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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**COLORADO MUSIC FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
2013 CONCERT SEASON: "BIG MUSIC...BOULDER STYLE"**

Summer program features a week of "Russian Masters;" world renowned pianist Olga Kern's Festival debut; a continuation of the groundbreaking "Rediscovered Masters" project, including a showcase of celebrated Jewish film music composers; Wizard of Oz with Symphony; chamber music at eTown Hall; an all-new "Music Mash-up" series featuring the return of the acclaimed ensemble Time for Three; and more!

November 28, 2012, BOULDER, CO – Music Director Michael Christie and the Colorado Music Festival (CMF) announce an exciting and varied summer program for the 2013 concert season. Christie leads the festival for his 13th concert season as Music Director with programming that continues to inspire audiences through an especially diverse and entertaining program featuring world-class guest artists from around the globe, including the striking young Russian pianist Olga Kern making her debut with the Festival performing all four of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concertos as well as his famous "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini" in just two nights.

"I'm particularly excited to welcome to the Chautauqua stage Van Cliburn Gold Medal Winner Olga Kern to play all four of the Rachmaninoff piano concertos with our orchestra, and as a little encore, the *Paganini Variations* – all in two nights. You will not hear this anywhere else in the world, and I can guarantee Olga is the only one who can do something like this. The Colorado Music Festival is going to be the first place she has attempted such a feat," commented Michael Christie.

“I am also thrilled to be presenting really significant works of music to this region for first time this summer, such as Mieczysław Weinberg’s Symphony No. 3 (U.S. premiere) and music from Jewish film composers. It is remarkable that so many film composers have been Jewish, from the songs of Irving Berlin of the early talkie era to the orchestral scores of Jerry Goldsmith. We are also prominently dedicating important parts of our season to new music, as well as formats new to our audience. CMF’s new music commissioning club - Click! - closes our Festival with a world premiere by contemporary composer and Boulder native Kristin Kuster.”

The 2013 Season will mark the debut of a new “Music Mash-Up” series, designed to transform the symphonic experience by bridging classical and popular music. These innovative performances offer a fun, intermission-free concert, preceded by a happy-hour featuring complimentary food and drinks from local restaurateurs.

“We are really excited to bring this innovative concert experience to Boulder. We have had such a tremendous response to the mixed-genre music the popular string trio Time for Three has brought to the Festival that we wanted to expand the concept to more people. Audiences should get ready for an entirely new musical experience.” commented CMF Marketing Director Brandi Numedahl.

The Colorado Music Festival runs for six weeks from June 29 through August 9, 2013. Performances are held at Boulder’s own historic Chautauqua Auditorium with concerts on Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. CMF Chamber Players will perform chamber music at the new eTown Hall on Tuesdays, July 2, July 16, and July 30. All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.

Season highlights include:

- CMF Music Director Michael Christie will kick off the 37th concert season with the CMF Chamber Orchestra featuring the extraordinarily talented pianist **Behzod Abduraimov**, an artist establishing an impressive reputation for electrifying audiences with his captivating performances. The opening night will feature **Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 5 “Emperor,”** and **The Sounds of Movies: Masters of the Film Score**, a showcase of celebrated Jewish film music composers. (June 29)
- The **Chamber Music Series at eTown Hall** will feature CMF Chamber Players on Tuesdays July 2, July 16 and July 30.
- The popular family night at the Festival returns with **“Oz with Orchestra.”** One of the most beloved films of all time, *The Wizard of Oz*, can now be seen and heard in a magical new production. The brilliantly restored images are accompanied by the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra playing entirely new transcriptions of Harold Arlen’s brilliant lost scores. Hearing Judy Garland’s original 1939 studio recordings, backed by lush, live orchestration,

will transport children and adults alike. With this version of *The Wizard of Oz* on the big screen, concertgoers will be treated to the Oscar-winning film as it has never been seen before. (July 5)

