



KITCHENER-WATERLOO
SYMPHONY

EDWIN OUTWATER • MUSIC DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sept 08, 2008

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OPENING NIGHT AT THE KITCHENER-WATERLOO SYMPHONY!!

KITCHENER, Ontario (September 08, 2008) - the **Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony** (KWS), led by Music Director **Edwin Outwater**, opens the 2008-2009 season with the first concert of the Signature Series, **Pictures at an Exhibition**. The KWS performs **Corigliano's *Promenade Overture***, **Dvorak's *Cello Concerto***, featuring world class cellist, **Alban Gerhardt** and **Mussorgsky's (arr. Ravel) *Pictures at an Exhibition***. The performance takes place at Centre In The Square (CITS) on Friday, September 12, 2008 at 8pm and Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 8pm, and then again at the River Run Centre (RRC) in Guelph on Sunday, September 14 at 2pm.

KWS proudly welcomes Alban Gerhardt (b. 1969), a world renowned cellist, famous for bringing new life to unknown works and adding an innovative twist to well known pieces.

"Mr. Gerhardt... is undoubtedly one of the most brilliant cellists of his generation."

-Cincinnati Enquirer (Cincinnati Symphony)

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American composer **John Corigliano** (b. 1938) wrote *Promenade Overture* after being inspired by Haydn's delightful *Farewell Symphony*. During the last movement of this Haydn work the players gradually exit the stage, leaving two violins to finish the symphony alone. It became a compositional challenge for Corigliano to reverse this procedure and have the orchestra enter the stage while playing.

Bohemia born composer **Antonín Dvořák** (1839-1881) wrote his final solo concerto; Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104 in 1895 and it has become the most widely performed and recorded than any other cello concerto.

Russian composer **Modest Mussorgsky** (1839-1881) (**arr. Ravel**) wrote *Pictures at an Exhibition*, the most popular of his piano compositions, in memory of a dear friend and artist/architect (Victor Hartman). Upon viewing Hartman's work in a memorial exhibit, Mussorgsky becomes inspired to create a musical reaction to 10 of his paintings. The

“promenade” theme returns as the audience is taken on a musical “stroll” through an art museum.

After a very successful first season, Music Director **Edwin Outwater** says he looks forward to “A dynamic new season of Signature concerts featuring grand works, remarkable talent, and the spectacular Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. This music is powerful!”

The Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony enhances the quality of life in the communities which it engages and is one of the most valued cultural gems for our region. Consisting of 52 full time musicians, a nationally recognized Youth Orchestra, and performing over 60 concerts per season, Canada’s eighth largest Symphony plays a vital role to continue the tradition of presenting great music to audiences across the region and beyond. For more information visit us online at www.kwsymphony.on.ca.

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At a Glance...

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION (Signature 1)

Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony

Edwin Outwater, conductor

Alban Gerhardt, cellist

Corigliano: *Promenade Overture*

Dvorák: *Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104*

Mussorgsky arr. Ravel: *Pictures at an Exhibition*

Friday, September 12, 2008 – 8pm at CITS, Kitchener

Saturday, September 13, 2008 – 8pm at CITS, Kitchener

Sunday, September 14, 2008 – 2pm at RRC, Guelph

Tickets:

Centre In The Square

\$30-75 for adults and \$20 for children and students (with valid ID)

CITS Box Office: 519-578-1570 or toll free 1-800-265-8977

River Run Centre

\$38-50 for adults and \$20 for children and students (with valid ID)

RRC Box Office: 519-763-3000 or toll free 1-877-520-2408

For tickets and information go to: www.kwsymphony.on.ca