

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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“NEW AND OLD VOICES”

COLUMBUS, GA, March 6, 2019 - The Columbus Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is pleased to present **“Bartók & Prokofiev”** on **Saturday, March 16, 2019**. This concert features the last compositions of the two greatest composers of the 20th century, Béla Bartók and Sergei Prokofiev. Bartók’s beautiful *Piano Concerto No. 3*, written for his wife, has a light, airy, almost neoclassical tone. Prokofiev’s touching final *Symphony No. 7* contains notes of a nostalgic and melancholy mood. The evening will begin with *Music for a Scene from Shelley*, a lyrical first statement from a new voice, American composer Samuel Barber.

Pianist Viktor Valkov will be featured on the CSO’s new Steinway grand piano in Bartók’s *Piano Concerto No. 3*. Viktor Valkov is a Bulgarian native that has performed with most of the world’s major orchestras and at most of the country’s important music festivals. Acclaimed by some as, “lion of the keyboard”, Valkov has given a number of recitals in the USA, England, Macedonia, Italy, Greece, Japan, and more. As a solo performer, one of Valkov’s latest projects featured Busoni’s *Fantasia Contrappuntistica* as the focal point of his concert programs.



“Bartók & Prokofiev” is presented by Aflac, Columbus Marriott, Georgia Public Broadcasting, and Troy Public Radio.

On **Saturday, March 16th**, we will have our **Open Rehearsal** beginning at 12:30 PM. We encourage attendance from all members of the community, including those who are unable to attend the evening concert or looking for a “behind-the-scenes” look into the ensemble. It is a great way to introduce young children to a live musical experience in a sensory-friendly environment. Continuing the tradition, this informal and all-inclusive atmosphere is breaking the financial barrier by encouraging attendees to “pay what you want.” Audience members set their own prices to eliminate hesitation and allow new viewers to partake in the music being created by the CSO.

Attend **Know the Score** at **6:30 PM** in Studio Theatre. Know the Score is a casual pre-concert conversation with Music Director and Conductor George Del Gobbo that provides insight into the repertoire on the evening’s concert.

Tickets are \$20-\$39 for adults, \$10 for students, and \$5 for children (ages 5-12). They can be purchased at the RiverCenter Box Office, Monday through Friday, 10 AM to 5:30 PM or one hour prior to the performance (enter

doors located on Broadway). For more information call the RiverCenter Box Office at 706.256.3612 or visit us online at www.csoga.org.

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra, formed in 1855, is the second orchestra founded in the nation and the first founded in Georgia. The CSO, under the direction of George Del Gobbo, has long been considered one of the Southeast's premier musical ensembles. The CSO's performance venue at RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, Bill Heard Theatre, seats 2,000 patrons and provides a state-of-the-art visual and acoustic experience. For more information visit csoga.org or call (706) 256-3645.

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