

National Symphony Orchestra

Leonard Slatkin, Music Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 17, 2008

National Symphony Orchestra's Summer Series at Wolf Trap

Emil de Cou, NSO@Wolf Trap Festival Conductor

NSO Principal Pops Conductor Marvin Hamlisch

Kiri Te Kanawa

Not the Messiah (He's a Very Naughty Boy)

Starring Eric Idle

John Du Prez, Conductor

***Candide* in Concert with the Wolf Trap Opera Company**

Music of Tchaikovsky

Broadway Rocks

Beethoven's Best

Wolf Trap is for Lovers

Two Great Music and Film Events

Rodgers and Hammerstein at the Movies

Dial "H" for Hitchcock

The National Symphony Orchestra returns to America's National Park for the Performing Arts, with 10 performances at Wolf Trap. The performing arts center in Vienna, Virginia's rolling countryside has been a summer home for the NSO since Wolf Trap opened in 1971.

Emil de Cou, now in his fourth season as **NSO @ Wolf Trap Festival Conductor**, will conduct five of the performances, and will also host the other concerts.

“Love is in the air this summer with the NSO @ Wolf Trap. I invite you to join us for a balmy evening punctuated with a note or two of romance – from Bernstein's *Candide* to *Beethoven's Best*, from up-tempo *Broadway Rocks* to our romantic evening for couples called *Wolf Trap is for Lovers*. Let the music transport you – from Broadway with the rich and romantic songs of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein to Hollywood and the films of that master of suspense, Alfred Hitchcock. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa goes Italian with a luscious assortment of Puccini and Tony Award-winning Eric Idle rearranges history with his madcap "oratorio" inspired by the hit film *The Life of Brian*. Please join us for ten unique evenings filled with love and romance, laughter and suspense. The best place to be this summer is with the NSO @ Wolf Trap, where the arts, and the stars, come out to play.”

This season's first NSO @ Wolf Trap performance is a now-traditional collaboration: the National Symphony and the Wolf Trap Opera Company. This year's production is *Candide*, Bernstein's ode to optimism. Stephen Lord will conduct.

Other returning favorites are the all-Tchaikovsky program, NSO Principal Pops Conductor Marvin Hamlisch, and the ever-popular evenings of film and music.

The schedule for NSO@Wolf Trap follows. Programs and artists are subject to change.

NSO@Wolf Trap
Emil de Cou, NSO@Wolf Trap Festival Conductor
Summer 2008

Bernstein's Candide in Concert

July 6, 8:15 p.m.

STEPHEN LORD, conductor
MEMBERS OF THE WOLF TRAP OPERA COMPANY

Tcheers for Tchaikovsky!

July 10, 8:15 p.m.

ANDREW GRAMS, conductor
ILYA GRINGOLTS, violin

All-Tchaikovsky Program

Excerpts from the Suite from *Sleeping Beauty*
Violin Concerto
Excerpts from Act II of *The Nutcracker*
1812 Overture

An Evening with Kiri Te Kanawa

July 11, 8:15 p.m.

EMIL DE COU, conductor
KIRI TE KANAWA, soprano

Program to include music of Strauss and Puccini.

This Way to Broadway with Marvin Hamlisch

July 12, 8:15 p.m.

MARVIN HAMLISCH, conductor

The “One!” and only Marvin Hamlisch returns to Wolf Trap.

Program to include music of George Gershwin, Irving Berlin, and, of course, Marvin Hamlisch himself, with selections from his own *A Chorus Line*

Not the Messiah (He's a Very Naughty Boy)
Starring Eric Idle

July 24, 8:15 p.m.

ERIC IDLE, actor and baritone
JOHN DU PREZ, conductor

Move over, Handel...the team that unleashed *Spamalot* on the world has schemed up their newest adventure – a comic oratorio inspired by Handel’s famous *Messiah* and Monty Python’s hilarious *Life of Brian*. Join Python superstar Eric Idle, his *Spamalot* Grammy and Tony award-winning co-composer John Du Prez, and a cast of thousands — well, an audience of thousands, plus the NSO, chorus, soloists, bagpipers, and a sheep — as they tell the tragi-comic story of a man mistaken for the Messiah. This new work for 100 musicians is an attempt to create a new form – the comic oratorio – from the Pythons’ most admired movie. Idle, singing baritone-ish, reprises some of his best-loved roles from this legendary movie that reminds you to “Always Look On the Bright Side of Life”!

