

MEDIA RELEASE

Miami Symphony Orchestra
10300 S.W. 72nd Street, Suite 499
Miami, FL 33173
Phone: (305) 275-5666
Web site: www.miamisymphony.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Clarice MacGarvey
Ph: (305) 861-3157
Cell: (786) 338-3358
clarice@ksrteam.com

Internationally Renowned Pianist Yakov Kasman And Acclaimed Amernet String Quartet Join the Miami Symphony Orchestra as Guest Soloists For Mercantil Commercebank Romantic Series--March 13 At Knight Concert Hall, Adrienne Arsht Center For Performing Arts

Marturet continues Evenings of Great Music for Miami audiences, presenting two stunning guest artists and composers from one of music's most innovative, imaginative eras, The Romantic Era

MIAMI- **The Miami Symphony Orchestra**, Miami's flagship professional orchestra under the baton of **Maestro Eduardo Marturet**, returns to **Knight Concert Hall**, Adrienne Arsht for the Performing Arts, March 13, 2008, for the **Mercantil Commercebank Romantic Series**, a splendid program of masterworks by icons of music's romantic era, Elgar, Grieg and Tchaikovsky, generously underwritten by Commercebank.

Appearing with the Miami Symphony Orchestra as guest artists for this evening of great romantic music are internationally renowned Russian pianist Yakov Kasman, a Van Cliburn Laureate; and the Amernet String Quartet, praised as one of the world's most exceptional string quartets, and now Ensemble-in-Residence at Florida International University. Yakov, winner of many international medals and competitions, has appeared as soloist in more than 70 concerts worldwide with appearances in France, Asia, Russia and the United States.

The Romantic Series program opens with the exhilarating *Introduction & Allegro for Solo Quartet & Stings* by Sir Edward Elgar. Written for the London Symphony Orchestra in 1904/05 this dramatic symphonic poem is recognized as Elgar's masterpiece. Scored to display the virtuosity of orchestral strings and the tremendous virtuoso-technicalities within the violin sections, the piece will showcase the virtuosity of the Amernet String Quartet and their "extraordinary beauty of sound".

Grieg's Piano Concerto follows with Yakov Kasman at the keyboard as guest soloist, creating fireworks with this striking piece that contains one of the most dramatic opening sequences of any piano concerto in the Romantic music canon. According to recent reviews, Kasman's style "glimmers with the best of Russian schooling." Lawrence Johnson praised Kasman in *Fanfare* magazine (1998) remarking on the pianist's "jaw-dropping virtuosity, interpretive insight, and sheer stylistic panache."

The evening closes with Tchaikovsky's epic expression of musical energy, the intensely dramatic Symphony No. 5. A true Romantic, Tchaikovsky allowed his mood, his artistic inner voice, to guide his music, creating one of the most beloved symphonies of his, or any era.

"The power and brilliance of these romantic composers coupled with the artistry of our guest soloists Yakov Kasman and the Amernet Sting Quartet converge for a memorable evening of great music for our audiences," says Maestro Marturet, Music Director and Conductor for the Miami Symphony Orchestra. "The opportunity to hear both Kasman and this remarkable young string quartet in person, in the acoustically perfect setting of Knight Concert Hall, is a musical experience that's not to be missed."

Single tickets for the Mercantil Commercebank Romantic Series begin at \$20 for Section D. Section C seats are \$30 each; Section B \$50 and Section A, \$60. A limited number of Golden Seats are available at \$150 each. For detailed ticket information, contact the Miami Symphony Orchestra, (305) 275-5666 or the Arsht Center Box Office (305)949-6722 or log onto to <http://www.miamisymphony.org>.

* * * *

End Notes

Available: JPEGS, Interviews with Eduardo Marturet, Background; Complimentary Media tickets for qualified journalists.

ABOUT THE MSO

The Miami Symphony Orchestra, Eduardo Marturet Conductor and Music Director, was founded in 1988 by Maestro Manuel Ochoa. MSO is Dade County's flagship orchestra, numbering more than 80 musicians representing 22 nationalities, drawn from the finest orchestras around the world and throughout the United States. Now in its 19th season, and hailed as "a magnificent symphonic orchestra which captures the city's spirit," the MSO has performed at Art Basel Miami Beach and on the stage of Carnegie Hall in New York City. Beginning with the 2005-06 season, the MSO doubled its budget and adopted a five-year plan allowing an increase in the number of subscription concerts it performs to 16 a year, expand its public school program, and provide free concerts at various venues in Dade County, including the inner city of Miami. For more information about the Miami Symphony Orchestra, visit the Web site at www.miamisymphony.org, or call (305) 275-5666.

###

MEDIA RELEASE

Miami Symphony Orchestra
10300 S.W. 72nd Street, Suite 499
Miami, FL 33173
Phone: (305) 275-5666
Web site: www.miamisymphony.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Clarice MacGarvey

Ph: (305) 861-3157

Cell: (786) 338-3358

clarice@ksrteam.com