphony Chamber Series was created by Dr. Michael C. Liu in 2010 to highlight the talents of some of the Northwest's brightest musical talents in an intimate setting. Since its creation, this series has featured many of The VSO's musicians, as well as other local artists. Each concert, the creative focus is to introduce our audience to different styles and compositions, that they might not already be aware. Proceeds from each chamber concert support The Vancouver Symphony.

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 Sterling Bank and All Classical 89.9.

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