

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

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LSO CHAMBER SERIES PRESENTS PIANO TRIOS BY BEETHOVEN & BRAHMS

February 26, 2010 - Lansing, MI – The Lansing Symphony Chamber Series will present Violinist Takeshi Abo, Cellist Dessislava Nenova and Pianist Angela Wu in concert on **Sunday, March 14th** at 3:00pm at Lansing's **Plymouth Congregational Church**. This is an opportunity to witness the fine skill and artistry of three of the Lansing Symphony's members in a beautiful and intimate setting. The program will open with the **Duo for Violin & Cello from Handel's *Passacaglia***, a virtuosic and thrilling piece often called "The Impossible Duet." The next piece is **Beethoven's Piano Trio No. 1 in D Major**. The Trio was given the title of "Ghost" by Beethoven's student Karl Czerny, reportedly because the second movement reminded him of the ghost in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. The "Ghost" Trio is one of Beethoven's best-known works for the genre. The second half of the program will open with **Oblivion**, a work by Argentinean composer Astor Piazzolla. Oblivion is a four-minute tango with hauntingly beautiful melodies, made famous by its inclusion in Marco Bellochio's film *Henry IV, the Mad King*. Closing out the afternoon's program will be **Brahms' Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major**. With Brahms' characteristically lush melodies and passionate phrasing, his first Piano Trio is an appropriate ending to afternoon showcasing the talents of the LSO's individual musicians.

Single tickets to Chamber Series concerts are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students. Tickets are available by calling **(517) 487-5001** or online at www.LansingSymphony.org.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra's chamber performances were established in 1987 under the artistic direction of I-Fu Wang and grew into the Renaud Chamber Music Society. Under the guidance of Music Director Timothy Muffitt and Artistic Director Richard Sherman, the series is now known as the Lansing Symphony Chamber Series. The series is designed to showcase the artistry of LSO members in an intimate setting and to introduce audiences to some of mid-Michigan's most talented artists and ensembles. *The 2009/2010 Chamber Series is generously sponsored by Bruce & Virginia Allen, the Wilbur & Ruth Wright Charitable Fund, David & Jill Mittleman and ChurchWyle, PC.*

Born in Nara, Japan, **Takeshi Abo** earned a Bachelors degree at Kyoto City University of Arts in Japan, and continued his study at Michigan State University in 1995. He earned both Masters and Doctoral degrees at MSU. Dr. Abo is Concertmaster of the Alma, Battle Creek and Midland Symphony Orchestras and Assistant Principal Second Violin of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. He has also been Concertmaster with a number of orchestras throughout Michigan. An active violinist, Abo has given recitals and concerto performances in Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. Dr. Abo has been on the faculty at Interlochen Arts Camp and Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. He also served as Assistant Professor of Violin/Viola at Central Michigan University. Currently, he is on the faculty at Alma College and Albion College. His primary teachers include Robert Dan, Joseph Fuchs, and Misako Kameda.

Dessislava Nenova, originally from Plovdiv, Bulgaria, holds a BM in Music Performance with honors from the University of Central Arkansas as well as a MM in Performance from Michigan State University, where she is finishing a DMA in Music Performance. She has studied with world-renown performers and teachers such as Felice Magendanz Farrell, Stephen Feldman, Suren Bagratuni, Arie Lipsky and participated in several master classes with Janos Starker. Ms. Nenova is a prize winner of nation-wide competitions in her native Bulgaria as well as in the United States such as The National Competition for Young Artists "Svetoslav Obretenov" in Provadia, Bulgaria and the MTNA String Competition, Collegiate Division in Los Angeles, California. She was also the winner of the University of Central Arkansas Concerto Competition as well as the University of Central Arkansas Solo String Competition. Ms. Nenova has performed as a soloist with the Plovdiv Philharmony and the University of Central Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. As a chamber musician, she has been featured with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra Chamber Society, the University of Central Arkansas Faculty Chamber Music Series, the Flint School of Performing Arts Faculty Artist Recital Series, and the Mackinac Island Community Foundation Concert Series. She is a member of the Flint Symphony and Lansing Symphony, and is the Assistant Principal Cellist of the West Michigan Symphony Orchestra. A passionate educator, Ms. Nenova has taught at the Flint School of Performing Arts (MI), the MSU Community School of Music (MI) and was a Teaching Assistant at Michigan State University from 2002 to 2007.

Angela Wu, D.M.A., an acclaimed pianist, has appeared as a soloist in Ohio, New Mexico, Louisiana, California, Las Vegas, New York, Taiwan and Italy. She was a finalist of Web Concert Hall Competition in 2007, and a semi-finalist at the Cantu International Piano and Orchestra Competition in 2008 in Italy. She also performed with Orchestra Filarmonica di Bacau conducted by Ovidiu Balan. She was also the winner of the Jessie Phillips Bourquin Award, the James Alan Walgreen Keyboard Scholarship, and the Beverly Franzblau Baker Scholarship. As a staff collaborative pianist at the University of Michigan, she has performed with faculty and various guest artists including tour concerts with International Trumpet Institute in France and a concert with the Russian National Orchestra principle flutist Maxim Rubtsov in the past September. She is Principal Pianist of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Wu is also a dedicated teacher. She taught at the University of Michigan as a graduate student, at Schoolcraft College in Livonia (MI), and coached instrumental students at the Adrian College (MI). Ms. Wu holds a Doctoral Degree in Piano Performance from the University of Michigan. She has studied with Fu-Mei Lee, Ho-Hui Lin, Daming Zhu, Sean Duggan, Ruth Slenczynska, and Arthur Greene.

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