



White Rock Concerts *Presents*

**The Winter Winds
with
Philippe Magnan and Rena Sharon
Guest artist George Zukerman**



Friday, February 24, 2006

**Subscriptions for our 50th Anniversary Season Go On Sale
at the Next Concert**

Jasper Wood – Violin
New Zealand String Quartet and James Campbell
Guy Few and the Winter Winds
Ben Heppner – tenor
The Little Eagles of Siberia
Roberto Plano - piano

White Rock Concerts Board

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Concert Etiquette

When the music starts, please don't talk or whisper, don't get up from your seat, and don't clap until the piece is over.

Please turn off your cell phone, pager, and alarm watch before the concert begins. If you have a cough, bring cough drops and unwrap them and place them in a handkerchief before the concert begins. Also, it is okay to cough between selections or between movements but not during. If you hear a high pitched sound coming from your neighbor, it is their hearing aid. During a break in the performance you may ask them to adjust it. And please remember that we cannot open the doors to the hall before 7:15 so do not arrive too early!

Programme

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart [1756-1791]

Sonata in e minor for piano and oboe K 304 (300c)

[from the original for Violin]

Allegro

Tempo di Menuetto

Robert Schumann [1810-1856]

Fantasiestuecke Op. 73 for oboe d'amore and piano

Zart und mit Ausdruck

Lebhaft, leicht

Rasch und mit Feuer

Igor Stravinsky [1882-1971]

Chanson Russe

[from the original for violin and piano]

Intermission

Francis Poulenc [1899 - 1963]

Trio for piano, oboe and bassoon (1926)

Presto

Andante

Rondeau

Maurice Ravel [1875-1937]

Sonatine

[from the original for piano, solo]

Modéré

Mouvement de Menuet

Animé

Programme Notes

(Mr. Magnan will introduce the works to be heard on tonight's programme)

Philippe Magnan

Born in Québec City, Philippe Magnan is a multifaceted artist, as comfortable in the Baroque repertoire as in Contemporary music, and equally at home on all the instruments of the oboe family. Mr. Magnan is also enjoying a Baroque Oboe career, and he studied this instrument in Europe with Ku Ebbinge and Paul Dombrecht. Philippe Magnan teaches oboe at the Conservatories of music in Québec City and in Rimouski.

He studied at the Quebec Conservatory, where he was awarded in 1984 a **Premier Prix** in Oboe, a **Premier Prix** in Chamber music and the **Gérard-Bastien Prize**.

Since winning the **Montreal Symphony Orchestra Competition** in 1982, the prestigious **Toulon International Competition** (France) in 1984 and the **Prix d'Europe** in 1987, Philippe Magnan has pursued an active solo career. He has appeared with numerous Canadian symphony orchestras, with the **Cannes Symphony** (France), the **Netherlands Radio Chamber Orchestra**, the **Violons du Roy** chamber orchestra, **I Musici de Montreal** string orchestra, the **Manitoba Chamber Orchestra**, the **Quatuor Claudel**, the **Borealis string Quartet**, **Les Idées heureuses**, **Masques Ensemble**, etc. He also performs frequently as a recitalist, and has performed in Boston, Paris, Gent, Prague, Stuttgart, Rotterdam, Toronto, Montréal, Québec, Ottawa, Vancouver, etc. He has also taken part in many broadcasts on both the French and English networks of the CBC.

Also an active chamber musician, Philippe Magnan has participated many times in international music festivals in Canada, such as the **Lanaudière International Music Festival**, the **Québec International Summer Festival**, the **Vancouver International Chamber Music Summer Festival**, the **Hornby Festival Society** (BC), as well as in the **Ste-Pétronille International Summer Music Festival** (QC), the **Ottawa Chamber Music Festival** (Canada) and at the **Summer Festival at Domaine Forget** of Charlevoix in Québec.

In 1992, Philippe Magnan gave the premiere performance of Double

éclat for Oboe d'amore and English horn by Quebec composer Alain Perron, with the **Orchestre de chambre de Radio-Canada** conducted by Simon Streatfield. Renowned Canadian composer John Rea has written his duo *Submergé* for him and pianist Louis-Philippe Pelletier; this work was premiered in Montréal in May 2002 and was performed again in Ottawa in August of the same year. Furthermore, French flautist and composer Raymond Guiot has written 2 works dedicated to Philippe Magnan, in a savvy jazz style: *Le Virtuose hockeyeur* and *Charlevoix-Atmosphère*, both edited at the Éditions Lemoyne (Paris, France).

Upcoming engagements include performances in North America and Europe (Belgium, France and Czech Republic), as well as a second BC tour and a Prairie Debut tour with pianist Jamie Parker, a pan-Canadian tour on the Baroque Oboe with the Pacific Baroque Orchestra in the Fall of 2003, a tour with Atlantic Debut in 2005 with pianist Jeremy Thompson, and a first US tour with the Gideon String Trio from Prague.

