

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Princeton Symphony Orchestra's *BRAVO!*

Presents

A Cello Master Class

Taught By

World Renowned Cellist Steven Isserlis

Saturday, November 8, 2008 at 3:00 pm

At the Princeton High School Performing Arts Center

Admission is Free, Reservations Requested

General Public, Music Students and Teachers Welcome

October 14, 2008... The Princeton Symphony Orchestra education program *BRAVO!* will present a cello master class led by world renowned cellist **Steven Isserlis, on Saturday, November 8, 2008, from 3:00-5:00 pm in the Princeton High School Performing Arts Center**. Four gifted cello students will perform advanced classical repertoire, while Ms. Isserlis coaches and provides interpretive guidance. A reception with refreshments for the artists and audience will immediately follow the class. **For master class reservations or more information, call the PSO at (609) 497-0020 or email kklaverkamp@princetonsymphony.org.**

Princeton High School sophomore and cellist for the Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra, **Philip Chan** will play the **3rd movement (Andante) of Rachmaninoff's Sonata in G minor, Opus 19**. **Princeton High School senior Aaron Deutsch** and cellist for the Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey, will perform the **1st movement of Haydn's Cello Concerto in D Major**. **Meredith Bates**, at one time a *BRAVO!* strings ensemble performer, and presently a student at Rice University, will play the **2nd movement of Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1**, and **Kenneth Han-wei Kantzer**, a recent graduate of Hopewell Valley Central High School and now a Princeton University student, will play the **1st movement of Schumann's Cello Concerto**.

About Steven Isserlis, Master Class Teacher

Steven Isserlis is a cellist whose passion for music transcends conventional divisions. Acclaimed worldwide for his musicality and technique alike, he is equally at home drawing the audience into his circle of friends for chamber music or in recital; delving into the historical archives to emerge with a forgotten gem; or on the concert platform with some of the world's most prestigious orchestras and conductors.

Isserlis is deeply interested in musical education and has given master classes all over the world. For the past ten years he has served as the Artistic Director of the master class and chamber music seminar IMS Prussia Cove. He has also done extensive writing and playing for children. His first book, a children's history of the lives of six great composers, *Why Beethoven Threw the Stew*, was published by Gaber & Faber in October 2001, and a sequel, entitled *Why Handel Wagged his Wig*, was published in 2006; both books have been met with high critical acclaim, and are translated into many languages. With his fresh, inimitable style and approachable personality, Steven Isserlis is popular with children and enjoys giving concerts especially for them. This is no more apparent than on his delightful website at www.stevenisserlis.com, which features a cello jigsaw puzzle, an acrostic word game, a music quiz and a new composer game.

British-born Isserlis takes a strong interest in authentic performance, playing with many of the foremost period instrument orchestras. Recent seasons have seen Isserlis perform all Beethoven's works for cello with fortepianist Robert Levin both in Boston and at London's Wigmore Hall. Last season he performed the Dvorák Cello Concerto with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment under Sir Simon Rattle.

Steven Isserlis will be the featured soloist for PSO's Classical Series concert on Sunday, November 9, 2008 performing the elegant Haydn Cello Concerto in D Major. Led by guest conductor Tito Muñoz, Assistant Conductor of the Cleveland Orchestra and Conducting Fellow of the League of American Orchestras, the PSO will perform a program steeped in themes of revolution and triumph, echoing the community's 225th anniversary celebration of 1783, the year when Princeton was the nation's capital.

About the *BRAVO!* Master Class Series

The *BRAVO!* Master Class Series seeks to pair emerging talents, most particularly high school musicians from the region, to learn, share and collaborate with a major performance artist. While this year's class is especially relevant to cellists, all music students and music teachers can benefit from Mr. Isserlis' insights and coaching. The general public and those who love classical music are all welcome to observe the class. This is the third year the PSO has offered master classes, which are once again being presented free of charge as part of *BRAVO!*, Princeton Symphony Orchestra's education program.

About *BRAVO!*

At the core of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra's offerings is its highly acclaimed education program *BRAVO!*, which brings the excitement, magic, and brilliance of live orchestral performances to thousands of local children. *BRAVO!* establishes PSO musicians in permanent teaching partnerships at more than thirty public, private and special-need elementary schools throughout central New Jersey. Offered free of charge, *BRAVO!* is a community resource for children, teachers, and parents. Last season, students enjoyed a classic tale -- Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* -- in a program called The Nature of Music. PSO continues to expand the reach of *BRAVO!* through master classes offered to talented high school instrumentalists, through regional youth orchestra conducting workshops, and through the new *ListenUp!* series for middle school students. *ListenUp!* invites students to create art in response to what they hear at PSO concerts.

About the Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1980 by Portia Sonnenfeld, today's Princeton Symphony Orchestra has been hailed by critics as New Jersey's "virtuoso orchestra." Over the course of its 28-year history, the orchestra's leadership has invested in artistic excellence as well as community and educational concerts and programs that contribute broadly to civic life and establish the PSO in partnerships with local educational, arts and social service organizations. Since its inception, the Princeton Symphony has been guided by an extraordinary Board of Trustees and is grateful for the vision of its early Trustees who

included Frank E. Taplin, Jr., Edward Cone, William F. Scheide, Reid White, Nathaniel Burt, and Judy Thomson. Caren Sturges, Board Chair, currently leads an active and deeply committed Board. For the 2008-2009 season, the PSO received a **Citation of Excellence** from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for its work commissioning and presenting a new composition—Paul Moravec’s Clarinet Concerto.

For more information, please visit our website at www.princetonsymphony.org, or contact the PSO office at 609-497-0020.