

# HONENS MEDIA RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **HONENS INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION INTRODUCES PAVEL KOLESNIKOV ON NEW LIVE RECORDING**

CALGARY, AB, March 5, 2013—A recording of Russian pianist Pavel Kolesnikov's winning performances from the 2012 Honens International Piano Competition was released today on the Honens label. The two-disc album *Pavel Kolesnikov: Live at Honens 2012* includes solo performances of works by Beethoven, Chopin and Schumann; Mendelssohn's second sonata for cello and piano with cellist Johannes Moser; and Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and music director Roberto Minczuk. London's *Telegraph* described Kolesnikov's performances as having "brilliance, but also a caressing, almost sly intimacy."

#### DISC ONE

##### BEETHOVEN

Sonata No. 14 in C-sharp minor Op. 27 No. 2 'Moonlight'

##### SCHUMANN

Kinderszenen Op. 15

##### CHOPIN

Sonata No. 3 in B minor Op. 58

#### DISC TWO

##### TCHAIKOVSKY

Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor Op. 23

Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra

Roberto Minczuk music director

##### MENDELSSOHN

Sonata for cello and piano No. 2 in D major Op. 58

Johannes Moser cello

*Pavel Kolesnikov: Live at Honens 2012*, distributed by Naxos of America Inc. and Naxos of Canada Ltd, was recorded live at the EPCOR CENTRE's Jack Singer Concert Hall during the 2012 Honens International Piano Competition. It was produced with assistance from the Music & Sound Program at The Banff Centre and with the financial support of RBC Foundation.

- 30 -

#### **Background Information Attached**

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# **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

## H O N E N S

Honens is a leader in discovering and launching the careers of emerging concert pianists. It searches for 'Complete Artists'—21<sup>st</sup> century pianists for 21<sup>st</sup> century audiences—and provides a career springboard to its Laureates. The Honens International Piano Competition, based in Calgary, Canada, takes place every three years.

### **Pavel Kolesnikov: Live at Honens 2012**

Honens © © 201203CD (2CD 62.38' & 62.37' • DDD)

Ten pianists, aged 20 to 30, were invited to Calgary, Canada in October 2012 to take part in the Semifinals / Recital Round of the Seventh Honens International Piano Competition. Each performed a 60-minute solo recital and a collaborative recital of 70 minutes' duration. Five advanced to the Finals / Concerto Round for performances with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and Maestro Roberto Minczuk. Pavel Kolesnikov was ultimately chosen as the Honens Prize Laureate, and received a \$100,000 cash award and an artistic and career development program valued at a half million dollars. *Pavel Kolesnikov: Live at Honens 2012* features highlights of his winning performances. Honens label recordings are distributed by Naxos of America Inc. and Naxos of Canada Ltd.

## P A V E L K O L E S N I K O V

Russian pianist Pavel Kolesnikov equates music with fine perfumes, believing both arts simultaneously speak to the heart and subconscious. *The Telegraph* (London) fittingly described his playing as having "brilliance, but also a caressing, almost sly intimacy" after hearing his performances during the Recital and Concerto Rounds of Canada's Honens International Piano Competition in 2012. Kolesnikov was named Honens Prize Laureate. He has studied at Moscow State Conservatory with Sergey Dorensky, at London's Royal College of Music with Norma Fisher and at Brussels' Queen Elisabeth Music Chapel with Maria João Pires. His recital debut took place in the Small Hall of the Moscow Conservatory in 2008 and he has since performed at festivals and with orchestras across Europe, including concerts at the Casalmaggiore International Music Festival in Italy and the Verbier Festival Academy in Switzerland. Upcoming engagements include debuts at Berlin's Konzerthaus, London's Wigmore Hall and New York's Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, solo and collaborative performances at Spoleto Festival USA, at the Allerheiligenhofkirche in Munich and the Ottawa International Chamber Music Festival, and performances with l'Orchestre National de Belgique and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to music, Kolesnikov is passionate about literature; he considers Tolstoy the literary incarnation of Beethoven.

## C A L G A R Y P H I L H A R M O N I C O R C H E S T R A

Led by internationally renowned Music Director Roberto Minczuk, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra (CPO) has been a cornerstone of Calgary's multi-faceted arts community since 1955 and is one of North America's finest and most versatile live music ensembles. It offers on average 80 concerts per season and performs repertory that is extensive and broad in scope, which consistently attracts acclaimed guest artists and conductors.

## R O B E R T O M I N C Z U K

Roberto Minczuk is a Grammy® and Emmy® award-winning conductor from Brazil. He is currently in his seventh season as Music Director of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra and Principal Conductor of the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra in Rio de

Janeiro. Minczuk is a conductor and musician of international prominence, with many distinguished honours including a 2004 Latin Grammy® for best classical album, *Symphonic Jobim* and a 2004 Emmy® for the program *New York City Ballet - Lincoln Center Celebrates Balanchine 100*. He is firmly established as one of his generation's brightest talents. He debuted in the United States conducting the New York Philharmonic in 1998 and in 2002 he was invited to assume the post of Associate Conductor, a post held by Leonard Bernstein. He has conducted 93 orchestras throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and the Pacific, including those of New York, Los Angeles, Montreal, Toronto, London, Scotland, Barcelona, France, Israel and Tokyo, among numerous others. Minczuk's various recordings include three with the CPO: *Rhapsody in Blue: The Best of George Gershwin*, and Beethoven Symphonies 1 & 3 and 5 & 8. His recording of *Bachianas Brasileiras* with the São Paulo State Symphony Orchestra is considered by *Gramophone* magazine as one of the best recordings of this work in the world, with Gramophone stating that "Minczuk's is the only real choice for the complete *Bachianas*—his set ... is at least a match for its rivals where not demonstrably better, and with finer sound."

#### J O H A N N E S M O S E R

Cellist Johannes Moser came to international attention when he won Moscow's Tchaikovsky International Music Competition in 2002. In short order, his career has reached great heights. Moser has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the Chicago, London and Tokyo Symphonies, the Israel, New York, Los Angeles and Munich Philharmonics, and the Bayerische Rundfunk, Cleveland, Concertgebouw and Tonhalle Zurich Orchestras. He now works with leading conductors such as Riccardo Muti, Lorin Maazel, Valery Gergiev, Zubin Mehta, Christian Thielemann, Pierre Boulez and Paavo Jarvi. A dedicated chamber musician, Moser has regularly collaborated with Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Jonathan Biss, James Ehnes, Leonidas Kavakos, Midori and Menahem Pressler. He is especially committed to reaching young and new audiences, from kindergarten to college and beyond. His touring outreach project with toy pianist Phyllis Chen took 'Sounding Off: A Fresh Look at Classical Music' to campuses and alternative venues across the United States, culminating in performances at Le Poisson Rouge, New York's leading venue for eclectic gigs. Moser was born into a musical family in 1979 as a dual citizen of Germany and Canada. His mother is soprano and past Honens Competition juror, Edith Wiens.