



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2008

Contact: Patricia Kristof Moy, Executive Director
Phone: (650) 762-1130 – Fax: (650) 343-8464
info@musicatkohl.org – www.musicatkohl.org

MUSIC AT KOHL MANSION ANNOUNCES 26th ANNUAL CHAMBER SERIES
SEVEN SUNDAY EVENINGS, NOVEMBER 2, 2008 – MAY 3, 2009
PLUS SPECIAL HOLIDAY BENEFIT CONCERT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

Burlingame, CA, August 4, 2008 – **Music at Kohl Mansion** has announced the lineup for its 26th annual series of chamber concerts in Burlingame’s historic Kohl Mansion, opening Sunday, November 2, 2008 at 7 pm. The season offers a distinguished roster of superb international ensembles including three string quartets, three piano trios, a piano quartet, a quintet of **San Francisco Symphony** players, as well as guest artists **Geraldine Walther** (violist of the famed Takács Quartet), and renowned Bay Area pianists **Robin Sutherland** and **Mack McCray**. Two of the season’s featured ensembles are new to Kohl Mansion, while six Sundays will see the return of beloved Kohl favorites.

All chamber concerts are held Sundays at 7 pm in the Great Hall at Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Drive, Burlingame, and include complimentary post-concert receptions with the performers. Four concerts will be preceded by free pre-concert talks with Music at Kohl’s resident musicologist and educator **Kai Christiansen**.

Chamber Series:

Sunday, November 2, 2008 – Paris Piano Trio – The season opens Sunday, November 2 with the long-awaited début of the **Paris Piano Trio**, deferred from an earlier season when trio members were forced to cancel their West coast visit due to unanticipated conflicts in their

native France. Known at home simply as “Les Musiciens”, these three celebrated virtuosi (**Régis Pasquier**, violin; **Roland Pidoux**, cello; **Jean-Claude Pennetier**, piano) have been connected by their love of chamber music since they were prize-winning students together at the Paris Conservatory. All are now professors at the Conservatory, and each enjoys a solo career of almost legendary proportions. As a trio they express simultaneously their musical individuality and their total musical rapport.

Sunday, November 23, 2008 – La Catrina String Quartet – Founded in Mexico in 2001 and the recipient of many awards and commendations, the La Catrina String Quartet has a triple mission: to work closely with living composers in order to promote the performance of new music, to promote Mexican and Latin-American art music and to perform the masterworks of the string quartet repertoire. Its members have played as soloists with a variety of orchestras in Mexico and the United States and given recitals in Japan, England, the United States, and Mexico. This year’s “discovery artist” at Kohl, this young ensemble is quickly gaining popularity throughout the US.

Sunday, January 11, 2009 – Osiris Piano Trio – Founding members **Ellen Corver** (piano) and **Larissa Groeneveld** (cello) return to Kohl Mansion with violinist **Vesko Eschkenazy**, concertmaster of Amsterdam’s Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, who joined the Osiris in 2005. Formed in 1988, the Osiris Trio has toured five continents, received numerous Dutch honors and awards, and released six critically acclaimed CD’s. Diversity typifies the group's repertoire, which ranges from Haydn's oeuvre for piano trio to works by contemporary composers.

Sunday, February 8, 2009 – Alexander String Quartet – At home at Kohl Mansion as well as in venues throughout the world, the Bay Area’s own quartet-in-residence offers a program of selections from its acclaimed Beethoven cycle, complemented by a modern American work by Californian Terry Riley. Formed in New York City in 1981, the Alexander String Quartet has performed in the major music capitals of four continents, securing its standing among the world’s premier ensembles. Widely admired for its interpretations of Beethoven, Mozart, and Shostakovich, the Alexander is a perennial favorite at Kohl Mansion where the ensemble has performed since the series’ earliest years.

Sunday, March 22, 2009 – Amelia Piano Trio – Connecticut-based violinist **Anthea Kreston**, cellist **Jason Duckles** and pianist **Rieko Aizawa** bring their magical chemistry and fresh virtuosity back to the Kohl stage after a sensational 2007 début. Formed in 1999, the trio came to the fore after participating in Isaac Stern's Chamber Music Workshop at Carnegie Hall in 2000. Mr. Stern became a mentor and presented the trio's Carnegie Hall debut at Weill Recital Hall. The Amelia has performed in many major halls throughout the US and has been heard frequently on National Public Radio. The trio members are professors at the Hartt School of Music and Connecticut College. In addition to developing award-winning outreach programs, the Amelia is in residence at the Green Lake Chamber Music Camp, teaching gifted high school and college-aged students the art of chamber music.

