



Press Release

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RENOWNED MUSICIANS VISIT AND PERFORM AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Fort Collins, CO – The School of the Arts at Colorado State University brings Northern Colorado audiences the opportunity to see nationally and internationally renowned musicians perform during the spring “Windows of Inspiration” season. Its Virtuoso Series features the Hugo Wolf String Quartet, pianist Kevin Ayesh, jazz sextet The Russian Dragon Band, the West Point Woodwind Quintet, percussionist Kris Keeton, violinist Boris Garlitsky, and the Borromeo String Quartet. Student ensembles are joined by jazz trumpeter Scott Wendholt and percussionist Chris Norton, and Colorado State Opera Theatre welcomes Bradley Thompson to perform the title role in Verdi’s “Falstaff.”

As part of the Virtuoso Series, the Hugo Wolf String Quartet, one of the most sought after string quartets of its generation, will perform works by Strauss, Schubert and Beethoven in Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall, which has been praised as one of the best venues for chamber music in the state. The Hugo Wolf String Quartet will also give a masterclass at 3:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public to observe them perform and provide hands-on instruction to top, select Colorado State students in an open, informal setting.

On Feb. 1 at 7:30 p.m., award-winning pianist Dr. Kevin Ayesh will perform perform Beethoven’s Sonata in E Major, Op. 14, No. 1, Chopin’s Sonata in B-flat Minor, Op. 35, Rachmaninoff’s Prelude in D Major, Op. 23, No. 4, and Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin in Casavant Hall in the Music Building. He will also give a masterclass at 11 a.m. that is free and open to the public to observe.

The Russian Dragon Band will perform in a rare appearance of the full sextet on Feb. 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall presenting an exciting, adventurous and rich jazz experience. The West Point Woodwind Quintet of the United States Military Academy Band performs quintet music of the 20th century in Casavant Hall on Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Also performing in Casavant Hall is Virginia Commonwealth University professor and outstanding percussionist Kris Keeton on Mar. 6 at 7:30 p.m. with a variety of percussion instruments and musical styles.

The Virtuoso Series returns to classical music with a performance by Russian-born violinist Boris Garlitsky, who teaches at the Paris Conservatory and plays concertmaster for the London Philharmonic Orchestra, on April 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall. The critically acclaimed

Borromeo String Quartet, one of the most beloved string quartets in the world presents the impressive performance of the complete cycle of Bartok quartets, a rarely heard musical experience, on April 18 at 7:00 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall.

The Borromeo String Quartet will also participate in the two-day Pre-College Chamber Music Festival, giving a masterclass to the best high school quartets from the region that is open to the public to observe in Griffin Concert Hall at 10:30 a.m. on Apr. 19.

Special guest artists will also join students for performances. On Mar. 4 at 7:30 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall, CSU Jazz Ensembles welcome special guest artist Scott Wendholt, an all-star New York trumpeter and veteran of well-known jazz bands. CSU Jazz Combos welcome acclaimed composer and alto saxophonist Wil Swindler's Elevenet, comprised of jazz improvisers and classical musicians following in the tradition of jazz great Gil Evans, for a performance that includes a new work composed for the occasion on Apr. 1 at 7:30 p.m. The CSU Percussion Ensemble welcomes Dr. Chris Norton, a professor at Belmont University and an active recitalist, concerto soloist, and clinician specializing in marimba, vibraphone, and xylophone for their concert on Apr. 6 at 3:00 p.m. in Griffin Concert Hall.

Colorado State Opera Theatre will perform Verdi's true masterpiece "Falstaff," welcoming Bradley Thompson to sing the title role. Thompson is on the faculty at Metro State College in Denver and winner of the Gold Award Scammon International Voice Competition in 2004, regional finalist in the 2002 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, and grand prize winner in the 2001 Denver Lyric Opera Guild Voice Competition. The opera will be sung in Italian with English supertitles in Griffin Concert Hall on Feb. 29, Mar. 1, and Mar. 7 at 7:30 p.m. and Mar. 9 at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for the public for Virtuoso Series concerts and \$10 for concerts with student ensembles. Tickets for all concerts are \$5 for Colorado State students. Opera tickets are reserved seating and are \$25 for the public and \$10 for CSU students.

Tickets are available from the Campus Box Office in the Lory Student Center, by phone at 970-491-4849, or online at www.csutix.com. The Box Office will reopen on Jan. 14 following the University's Winter Break, and online sales are available beginning Jan. 1. Advance purchase is highly recommended, though tickets are also available at the door one hour before performances begin. All listed ticket prices include a Campus Box Office service charge.

For a full performance and event calendar, more information, and to sign up for a free event e-newsletter, visit www.CSUSchooloftheArts.com.

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