



BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Press Release

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Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Welcomes New Musicians

January 4, 2010, Buffalo, N.Y. – The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra welcomes five new musicians to the Orchestra for the 2009-2010 season. JoAnn Falletta, Music Director of the BPO says, “I am very happy to announce the appointment of five new musicians to our BPO. They bring extraordinary talent, experience and energy to the orchestra, and I join all their Philharmonic colleagues in wishing them a warm welcome to Buffalo.”

Matthew Bassett, Principal Timpani

Matthew Bassett comes to the BPO from Cleveland, Ohio as the Principal Timpanist replacing Jesse Kregal who previously held this chair for nearly forty years. “I’m humbled by the opportunity to become a member of the BPO” said Matt. “It is a magnificent orchestra with a distinguished past and a bright future. My wife Kathleen, our one-year-old daughter Sadie, and I are looking forward to becoming a part of the arts community in this wonderful city.

Matt served as principal timpanist for the Mansfield Symphony and Cleveland Pops Orchestra and also as principal timpanist/percussionist with Apollo's Fire (The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra). Matthew earned his B.M. in Percussion and Timpani Performance from Cleveland Institute of Music and his M.M. from Cleveland State University.

Highlights of Matt's playing career have included: serving as principal timpanist for the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra in Wellington, New Zealand; performing as concerto soloist with orchestras such as the Cleveland Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, and the Canton Symphony; and participating in the U.S. premiere performance of Four4 by John Cage at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

As an educator, Mr. Bassett has taught percussion to students of all ages and ability levels. Of

particular importance has been his commitment to percussion ensemble as both an educational tool and a musical genre. Matt has arranged music for marching percussion, percussion ensemble, and is presently working on a timpani practice manual for his students. Mr. Bassett teaches percussion and directs the percussion ensembles at both Cleveland State University and Case Western Reserve University.

The following musicians join the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra for one-year appointments.

Reina Inui, Violin

Reina Inui from Japan most recently performed with the Virginia Symphony before joining the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra for a one-year appointment in 2009-2010. Shortly after moving to the United States, she was honored to perform for the internationally acclaimed violinist, Jaime Laredo. Reina studied with Sheryl Staples and Robert Lipsett at the Colburn School of Performing Arts where she became the Concertmaster of the Colburn Chamber Orchestra. She won Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Awards, Los Angeles Philharmonic Bronislaw Kaper Awards, Japan America Young Musicians Competition, and YMF Honorary Scholarship.

Reina was accepted to Philadelphia's Curtis Institute where she studied with Jaime Laredo, Aaron Rosand, and Yumi Ninomiya-Scott. At the Verbier Music Festival in Switzerland, she was Principal Second Violin of the Curtis Symphony. As soloist, she has performed in Taiwan with Russian Philharmonic on 'Viotti-Marie Hall' Stradivarius, and in Puerto Rico under the baton of Luis Biava. She was a finalist at Schadt and Julius Stulberg International String Competitions.

Reina's recent musical highlights include performing Wagner's Tannhauser with Seiji Ozawa in Tokyo and Verdi's Don Carlo with James Levine at Tanglewood where she served as Associate Concertmaster. As a member of the prestigious Seiji Ozawa Ongaku-Juku, she has also performed Die Fledermaus throughout Japan with Maestro Ozawa and Vienna Philharmonic's Principal Second Violinist, Peter Wachter.

Daniel Kerdiewicz, Associate Principal Horn

Daniel Kerdelewicz, who joins the BPO as the Associate Principal Horn for a one-year appointment was born and raised in Poland. At the age of fifteen he was admitted to the Karol Kurpinski Military Music College in Gdansk (Poland), from where he graduated with a distinction five years later. During his studies (2004), Daniel was awarded a Special Award of The Ministry of Defense, for his achievements in music. In 2007 he won a competition to become a first horn in the National Polish Radio Symphony Orchestra in Katowice, since that time Daniel has successfully combined his studying with the full time position in the Orchestra, Daniel is studying towards his Masters Degree at The Karol Lipiński Academy of Music.

David Moss, Viola

A native of Chicago, Violist David Moss joins BPO for a one-year appointment and is currently pursuing postgraduate work at The Juilliard School with Heidi Castleman and Misha Amory. Moss completed his undergraduate studies at The Oberlin Conservatory of music with Peter Slowik. His orchestral experience has led him to serve as principal violist of the New York String Orchestra Seminar, Pacific Music Festival, Spoleto Festival Orchestra, and Camarata Chicago. He has also served as assistant principal violist of the Aspen Festival and Chamber Orchestras. He has performed extensively throughout North America, Europe and East Asia including recent performances at the Smithsonian Institute and the Moritzburg Festival.

Timothy Smith, Trombone

Hailing from Reading, PA, trombonist Timothy Smith earned degrees from Ithaca College and Northwestern University. He has served as Acting Principal Trombone of the San Diego Symphony as well as Acting 2<sup>nd</sup> Trombone for the Jacksonville Symphony. Tim has appeared with the Chicago Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony and Pops, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Grant Park Symphony, Virginia Symphony, as well as many regional orchestras throughout greater Chicago. Internationally, Tim has performed in Germany, Ireland, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. Mr. Smith is also a founding member of Second City Brass, and CT3 Trombone Quartet.

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The Grammy Award Winning Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra was founded in 1935. Since 1940, the Orchestra's permanent home has been Kleinhans Music Hall, a National Historic Site with an international reputation as one of the finest concert halls in the United States. As Buffalo's cultural ambassador, the BPO has toured widely across the United States and Canada including the recently completed Florida Friends Tour with JoAnn Falletta in March 2010, the first multi-city tour since the 1988 European tour and the first outside of the WNY area since Maestro Falletta led the ensemble at Carnegie Hall in 2004.

Currently, the Orchestra presents more than one hundred and twenty Classics, Pops and Youth Concerts each year and the award winning BPO Education programs reach over 35,000 students per year (K-12) from all eight counties of Western New York.

During the tenure of current music director JoAnn Falletta, the BPO has rekindled its distinguished history of NPR broadcasts and recordings, including the release of eleven new CDs of a highly diverse repertoire on the NAXOS and Beau Fleuve labels. The Philharmonic's Naxos recording of composer John Corigliano's "Mr. Tambourine Man: Seven Poems of Bob Dylan," featuring soprano Hila Plitmann, won Grammys in two categories of the three for which it was nominated: classical vocal performance and classical contemporary composition.