Wolf Trap is for Lovers

July 25, 8:15 p.m.

EMIL DE COU, conductor
LEENA CHOPRA, soprano*
MARJORIE OWENS, soprano*
DOMINIC ARMSTRONG, tenor*
BEAU GIBSON, tenor*

BIZET	Introduction and Orchestral Excerpts from <i>Carmen</i>
DEBUSSY	<i>Clair de Lune</i> (arr. Stokowski)
TCHAIKOVSKY	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , Fantasy-Overture
PROKOFIEV	Balcony Scene from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
BERNSTEIN	“Tonight” from <i>West Side Story</i>
RACHMANINOFF	Finale from Symphony No. 2
GADE	<i>Jalousie</i>
SAINT-SAËNS	Bacchanale from <i>Samson and Delilah</i>
PUCCINI	Selections from <i>La Bohème</i> “Che gelida manina” “Si, mi chiamano Mimì” Duet: “O, soave fanciulla”
GERSHWIN	<i>Love Walked In</i> (orchestral arrangement)
RAVEL	<i>Boléro</i>

Broadway ROCKS! – from Phantom to Dreamgirls

July 26, 8:15 p.m.

RANDALL CRAIG FLEISCHER, conductor
SUSAN EGAN, soprano
CAPATHIA JENKINS, mezzo-soprano
DOUG LABRECQUE, tenor
ROB EVAN, baritone
THE WASHINGTON CHORUS

“This is the Moment” from *Jekyll and Hyde*
Title Theme from *Total Eclipse*
“Circle of Life” from *The Lion King*
“Home” from *The Wiz*
“Seasons of Love” from *Rent*
“You Can’t Stop the Beat” from *Hairspray*
“Pinball Wizard” from *Tommy*
“Anthem” from *Chess*
Title Song from *Dreamgirls*
“Gethsemane” from *Jesus Christ Superstar*
Mamma Mia Medley
“Music of the Night” from *Phantom of the Opera*

Beethoven's Best

July 31, 8:15 p.m.

EMIL DE COU, conductor
JOYCE YANG, piano
REBEKAH CAMM, soprano*
MARJORIE OWENS, soprano*
ELIZABETH DESHONG, mezzo-soprano*
BEAU GIBSON, tenor*
DOMINIC ARMSTRONG, tenor*
JAMES J. KEE, baritone*
JOSHUA JEREMIAH, baritone*
RYAN MCKINNY, baritone*
LIAM MORAN, bass*
THE CHORAL ARTS SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON,
Norman Scribner, artistic director

All-Beethoven Program

Leonore Overture No. 3
Piano Concerto No.5 ("Emperor")
Highlights from *Fidelio*
 Overture
 Quartet: "Mir ist so wunderbar"
 Finale
Finale from Symphony No. 9

Rodgers & Hammerstein at the Movies

August 1, 8:30 p.m.

EMIL DE COU, conductor

Music of Rodgers & Hammerstein

Big-screen moments from *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, *Carousel*, and more, with giant screens in-house and on the lawn.

Dial "H" for Hitchcock

August 2, 8:30 p.m.

EMIL DE COU, conductor

With clips from the films on giant screens in-house and on the lawn, the evening ranges from the “Funeral March of a Marionette” to the scores for *Dial 'M' for Murder* and *North by Northwest*. The scores associated with the films and televised work of Alfred Hitchcock are justly renowned, and the clips plus the National Symphony guarantee a classic (and classical!) evening of suspense.

*Members of the Wolf Trap Opera Company

Information and Tickets:

All NSO@Wolf Trap concerts take place at the Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, in Vienna, Virginia. Tickets for all NSO@Wolf Trap concerts can be purchased by calling 1 (877) WOLFTRAP; or online at www.wolftrap.org. For more information, call Wolf Trap at (703) 255-1868.

PRESS CONTACTS:

For the National Symphony Orchestra:

Patricia O’Kelly (202) 416-8443, pjokelly@kennedy-center.org

Stephanie O’Neill (202) 416-8446, sroneill@kennedy-center.org

For Wolf Trap:

Chris Guerre (703) 255-4096, chrisg@wolftrap.org