

CONTACT: Sara Obuchowski
707-546-7097 ext.218
sara@santarosasympphony.com

NEWS RELEASE

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Triple Grammy Winner Sharon Isbin performs Rodrigo Guitar Concerto with Santa Rosa Symphony January 22-24

Tangos by Piazzolla and Ortiz, Chávez Symphony turn up the heat

(SANTA ROSA, CA) –The sun shines brightly in January as the Santa Rosa Symphony’s program reflects south-of-the-border passion under the baton of Mexican-born maestro Enrique Arturo Diemecke. He and the SRS orchestra present a pinnacle of the guitar repertoire, *Concerto de Aranjuez* by Spanish composer Joaquin Rodrigo, which features “classical guitar’s reigning diva” Sharon Isbin. Isbin won Grammy awards in 2001, 2002 and 2010, has been named Best Classical Guitarist by *Guitar Player* magazine. Also on the musical menu are Astor Piazzolla’s seductive *Tangazo*, *Variations on Buenos Aires* and the Fourth Symphony of conductor/composer Carlos Chavez, considered the founder of modern Mexican music.

Grammy Winning Guitarist

Acclaimed for her extraordinary lyricism, technique and versatility, Sharon Isbin’s most recent Grammy honor is for *Journey to the New World* with Joan Baez and Mark O’Connor. She is the first guitarist in 43 years to receive a second classical Grammy. Other awards include first place in the Madrid, Toronto and Munich competitions, a Latin Grammy nomination and a 2006 GLAAD award nomination for “Outstanding Music Artist” for her Classical disc with the New York Philharmonic of *Concierto de Aranjuez*, the piece she is performing with the Santa Rosa Symphony. She also performed at the White House in 2009. See video [here](#).

Get Cued in with Pre-Concert Talks and Online Notes

To hear Maestro Diemecke's musings on, and insights about, the January program, come to "Conversations with the Conductor," a pre-concert talk with Q & A beginning one hour before each performance (excluding the Saturday Discovery Open Rehearsal). This is an open-seating event that is free to ticket holders. [Program Notes](#) for this concert are available online.

Concert Sponsors

Santa Rosa Symphony's January concert set is underwritten by Judith and Joseph Gappa. Guest Artist Sharon Isbin is underwritten by Exchange Bank.

Concert Times

Concert times are Saturday, January 22 and Monday, January 24 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, January 23 at 3 p.m. at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road, in Santa Rosa. The popular, family-friendly Discovery Series of open rehearsals continues at 2 p.m. on January 22. The Discovery concerts, economically priced at \$10 for adults and \$6 for youth, offer a sneak peek into the final rehearsal process before each concert set.

Tickets

For tickets, call (707) 546-8742, purchase online at santarosasympphony.com, or come in person to the Symphony Patron Services Office at 50 Santa Rosa Avenue (north door entrance, off the elevator lobby), from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Wednesdays 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tickets may also be purchased at the door 1½ hours before each performance (based on availability.) Single tickets are \$28-\$55, with student and senior discounts available. \$10 Student Rush tickets (student I.D. required) can be purchased a half hour prior to curtain.

—Photos of Sharon Isbin and Enrique Arturo Diemecke available upon request—

Brief Bios of the artists follow the calendar listing

CALENDAR LISTING

Heading: Classical

What: Symphony Concert

Enrique Arturo Diemecke, conductor

Sharon Isbin, guitar

Date and Time:

Sat., January 22, 2011 at 8 p.m.

(Discovery Rehearsal, Sat., January 22 at 2 p.m.)

Sun., January 23, 2011 at 3 p.m.

Mon., January 24, 2011 at 8 p.m.

Program:

ORTIZ: *Suomalainen Tango*

RODRIGO: Concerto de Aranjuez

PIAZZOLA: *Tangazo, Variations on Buenos Aires*

CHAVEZ: Symphony No. 4

The pre-concert talks start one hour before each performance (except Discovery Rehearsal).

Venue: Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa, CA

Cost: Single tickets \$28-\$55, with senior and student discounts available.

Tickets: Online santarosasympphony.com, by phone 54-MUSIC (707-546-8742) or in person at the SRS Patron Services Office, 50 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Guest Artist Brief Bio

Winner of the Madrid, Toronto, and Munich competitions, and *Guitar Player's* "Best Classical Guitarist" award, **Sharon Isbin** gives sold-out performances throughout the world in the greatest halls, including New York's Carnegie and Avery Fisher Halls, Boston's Symphony Hall, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, London's Barbican and Wigmore Halls, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Vienna's Musikverein, Paris' Châtelet, Munich's Herkulessaal, and Madrid's Teatro Real. She has served as artistic director/soloist for festivals she created for Carnegie Hall and New York's 92nd Street Y, and the acclaimed national radio series *Guitarjam*.

Isbin's catalogue includes over 25 recordings, from Baroque, Spanish/Latin and 20th Century to crossover and jazz-fusion. Her *Dreams of a World* soared onto top classical *Billboard* charts, edging out *The 3 Tenors*, and earned her a **2001 Grammy**. Her recording of concerti written for her by Rouse and Tan Dun received a **2002 Grammy** and Germany's Echo Klassik Award. And in **2010, she received a "Best Instrumental Soloist without Orchestra" Grammy Award** for her *Journey to the New World*, with guests Joan Baez and Mark O'Connor. Isbin is the first guitarist in 43 years to receive a second classical Grammy.

A frequent guest on NPR's *All Things Considered* and Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion*, she has been profiled on *CBS Sunday* and A&E television, and she is featured on Howard Shore's 2008 Grammy-nominated soundtrack CD for *The Departed*. She received a 2005 Latin Grammy nomination for "Best Classical Album" and a 2006 GLAAD Award nomination for "Outstanding Music Artist" for her Classical disc with the New York Philharmonic of Joaquin Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* and concerti by Mexican composer Manuel Ponce and Brazilian Heitor Villa-Lobos. Complete bio [here](#).

Guest Conductor Brief Bio

Enrique Arturo Diemecke is in his third season as music director of the Buenos Aires Philharmonic of the famed Teatro Colon in Argentina and his eighth season as Music Director of the Long Beach (California) Symphony. He is in his twentieth season as music director of the Flint Symphony

Orchestra, having completed his tenure of 20 years at the helm of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de México. He has been awarded a Mahler Society medal for his interpretation and performances of the composer's complete symphonies.

Diemecke served as music director of the Bellas Artes Opera of Mexico from 1984-1990, where he led more than 20 productions. He returned to opera opening the 2007-2008 season by leading a new production of *Werther* at the Teatro Colon. His performances of *Le Jongleur de Notre Dame* with tenor Roberto Alagna was released by Deutsche Grammophon in August 2009. He been a guest conductor with new productions of *Lohengrin* in 1996, *Boris Godunov* in 1997, and Gluck's *Orfeo ed Euridice* in 2005. He was awarded the Jean Fontaine Orpheus d'Or Gold Medal for "best vocal music recording" by France's Academy of Lyric Recordings for his recording of Donizetti's *The Exiles of Siberia* with the L'Orchestre Philharmonique de Montpellier-Languedoc-Roussillon. He was honored with a "Best Opera Conductor" Gold Medal from the Academy of Lyric Recordings for his live recording of Mascagni's *Parisina*. Complete bio [here](#).

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