- **All-new “Music Mash-Up” series.** Three concerts that are designed to transform the symphonic experience by bridging the gap between classical and popular music. This three-concert series features performances of popular classical and contemporary works in a casual, intermission-free concert that is preceded by a happy-hour with complimentary food and drinks. (July 7, August, 2 and August 6)
- Winner of the 2011 Latin Grammy Award in the “best classical album” category, the **Brazilian Guitar Quartet** returns to the Festival to kick-off the world music series. The Quartet has established itself as one of world’s leading guitar ensembles and has been praised by the Washington Post for its “seductive beauty” and “virtuosic gusto.” The group’s unique combination of regular six-string and extended-range eight-string guitars allows for the exploration of an original and unusual repertoire. (July 9)
- The Festival’s exploration of “**Rediscovered Masters**” continues with the **U.S. premiere of Mieczysław Weinberg’s Symphony No. 3**. Music Director Michael Christie and the Colorado Music Festival are dedicated to performances celebrating Jewish composers and their music with programs that emphasizes music composed before, during, and immediately after World War II. The music of many Jewish composers was suppressed, and subsequently forgotten. (July 11 & 12)
- The popular mini-festival returns with “**Russian Masters**,” featuring all four Rachmaninoff Piano Concertos, Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade*, Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 6, Khachaturian’s Violin Concerto, Prokofiev’s *Peter & the Wolf* and more. A highlight of this year’s mini-festival will be the appearance of **Van Cliburn Gold Medal winner Olga Kern** performing all four of the Rachmaninoff piano concertos and the *Paganini Variations* in just two nights. (July 14-21)
- **Cellist Johannes Moser** will join Music Director Michael Christie and the Festival orchestra for a performance of **Dvorak’s impressive Cello Concerto**. Praised for his rich, gorgeous tone and playing that can range from lovely and elegant, to vigorous with head-banging, rock star energy, German-Canadian cellist Johannes Moser has been called both “remarkable” by the Los Angeles Times and “greatly gifted” by the Chicago Tribune. (July 25 & 26)
- The Rediscovered Masters Series continues with the CMF Festival Chorus in a performance of Ernest Bloch’s intensely spiritual *Sacred Service*. Bloch learned Hebrew specifically to compose this piece. (July 25 & 26)
- **Brandenburgs Old & New Part II** – this concert presents some of the finest musical compositions of the Baroque era, **Bach’s Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 2, 4 & 5**, followed by award-winning composer **Paul Moravec’s *Brandenburg Gate***, **Melinda Wagner’s *Little Moonhead*** and **Peter Maxwell-Davies’s *Sea Orpheus***. Moravec, Wagner, and Maxwell-Davies are three of six composers that were asked by the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra to write new works based on the instrumentation of Bach’s Brandenburg Concerti as part of their series called “The New Brandenburgs.” (July 28)

- **Time for Three**, the young, dynamic trio of classically trained string musicians is back by popular demand and will join Music Director Michael Christie and the CMF Festival Orchestra to bring a groundbreaking blend of classical, country western, gypsy, and jazz music to Chautauqua Auditorium. Playing 120 concerts a year, this group continually wins over diverse audiences across America, featuring **Nick Kendall** and **Zack De Pue** on violin and **Ranaan Meyer** on double bass. (August 1 & 2)
- **Conductor Courtney Lewis** will make his Festival debut and lead the CMF Chamber Orchestra in a concert featuring CMF's Principal Clarinetist Boris Allakhverdyan performing Mozart's ever-popular Clarinet Concerto. Courtney Lewis is quickly becoming recognized as one of today's top emerging talents. He is founder and music director of Boston's acclaimed Discovery Ensemble, a chamber orchestra with the mission of introducing inner-city school children to classical music while bringing new and unusual repertoire to established concert audiences. Lewis has also recently been promoted to associate conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra.
- **World-renowned flutist Alexa Still** will take the stage to perform Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **John Corigliano's *Pied Piper Fantasy***, a 40-minute concerto for flute and orchestra which is an interactive fairy tale. (August 8 & 9)
- CMF's new music commissioning club Click! closes the 2013 Festival with a **world premiere** by contemporary composer and Boulder native **Kristin Kuster**. (August 8 & 9)

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*Founded in 1976, the **Colorado Music Festival (CMF)** presents a summer season of classical music concerts performed by professional musicians from around the world at the historic Chautauqua Auditorium in Boulder. Emerging talent from Europe, Asia, South America and the U.S. join CMF musicians in performances that inspire and engage concertgoers of all ages. Under the skilled baton of Music Director Michael Christie, the CMF thrills audiences of more than 20,000 each season with programming that embraces the most beloved classical music repertoire, while integrating world music and the works of exciting modern composers. In October of 2009 the Colorado Music Festival merged with **Rocky Mountain Center for Musical Arts (RMCMA)**, an organization founded in 1995, fulfilling the vision of Music for all...for life!™ by providing quality, creative music-making experiences for people of all ages, abilities, cultural backgrounds, and financial circumstances. The RMCMA serves between 600-700 students weekly, ages six months through 80 years, through a variety of programs, and has a highly-skilled faculty of 40 professional teaching artists. In addition to educational offerings, hundreds of community audience members are served annually through a number of guest artist and faculty performances. The RMCMA's Heartstrings Program of need-based tuition assistance and a 200-piece "bank" of string and wind instruments for area school children assure that no one is turned away.*

All artist photos and biographies available upon request.