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**CHARLOTTESVILLE SYMPHONY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
EXPLORES "PICTURES" IN FINAL 2015-16 CONCERTS**

CHARLOTTESVILLE – The Charlottesville Symphony at the University of Virginia concludes its 2015-16 Masterworks season on Saturday, April 30, 8:00pm, at Old Cabell Hall on UVA Grounds, and Sunday, May 1, 3:30pm, at Charlottesville High School's Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center.

Music Director Kate Tamarkin conducts a program that explores connections between music and great paintings. Trittico Botticelliano (known as Three Botticelli Pictures) by Ottorino Respighi pays homage to three works by Sandro Botticelli that hang in the famed Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy. Modest Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" is a self-portrait of the composer as he wanders through an exhibition of paintings by a close friend, Victor Hartmann, who had died recently at a young age.

Between them falls Variations on a Rococo Theme for cello and orchestra by Tchaikovsky. The guest soloist is Canadian cellist Denise Djokic. She burst on to the international music scene when millions of television viewers watched her performance of Bach at the 2002 Grammy Awards following the lauded release of her self-titled recording on SONY Classical.

Since then, she has accrued numerous distinctions: named one of the top "25 Canadians Who Are Changing Our World" by McClean's Magazine; one of "Canada's Most Powerful Women" by Elle Magazine; and had her life and career chronicled by a special TV documentary entitled "Seven Days, Seven Nights."

Both concerts are sponsored by the Board of Directors of the Charlottesville Symphony Society in honor of Kate Tamarkin's 10th anniversary as Music Director with additional support from the Office of the Provost and the Vice Provost for the Arts at the University of Virginia.

The orchestra's 2015-16 season has been made possible in part by major gifts from Frances Massey Dulaney and the Joseph and Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation.

For those who want to "Know the Score," a pre-concert lecture will be presented 45 minutes prior to the Saturday night concert at nearby Minor Hall. Free of charge, this popular lecture by UVA Associate Professor of Music Richard Will, offers a lively and informative behind-the-scenes look at the program.

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In-depth program notes are posted on the orchestra's website, www.cvillesymphony.org two weeks prior to each masterworks concert.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Free parking is available in the UVA Central Grounds Parking Garage, located on Emmet Street, on Saturday nights and at Charlottesville High School on Sunday afternoons. The Charlottesville Free Trolley stops at McCormick Road near the UVA Amphitheater, in close proximity to Old Cabell Hall. Both venues are wheelchair accessible.

Single tickets for all concerts are priced at \$10-\$45 for adults, and \$10 for students. UVA students may request one complimentary ticket in advance. Single tickets may be purchased at The University of Virginia Arts Box Office, (434) 924-3376, 12:00-5:00pm. Monday through Friday in the lobby of the Drama Building at 109 Culbreth Road, or online at www.artsboxoffice.virginia.edu.

All University of Virginia employees (faculty and staff of all UVA departments and professional schools) are entitled to a 20% discount on tickets to individual performances. This offer does not apply to subscriptions or previously purchased tickets.

Holders of Public Broadcasting (WVPT Virginia Public Television and WMRA and WEMC Public Radio) MemberCards are eligible for two-for-one admission on either concert date.

Artists, programs and venues are subject to change.

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