

For Immediate Release
MEDIA RELEASE

March 31, 2011

Conductor Jeff Tyzik Presents A Century of Broadway Part 2

Vancouver, BC – Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik presents part two of his extraordinary tribute to Broadway with the VSO on **Friday and Saturday, April 8th and 9th, 8pm** at the **Orpheum Theatre**.

Including music from *Guys and Dolls*, *Music Man*, *Les Misérables*, *My Fair Lady*, *Phantom of the Opera*, and many more Broadway favourites, the evening features accomplished Broadway vocalists **Christiane Noll** and **Doug LaBrecque**.

Vocalist **Christiane Noll** is a versatile actress with a varied repertoire in Broadway, Opera, Operetta and Jazz. She has been a frequent guest soloist as part of Bravo Broadway with symphony orchestras around the world. She supplied the singing-voice of Anna in the Warner Brothers animated feature *The King And I*, and starred on Broadway in *Jekyll & Hyde* and *It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues*.

Doug LaBrecque is a gifted performer, thrilling audiences as The Phantom and Raoul in the Harold Prince production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. In addition, Mr. LaBrecque has starred on Broadway as Ravenal in the Hal Prince revival of *Showboat*, a role he also performed in Canada and Chicago. An active concert performer, Mr. LaBrecque has been a soloist with some of the world's finest symphony orchestras.

Recognized as one of America's most innovative pops conductors, **Jeff Tyzik** is known for his brilliant arrangements, original programming, and engaging rapport with audiences of all ages. Tyzik also currently serves as Principal Pops Conductor of the Oregon Symphony and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

CONCERT INFO

London Drugs VSO Pops

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 8 & 9, 8 PM, ORPHEUM THEATRE

A Century of Broadway Part 2

Jeff Tyzik conductor

Christiane Noll *vocalist*

Doug LaBrecque *vocalist*

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets: \$26.75 - \$84 (senior, student and subscriber discounts available)

Tickets available online at www.vancouversymphony.ca or by calling VSO customer service at 604.876.3434

April 8th Concert Sponsor: KPMG

April 9th Concert Sponsor: BLG

Series Sponsor: London Drugs

Radio Sponsor: QM/FM

BIOGRAPHIES

Jeff Tyzik *conductor*

Jeff Tyzik has earned a reputation as one of America's most innovative pops conductors. Described by the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* as "among the best pops conductors in America," Tyzik is recognized for his brilliant arrangements, original programming, and engaging rapport with audiences of all ages. During the 2008/09 season, Tyzik celebrates his 15th season as Principal Pops Conductor of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Also this season, he begins a new role as Principal Pops Conductor of the Oregon Symphony and continues to serve as Principal Pops Conductor of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.

In his fifteen years with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra (RPO), where his contract was recently extended to 2011, Tyzik has developed an incredible relationship with devoted Rochester audiences who appreciate his creative pops programming. Over the course of his tenure, he has written over 160 works for the orchestra. A consummate musician, Tyzik is so appreciated in Rochester that the RPO has taken the unusual step of inviting their principal pops conductor to appear as a guest conductor in the orchestra's classical subscription series calendar on a regular basis. On his classical series concerts, Tyzik has performed works by some of the greatest American composers to critical acclaim. He also conducted the premiere of his own Trombone Concerto, which was funded by a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts and subsequently performed at Carnegie Hall. In May 2007, the Harmonia Mundi label released his recording of works by Gershwin with pianist Jon Nakamatsu and the RPO which by the summer had reached No. 3 on the Billboard classical chart. Alex Ross, music critic for *The New Yorker*, called it "one of the snappiest Gershwin discs in years".

"His concert is the kind of thing that's likely to give classical music a good name, perhaps even make it seem, dare I say, relevant," writes John Pitcher of the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* (February 3, 2006). "What's great about Tyzik is his way of making any concert (classical or pops) seem contemporary and approachable without sugarcoating anything, without dumbing down the musical experience."

