

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

TIMOTHY MUFFITT • MUSIC DIRECTOR & CONDUCTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LANSING SYMPHONY TO PRESENT GILMORE YOUNG ARTIST IN “SONG OF NORWAY”

January 6, 2009 – Lansing, MI – On Saturday, January 24, 2009, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra (LSO) will present a MasterWorks concert featuring 2008 Gilmore Young Artist Adam Golka. The centerpiece of **MasterWorks 4: Song of Norway** will be Golka’s performance of Edvard Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A Minor. Grieg, a Norwegian composer also known for his incidental music to Ibsen’s play *Peer Gynt*, gives this MasterWorks concert its title. His Piano Concerto in A Minor is one of the most popular works in the piano repertoire, and draws inspiration from Norwegian folk music.

Music Director Timothy Muffitt will lead the LSO in the concerto, as well as Tchaikovsky’s short work *Capriccio Italien*, a collection of Italian-inspired melodies, and Bartók’s Concerto for Orchestra, a five-movement orchestral work that features material derived from Bartók’s studies of folk music.

Tickets range from \$10 - \$43, depending on seating, with student pricing available. Half-off student rush tickets are also available one-hour prior to the concert at the Wharton Center Box Office. **Tickets are available by calling (517) 487-5001 or online at www.LansingSymphony.org.**

MasterWorks 4: Song of Norway is sponsored by Fluke Hearing Instruments.

501 S. Capitol Ave., Suite 400, Lansing, MI 48933 • 517.487.5001 • www.LansingSymphony.org

MasterWorks 4: Song of Norway

Saturday, January 24, 2009
8:00 p.m.

Wharton Center’s Cobb Great Hall

Timothy Muffitt Conductor
Smart Office Systems Chair
Adam Golka Piano
2008 Gilmore Young Artist

Tickets: \$10-\$43

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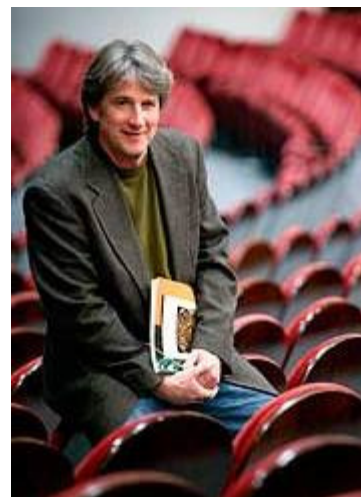
Winner of the 2008 Gilmore Young Artist Award and the 2003 China Shanghai International Piano Competition, 21-year-old pianist Adam Golka has nearly 200 performances under his belt. He has performed with the symphonies of Houston, Dallas, Atlanta, Milwaukee, San Diego, Fort Worth, Albany,



Mobile, Missouri, Lubbock, Key West, York (PA) and Acadiana in the US, and abroad with the Shanghai Philharmonic, Orchestre Poitou-Charentes, Orquesta Filarmonica de Jalisco (Guadalajara) and Sinfonia Varsovia. Golka's solo performances have taken him to the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Nakanoshima Hall in Osaka, Carnegie Hall (Weill Recital Hall) and Merkin Hall in New York, the Ravinia Rising Stars Series, the Gilmore Rising Stars Series, Kravis Center in West Palm

Beach, Santa Fe Pro Musica, the Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts in Chicago, Hobby Center in Houston, Barge Music in Brooklyn, and the Music@Menlo, Newport and Duszynski-Chopin music festivals. A first generation American, Golka owes his unique background to his parents, Polish musicians who fled Communist-controlled Poland in the 1980's. Born and raised in Houston, Texas, Golka moved to Fort Worth when he was 15 to study in the Artist Diploma Program at Texas Christian University. Adam is currently studying with Leon Fleisher at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore.

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 premiere 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 concerts by NPR affiliate WKAR-FM Radio. The Symphony's highly acclaimed education programs reach 15,000 students in kindergarten through 12th grades.

More information can be found at www.LansingSymphony.org.

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