Sunday, April 19, 2009 – Rossetti Piano Quartet – Three members of the Rossetti String Quartet, well known at Kohl, plus pianist **Rina Dokshitsky** make up the Rossetti Piano Quartet. Violinist **Henry Gronnier**, violist **Thomas Diener** and cellist **Eric Gaenslen** frequently join forces with Israeli pianist Dokshitsky in concerts on tour and around their Los Angeles home base. They return to the Kohl series this season more than five years after last appearing together at the Mansion to great acclaim. Ms. Dokshitsky made her first solo appearance at age thirteen with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. At age twenty-one she won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions. A graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, she has collaborated extensively with renowned musicians in chamber music ensembles and at international music festivals.

Sunday, May 3, 2009 – St. Petersburg String Quartet – The famed Russian quartet, now based in the United States, returns to Kohl Mansion with guest artist and SF Conservatory of Music pianist **Mack McCray** to close the 26th season with a strong Slavic accent. One of the world's leading string quartets, the group was founded as the Leningrad Quartet. When the city resumed its historic name, the quartet changed its name to the St. Petersburg String Quartet. The ensemble has built a world-wide reputation including a Grammy nomination, "Best Record" honors in both Stereo Review and Gramophone Magazines, and the Chamber Music America/WQXR Prize for Best CD, as well as four years as Quartet-in-Residence at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

Special Holiday Concert:

Sunday, December 14, 2008 – Musicians from the San Francisco Symphony –

Guest artist **Geraldine Walther**, longtime principal violist of the San Francisco Symphony, now a member of the celebrated Takács Quartet, joins violinists **Sarn Oliver** and **Amy Hiraga**, violist **Nancy Ellis**, cellist **Peter Wyrick**, and pianist **Robin Sutherland** for a special Benefit Concert to celebrate the holidays and raise needed dollars for Music at Kohl's Artistic Development Fund. The Fund was launched in 2005 by pianist Garrick Ohlsson to support outstanding pianists performing at the Kohl Mansion. Absent from Kohl for several seasons, Ms. Walther and Mr. Sutherland make a welcome return for an evening of great works by Mozart, Brahms and early 20th century English composer and violist Frank Bridge. Musicologist **Kai Christiansen** will speak about the program in the Kohl Mansion Library at 6 pm. This is a special **non-subscription** event. Single tickets are deeply discounted for season subscribers.

Family Concerts for All Ages:

Three Family Concerts for audiences of all ages will be presented at Kohl Mansion on Friday evenings at 7 pm on February 20, March 6 and April 3, 2009. Lively, interactive and made-to-order for multi-generational audiences, these informal one-hour concerts are performed without intermission. The popular series ventures outside the chamber music medium to explore the music and artistic traditions of multiple world cultures. Complimentary post-concert receptions with the artists are included. Specific artists for the Family Concerts will be announced shortly.

Children's Concerts:

As part of a comprehensive education program that also includes more than sixty in-school chamber music performances annually, Music at Kohl Mansion presents weekday morning Children's Concerts. These 45-minute presentations at the Kohl Mansion are suitable for all ages and make ideal field trips for schools and community groups. Families, seniors and home-schooled students are also encouraged to attend. Four concerts will be held in all, on Friday,

February 27 and Wednesday, April 29, 2009, at 9:30 and 10:45 AM respectively. Performers for the Children's Concerts will be announced later this month.

About Music at Kohl Mansion:

Housed in a beautiful 1912 Tudor-style estate built in Burlingame by Frederick Kohl (son of a wealthy business tycoon) and his wife Bessie, Music at Kohl Mansion was founded in 1983 to offer quality chamber concerts on the San Francisco Peninsula. Excellent acoustics, ideal size and the intimate atmosphere of the Mansion's Great Hall make it a superb chamber music venue.

This year marks the 26th consecutive season of world-class chamber concerts in the historic Kohl Mansion. Located just 15 miles south of San Francisco, the Kohl Mansion has become a favorite destination of chamber music lovers from as far away as San Jose, Marin County and East Bay communities. A consistently outstanding quality of performers and repertoire has helped to build a loyal following for the series over the quarter-century since its founding. Concert-goers praise the "Music at Kohl experience", distinguished not only by superb artistry, but also by the exquisite venue, casual yet elegant ambiance, affordable ticket prices, easy accessibility, free parking, friendly patrons and, most notably, complimentary post-concert receptions after every performance. Music at Kohl Mansion has also earned a distinguished reputation among musicians as a favorite place to perform – as much for its splendid acoustics as for its warm and supportive audiences.

Music at Kohl Mansion is an independent non-profit, 501 (c) (3) charitable organization operating in collaboration with and on the campus of Mercy High School, Burlingame. Major support is provided by the William & Flora Hewlett, Y & H Soda, Charles Schwab, Mervyn L. Brenner and ACMP Foundations; DES Architects & Engineers, Franklin Templeton Investments, Wells Fargo Bank, the Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport Hotel, San Mateo Daily Journal and more than 200 generous individuals and local businesses.

