

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LANSING SYMPHONY TO OPEN 2010/2011 SEASON SEPT. 10 WITH BEETHOVEN'S TRIPLE, LOCAL TALENT

Lansing, MI – August 17, 2010 – The Lansing Symphony Orchestra will present its season premiere **MasterWorks 1: Beethoven's Triple** on **Friday, September 10th at 8 p.m.** at Wharton Center for Performing Arts. The Lansing Symphony's 81st season opens with Reznicek's festive **Overture to Donna Diana**. Joining the orchestra for **Beethoven's Triple Concerto** is **Trio Terzetto**, featuring Okemos native **Tanya Ell**. The young trio has received enormous acclaim for their abilities and passion, and they bring their youthful energy to Beethoven's Triple, a masterpiece for piano trio and orchestra. The evening concludes with **Brahms' Symphony No. 2**, a cornerstone of the Romantic repertoire. Combining deep, soulful moments with abrupt explosions of sheer joy, the symphony ends triumphantly as we launch our 2010/2011 season.

Tickets start at \$12, available by calling **(517) 487-5001** or online at **www.LansingSymphony.org**. Six- and four-concert **MasterWorks Series Subscriptions** are also available, with a 25% discount offered to first-time subscribers. Student discounts available on all concerts and subscriptions.

MasterWorks 1: Beethoven's Triple is sponsored in part by the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs and Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C.

First-prize winner of the prestigious 2010 Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, **Trio Terzetto** is a piano trio of three dynamic musical personalities, each with a unique career. Formed in 2007, Trio Terzetto has already performed and recorded throughout the United States and Canada. They have appeared on series including The Rocky River Chamber Music Society, The Queens University Chamber Music Series, The Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival, Saugatuck Chamber Music Festival, Chamber Music Yellow Springs and in South Bend, Indiana and The Banff Centre. This



performance marks Trio Terzetto's debut as soloists, and they will appear at the Harry Jacobs Chamber Music Society later this year. Trio Terzetto is devoted to outreach and often presents concerts for children and gives masterclasses in addition to their performances.

Praised for her "incredible flair, maturity and insight," violinist **Diana Cohen** was appointed concertmaster of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in September 2007. She has appeared as soloist and served as concertmaster of orchestras including the Charleston Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, National Repertory Orchestra and Red {an orchestra}. She has also soloed recently with the orchestras of Hilton Head and Valdosta, GA. Diana performs and records regularly in concerts in New York and across the globe with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Knights Chamber Orchestra, the International Sejong Soloists and as a substitute with the New York Philharmonic. As a chamber musician, Diana has performed at festivals including Marlboro, Ravinia, Giverny, Taos, Aspen, Maui, Martha's Vineyard, Fontana, Piccolo Spoleto, Sarasota and the Perlman Chamber Music Festival. She has regularly collaborated with members of the Guarneri, Juilliard and Cleveland Quartets, as well as with renowned artists Mitsuko Uchida and Kim Kashkashian. She also performs often with her family: Franklin Cohen, Cleveland Orchestra principal clarinet and her brother Alex, timpanist of the West Virginia Symphony.

Cellist **Tanya Ell** has proven her impressive musical range and abilities as soloist and chamber musician across Europe, North and Central America. Currently the youngest cellist in the Cleveland Orchestra, Tanya has performed with such notable musicians as Edgar Meyer and the Juilliard and Miro Quartets. She has appeared as soloist with the Aspen Festival orchestra and the Milwaukee Symphony, where she was Acting Assistant Principal from 2003 to 2006. **Tanya began her studies at the age of four with Louis Potter Jr. and continued with Marilyn Kesler's Suzuki program in the Okemos schools. Tanya's parents, Frank & Eva Ell, are both past members of the Lansing Symphony, playing clarinet and cello respectively. Tanya was a winner of the Lansing Symphony's Youth Competition and performed Lansing Symphony for a year while she was still in high school.** Among her mentors are Yo-Yo Ma, Janos Starker, Lynn Harrell, Richard Goode and Robert Mann. Her competition prizes include the North York Chamber Orchestra Competition and the Zeronian Prize. Tanya studied at the Juilliard School with Aldo Parisot and has also studied with Shauna Rolston and Richard Aaron.

Pianist **Renana Gutman** has performed across three continents with orchestras including the Jerusalem Symphony, Belgian "i Fiamminghi" and the Mannes Community Orchestra. As a passionate chamber musician, she has been featured at the Marlboro and Yellow Barn festivals, collaborating with members of the Guarneri and Mendelssohn Quartets, pianists Richard Goode and Mitusko Uchida and soprano Susan Naruki. Her 2009/2010 season included tours with Musicians from Marlboro. Currently an assistant professor at London's prestigious Menuhin School, Renana has garnered prizes at the Los Angeles Liszt Competition and the New York Keyboard Festival and has been a longtime recipient of the American

Israeli Cultural Foundation. She recently performed at Leon Fleisher's Beethoven workshop at Carnegie's Weill Hall. *The New York Sun* wrote: "there was true poetry in her phrasing" and "she played with great vigor and aplomb." Her most influential teachers include Richard Goode at Mannes College and Natasha Tadson in Israel.



This is **Music Director Timothy Muffitt's** fifth season with the Lansing Symphony. In addition to his role with the LSO, Muffitt is in his 12th season as Music Director & 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 Lansing Symphony concerts each year, and more than 250,000 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 students in kindergarten through 12th grades. For more information, visit www.LansingSymphony.org or find us on Facebook® or Twitter.

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