Highly sought after as a guest conductor, Tyzik has recently appeared with orchestras such as the Boston Pops, the Cincinnati Pops, the New York Pops, the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl. In addition to his commitments in Rochester, Oregon and Vancouver, during the 2008/09 season he continues his annual appearance with the Toronto Symphony and performs with orchestras across North America including Dallas, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and New Jersey, as well as The Florida Orchestra and the National Arts Centre

Orchestra in Ottawa, among others. This summer he returns to the Saratoga Performing Arts Center to conduct the Philadelphia Orchestra, and to the Chautauqua Institute, among other concert appearances.

A native of Hyde Park, New York, Tyzik began his life in music at nine years of age, when he first picked up a cornet. He studied both classical and jazz throughout high school, and went on to earn both his bachelor's and master's degrees from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied composition/arranging with Radio City Music Hall's Ray Wright and jazz studies with the great band leader Chuck Mangione, both of whom profoundly impacted him as a musician.

Tyzik spent the next few years working with Mangione, soaking in every part of the music business. He became a skilled record producer, while continuing to be active as a performer and arranger (which included composing and arranging music for the Maynard Ferguson and Woody Herman Orchestras). These experiences led Tyzik to one of the great early opportunities of his career—the chance to co-compose a trumpet concerto with friend and virtuoso trumpeter Allen Vizzutti to be recorded by pops legend Doc Severinsen.

After that first recording project, Tyzik worked closely with Severinsen on many projects including orchestrating many of the great band leader's symphony orchestra programs, and producing a GRAMMY Award-winning album, *The Tonight Show Band with Doc Severinsen, Vol. 1*. To this day, he credits Severinsen as his greatest musical and professional inspiration.

As an accomplished composer and arranger, Tyzik has had his compositions recorded by ensembles including the London Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Summit Brass, and his arrangements have been recorded by groups including Erich Kunzel and the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, the RPO, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and Doc Severinsen with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. He has also produced and composed theme music for many of the major television networks, including ABC, NBC, HBO, and Cinemax, and released six of his own albums on Capitol, Polygram and Amherst Records.

Committed to performing music of all genres, Tyzik has collaborated with such diverse artists as Tony Bennett, Art Garfunkel, Dawn Upshaw, Marilyn Horne, Arturo Sandoval, The Chieftains, Mark O'Connor, Doc Severinsen, John Pizzarelli, Billy Taylor and Lou Rawls, and has created original programs that include the greatest music from jazz and classical to Motown and swing.

Actively sharing his passion for music with others, Tyzik has been recognized for his community service and educational work by Rotary International, the Monroe County Music Educators, and the Rochester Philharmonic League. He is also the recipient of the Arts & Cultural Council of Greater Rochester's 2002 Performing Artist award.

Tyzik currently serves on the Board of Managers of the Eastman School of Music, and as a board member of the Hochstein School of Music and Dance. He lives in Rochester, New York, with his wife Jill. For more information about Tyzik, please visit www.jefftyzik.com.

Christiane Noll *vocalist*

This New York born, New Jersey raised actress made her Broadway debut starring in Jekyll & Hyde, creating the role of Emma. Ms. Noll received an Ovation Award for her comedic turn as Hope Cladwell in the National Tour of Urinetown and wowed audiences again as Vanna Vane in the new musical The Mambo Kings and soared as Jane Smart in the American premiere of The Witches of Eastwick.

Ms. Noll has been living up to her reputation as being “one of the most versatile actresses in the American Musical Theatre” with a varied repertoire in Broadway, Opera, Operetta and Jazz. She has been a frequent guest soloist as part of Bravo Broadway with symphony orchestras around the world, including the National Symphony and Marvin Hamlisch, the Cincinnati Pops and Eric Kunzel, the Jerusalem Symphony and Don Pippin, the Philadelphia Pops and Peter Nero, as well as appearances with The Cleveland Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony, The San Francisco Symphony, the Sinfonica Brasileira in Rio, and the Hong Kong Philharmonic. She has released four solo CD’s, Christiane Noll – A Broadway Love Story and The Ira Gershwin Album, both on Fynsworth Alley, Live at the Westbank Café on 2Die4 Records, and My Personal Property on Jay Records. She supplied the singing-voice of Anna in the Warner Brothers animated feature The King and I, and starred on Broadway in It Ain’t Nothin’ But the Blues.