Tickets and Information:

Chamber Series:

Subscription: (7 concerts) \$240 Adult; \$220 Senior; \$130 Student

Single Tickets: \$42 Adult; \$39 Senior; \$20 Student

Special Holiday/Anniversary Benefit Concert:

\$85 each (\$65 with Chamber Subscription)

Family Concerts):

Subscription: (3 concerts) \$50 Adult; \$25 Youth under 16 (20% discount for 3 or more)

Single Tickets: \$19 Adult; \$11 Youth under 16 (20% discount for 3 or more)

Children's Concerts:

\$6 per person (adult or child)

Purchase Tickets:

Music at Kohl Mansion, 2750 Adeline Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010

Phone: (650) 762-1130; Fax: (650) 343-8464

Web: www.musicatkohl.org/tickets E-mail info@musicatkohl.org

Pre-Concert Talks by musicologist **Kai Christiansen** at 6 pm on designated Sundays only (admission-free).

Seating is by **general admission**. It is recommended that patrons arrive early for best seating. Donors of \$750 + receive two priority reserved seats with subscription. Donors of \$500 + receive one priority reserved seat with subscription. Call (650) 762-1130 for details.

Parking is convenient and free. Music at Kohl Mansion is **wheelchair accessible**.

Complimentary Meet-the-Artists Receptions follow all Chamber and Family concerts.

Season Brochure: call (650) 762-1130 or email info@musicatkohl.org.

Further information: www.musicatkohl.org or by phone at (650) 762-1130.

Music at Kohl Mansion – Complete 2007-2008 Calendar and Repertoire

CHAMBER SERIES:

Sunday, November 2, 2008 – 7 pm

Paris Piano Trio (France)

Fauré: Piano Trio in d minor, Op. 120

Schumann: Piano Trio in g minor, Op. 110

Mendelssohn: Piano Trio in d minor, Op. 49

Sunday, November 23, 2008 – 7 pm

La Catrina String Quartet (Mexico)

Works by composers from Latin America:

Emmanuel Arias y Luna, Javier Alvarez, Astor Piazzolla, José Pablo Moncayo

Grieg: String Quartet No. 1 in g minor, Op. 27

Sunday, January 11, 2009 – 7 pm

Osiris Piano Trio (Netherlands)

Beethoven: Allegretto in B-flat Major, WoO 39

Bloch: Three Nocturnes

Frank Martin: Trio on Irish Folktunes

Beethoven: Piano Trio in B-flat Major, Op. 97, “Archduke”

Sunday, February 8, 2009 – 7 pm

Pre-Concert Talk at 6 pm

Alexander String Quartet

Beethoven: String Quartet in F Major, Op. 18, No. 1

Terry Riley: Mythic Birds Waltz

Beethoven: String Quartet in F Major, Op. 59, “Razumovsky”, No. 1

Sunday, March 22, 2009 – 7 pm

Amelia Piano Trio

Grieg: Andante con moto in c minor

Beethoven: Piano Trio in G Major, Op. 1, No. 2

Dvořák: Piano Trio No. 3 in f minor, Op. 65

Sunday, April 19, 2009 – 7 pm

Rossetti Piano Quartet

Mozart: Piano Quartet in E-flat Major, K. 493

Dvořák: Piano Quartet No. 1 in D Major, Op. 23

Fauré: Piano Quartet No. 1 in c minor, Op. 15

Sunday, May 3, 2009 – 7 pm

Pre-Concert Talk at 6 pm

St. Petersburg String Quartet (Russia) with Mack McCray, piano

Borodin: String Quartet No. 2 in D Major

Sulkhan Tsintsadze: Five Miniatures on Jewish Folk Themes
Dvořák: Piano Quintet No. 2 in A Major, Op. 81

HOLIDAY BENEFIT CONCERT:

Sunday, December 14, 2008 – 7 pm

Pre-Concert Talk at 6 pm

Musicians from the San Francisco Symphony with **Geraldine Walther**, viola
Amy Hiraga, Sarn Oliver, violins; **Nancy Ellis**, viola; **Peter Wyrick**, cello;
Robin Sutherland, piano

Mozart: String Quintet in C Major, K. 515

Frank Bridge: Two Pieces for Viola and Piano

Brahms: Piano Quintet in f minor, Op. 34

Special non-subscription benefit concert followed by Holiday Buffet with the musicians.

#####

Concerts begin at 7 pm. Pre-Concert Talks by musicologist Kai Christiansen at 6 pm on selected Sundays only. A complimentary Buffet Reception follows every concert.

PHOTOS: High resolution photos of season artists are available electronically. For further information, access to images or to view this press release as a pdf, please visit www.musicatkohl.org/press or contact publicity@musicatkohl.org .

All programs, artists and repertoire are subject to change.