Rena Sharon

Born in Montreal, Canada, Rena Sharon began her life in chamber music at the age of eight. Her early studies were with Professor Dorothy Morton, and she continued her training at the Eastman School and Indiana University. Called "one of the finest musicians of her generation", and a "national treasure", she began concertizing throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe at the age of 19. In 1987 she was awarded Best Pianist Diploma at the International Voice Competition in Rio de Janeiro. Among Canada's foremost chamber musicians, her performance spectrum also comprises solo concerto and recital. The roster of distinguished artists with whom Ms. Sharon has performed includes: Steven Isserlis; Ben Heppner; Gary Hoffman; Lara and Scott St. John; Pamela Frank; Sharon Kam; Steven Dann; Douglas Boyd; Kevin MacMillan; Richard Margison; Marina Piccinini; Shauna Rolston; James Somerville; The St. Lawrence String Quartet; Martin Beaver; James Ehnes; Susan Platts; Wendy Nielsen; Benjamin Butterfield; Amanda Forsyth; Jerome Hines; and Gabriela Demetrova.

In 1994 she created The Song Circle, a performance company dedicated to the art of song. Beginning as a venue for gifted graduates of UBC, it has grown to include collaborations with distinguished Canadian vocal artists.

In addition to her concert schedule, Ms. Sharon also lectures extensively about Art Song. Ms. Sharon has spoken to Vancouver audiences about *Die Schone Mullerin*, *Winterreise*, and *Dichterliebe*, and has toured with her best-known lecture/recital *I Love Lieder*, an introduction to the collaborative process of poetry and music. Currently the Professor of Collaborative Piano Studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, she is also Artistic Co-Director of the Young Artist Experience, an unique interdisciplinary chamber music camp for teens which blends intense music study with a spectrum of explorations comprising art, science, and global studies. In February 2000 she was awarded the prestigious Dean of Arts Award, presented to one member of the UBC Faculty of Arts annually for excellence in teaching, research, and community outreach activities.

George Zukerman

He is celebrated world-wide as the "High Priest of the bassoon" Solo bassoonist, George Zukerman is one of the few artists in the world to achieve recognition on his instrument outside the ranks of the Symphony Orchestra. He has been praised by critics around the world and is acknowledged, both in recital and with orchestra as a leading exponent of the solo repertoire for the instrument and an ardent spokesman for the standing of the bassoon as a recognized solo instrument. The sobriquet "High Priest" was bestowed at opposite ends of the music world, following recent concerts in New Zealand and Newfoundland.

In over four decades of international touring this Canadian virtuoso has established a significant career and racked up 40 world tours, including 7 to the former Soviet Union and numerous return tours to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and China. In each of these countries he achieved the distinction of being the first bassoon soloist ever invited to tour with their national symphony orchestras or in recital.

A Message From the President

Welcome to the last half of our season. Thank you for the many kind and enthusiastic comments about the season so far. I know that you will be thrilled and delighted with the concerts to come this season and next, our 50th anniversary season.

With our 50th season approaching I thought that I would take a moment to blow our own horn, so to speak. Thanks to the unflagging efforts of our artistic director for all of those 50 years, White Rock Concerts stands essentially alone in this country as a series presenting nothing but the best of “good” music (classical, opera, choral chamber, etc.).

The artists that you hear in your home town are amongst the best in the world, playing the major concert halls of the globe, and White Rock!

Do not be fooled by the convenience of the venue or by the frankly, amazingly low subscription fees, this is world class entertainment, equally at home at Lincoln Centre, Wigmore Hall or the Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

And we have world class subscribers, which is the main reason why we have had 50 years of triumph.

Please remember to practice world class concert etiquette. Have a look at the Concert Etiquette section of this program to remind you of the rules of the game so to speak; those rules designed to increase the enjoyment of the experience for all of us, and to allow the artist to perform at their highest level, without distraction.

Please remember that we will begin selling subscriptions for next season at our next concert. We will allow existing subscribers only to renew until the end of the season. Any new subscribers will be placed on our waiting list and filled after the end of the season in order of submitting their orders. I probably do not need to remind you, but I will. We are sold out every year, so, if you wish to renew, do it early to avoid disappointment.

Do enjoy tonight’s concert by a true magician of the oboe. I hope to see you next year.

Rick Gambrel
President

YAMAHA



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OPEN 7 DAYS: Mon. Tue. Wed. & Sat. 10am - 6pm | Thur. & Fri. 10am - 8pm | Sunday 12noon - 5pm

Our Next Concert:

**The Jupiter
String Quartet**

Friday, March 17, 2006

