

# LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:**

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### LANSING SYMPHONY TO PRESENT MAHLER'S FIFTH SYMPHONY IN MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> SEASON FINALE PERFORMANCE

Lansing, MI – April 20, 2009 – The Lansing Symphony Orchestra will present its Season Finale performance – **MasterWorks 6: Viennese Passage** – on **Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00pm** at the Wharton Center's Great Hall. Music Director **Timothy Muffitt** will lead the orchestra in **Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 8** ("Unfinished") and **Gustav Mahler's Symphony No. 5**. Schubert's Symphony No. 8, subtitled as "Unfinished" because it only contains two movements, is a perfect appetizer for the main course that is Mahler's mighty Fifth

Symphony. Five movements long, and clocking in at 75 minutes, Mahler's Fifth was called "the giant symphony" when it debuted in 1904, and nearly 80 musicians will fill the stage to bring it to life for the LSO's performance.

"I can't wait for the Lansing Symphony to sink its teeth into Mahler's Fifth," said Muffitt. "This will be such an appropriate ending to the spectacular season we've had this year."

**Tickets for MasterWorks concerts range from \$10-\$43, based on seating. Student prices available. Tickets are available online at [www.LansingSymphony.org](http://www.LansingSymphony.org) or by calling (517) 487-5001.**

#### **MasterWorks 6: Viennese Passage**

Saturday, May 2, 2009 – 8:00pm  
Wharton Center's Great Hall

**Timothy Muffitt**, Conductor  
*Smart Office Systems Chair*

SCHUBERT – Symphony No. 8  
in B Minor "Unfinished"  
MAHLER – Symphony No. 5  
in C-sharp Minor

Tickets: \$10.00-\$43.00

[www.LansingSymphony.org](http://www.LansingSymphony.org)  
(517) 487-5001

MasterWorks 6: Viennese Passage is co-sponsored by MSU Federal Credit Union and Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP.

This is Music Director Timothy Muffitt's third season with the Lansing Symphony. In addition to his role with the LSO, Muffitt is in his tenth season as Music Director and Conductor of the Baton Rouge Symphony. In the summer, he also serves as Music Director of the Chautauqua Institution's Music School Festival Orchestra, one of the country's premier orchestral training ensembles. Previously, Muffitt served as the Associate Conductor of the Austin Symphony and as Artistic Director of the Louisiana Philharmonic's Casual Classics Series, for which he was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Service from the American Federation of Musicians. Muffitt has appeared with leading orchestras throughout the country and is recognized as a strong proponent of community arts education. He also has appeared with the San Francisco Symphony, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Long Beach Symphony, Columbus Ohio's Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra, the Buffalo Philharmonic, the Virginia Symphony, the Grant Park Music Festival Orchestra in Chicago, and the Symphonies of Houston, Phoenix, Edmonton, Harrisburg, and Spokane. He has worked with many prominent performers, including Renee Fleming, Yo Yo Ma, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Andre Watts, Alicia de Larrocha, Pinchas Zukerman, Van Cliburn, Lynn Harrell, and Itzhak Perlman; and many prominent composers, including John Cage, Joseph Schwantner, Ellen Taffe Zwilich, John Harbison, Joan Tower, and Bernard Rands. Born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Timothy Muffitt studied at the Eastman School of Music, where he earned a Doctor of Musical Arts degree.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra was established in 1929. More than 20,000 people attend LSO concerts each year, and more than 50,000 listeners are able to hear broadcasts of the orchestra's performances by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Symphony's highly acclaimed education programs reach 15,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grades in five counties.

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