Ms. Noll was critically acclaimed for her operetta performances as Marianne in City Center Encores! The New Moon, Kathie in The Student Prince and Mabel in The Pirates of Penzance. Other favorite roles include Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, The Baker’s Wife in Into the Woods, Mabel in Mack & Mabel, working with Jerry Herman and winning a Connecticut Critics Circle Award, Lizzie in Lizzie Borden, Genevieve in The Baker’s Wife, and Carrie in Carousel. She starred in the premieres of Frankenstein (37 Arts), Kept (Krieger/Russell), Take Flight (Maltby/Shire), Call the Children Home (Primary Stages), and Little by Little (York Theater).

She has been a member of the national tours of Grease! as Sandy, Miss Saigon as Ellen, and City of Angels as Mallory/Avril as well as a tour of Australia and Thailand as Nellie in South Pacific. Ms. Noll made her opera debut with Plácido Domingo and the Washington National Opera in The Merry Widow as Valencienne at The Kennedy Center, her Hollywood Bowl debut with Julie Andrews - The Gift of Music, and her Carnegie Hall debut as one of the 3 Broadway Divas with The New York Pops and Skitch Henderson in his last pops performance.

Christiane has performed her solo show in cabaret at The Plush Room, The Duplex, The Nevermore, Arci’s Place, The China Club, Peaches, B.Smith’s and The West Bank Café as well as being a featured member of the Broadway Inspirational Voices/Gospel Choir.

Doug LaBrecque *vocalist*

Doug LaBrecque thrilled theater audiences as The Phantom and Raoul in the Harold Prince production of *The Phantom of the Opera*. In addition, Mr. LaBrecque has starred on Broadway as Ravenal in the Hal Prince revival of *Showboat*, a role he also performed in Canada and Chicago. He was featured in Oscar Hammerstein’s 100th Birthday Celebration on Broadway at The Gershwin Theatre, and toured nationally with *Les Misérables*. Regionally, Mr. LaBrecque has performed leading roles in *Candide*, *A Chorus Line*, *Man of La Mancha* among others. A graduate of the University of Michigan, he was featured in the world premiere of *A Wonderful Life*, written by Sheldon Harnick and Joe Raposo, and starred in the premiere revival of Kurt Weill and Alan Jay Lerner’s *Love Life*.

An active concert performer, Mr. LaBrecque has been a soloist with some of the world's finest symphony orchestras, including The San Francisco Symphony, The Israel Philharmonic (Tel Aviv), The Chicago Symphony, The Cleveland Orchestra, The Atlanta Symphony, The National Symphony, among many others. In the last few years, Mr. LaBrecque's U.S appearances have included Seattle Symphony, Detroit Symphony, , Houston Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Utah Symphony, and with Marvin Hamlisch both at the Ravinia Festival with The Chicago Symphony, and at Carnegie Hall with The New York Pops.

International engagements have included The Korean National Symphony in Seoul, Korea, The Shanghai Radio Orchestra in China, The Vancouver and Calgary Symphonies in Canada, The Brazilian Symphony Orchestra in Rio De Janeiro, The Jerusalem Symphony, and numerous return engagements with the Israel Philharmonic. Mr. LaBrecque appeared in Alba, Italy, as the guest soloist in an all Bernstein concert. He also has appeared with The Israeli Opera Orchestra, The Hong Kong Philharmonic, and with the Prague Music Festival.

He has also appeared with the Indianapolis Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, San Diego Symphony, and was recently a soloist with 3 major American Pops orchestras: Peter Nero and The Philly Pops, The Cincinnati Pops and The Boston Pops.

Recently Mr. LaBrecque hosted the Yuletide Celebration with the Portland and Seattle Symphonies. Other special engagements have included singing with Carole Bayer-Sager at Feinstein's in Manhattan and the Cinegrill in Los Angeles, performing alongside Broadway legend Jerry Herman with the Naples Philharmonic, and appearing onstage with Senators Ted Kennedy and Orrin Hatch (singing together!) at Hickory Hill, the legendary home of Ethel Kennedy.

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