Soka Performing Arts Center presents

Season 2011 ~ 2012

www.performingarts.soka.edu
tickets@soka.edu • 949.480.4ART (4278)
Dear Friends and Patrons,

On behalf of Soka University of America, it is my great honor to welcome you to the Grand Opening Night Concert at the new Soka Performing Arts Center.

We are delighted to be joined this evening by Pacific Symphony with music director Carl St.Clair and featured soloist, pianist Horacio Gutiérrez, to officially celebrate the launch of our new concert hall as we commemorate our 10th year anniversary in Aliso Viejo.

I offer my sincerest thanks to all the staff and faculty who have contributed to the Soka Performing Arts Center’s development, as well as Doss Mabe and his architectural team from ZGF Architects LLP and acoustician Yasuhisa Toyota and his team from Nakata Acoustics for their wonderful design and focus on acoustics, and all the other members of the design team, and the hundreds of construction workers led by McCarthy Building Companies for creating this beautiful facility. I also give thanks to our friends and neighbors in the community for their support of our university.

Ranked among the top ten liberal arts colleges on the West Coast by U.S. News and World Report, Soka University of America is guided by the following principles:

- foster leaders of culture in the community
- foster leaders of humanism in society
- foster leaders of pacifism in the world
- foster leaders for the creative coexistence of nature and humanity

It is my sincere hope that the new Soka Performing Arts Center becomes a center of culture for our students and the communities in South Orange County and Southern California. Our first season of international music and cultural performances, especially tonight’s performance, has been designed to inform, invigorate and inspire.

I hope you enjoy this evening and I look forward to seeing you all again at future events at the new Soka Performing Arts Center.

Sincerely,

Daniel Y. Habuki, Ph.D
President

Soka Performing Arts Center

Grand Opening, September 17
Dear Friends,

It is an honor and a pleasure to present to you the Grand Opening Season for the Soka Performing Arts Center. This inaugural season has many exciting events in store for you: Symphony Orchestras, String Quartets, Solo Recitals, Jazz—Lots of Jazz, and even Chinese Acrobats!

There is some method to this artistic madness. The purpose of the Soka Performing Arts Center is to help raise awareness about Soka University of America, to provide world-class entertainment and programs of significant interest to the campus and local community, to provide training for Soka University students, and to provide a location for high quality community and educational organizations to perform.

To this end, we endeavor to schedule artists, speakers and other events that represent cultures from around the world; that represent a variety of artistic disciplines; that may address current social, political, economic or philosophical issues; and that encourage discussion and thought well beyond the end of the actual presentation. Artists, events and speakers that have presentations that cross multiple disciplines will be engaged for multiple days in order to provide deeper understanding of the issues presented, and an opportunity to engage in continuing dialogue about the topic and relevant sub-topics.

It is for these reasons that the artists on this season’s schedule represent Cuba, Russia, China, Japan, New Zealand, India, Pacific Atolls and the United States. Residencies have been set up with artists specializing in creativity; artists whose homelands are disappearing beneath the rising oceans; and artists bridging the disciplines of visual art, music and spoken word. Time in the facility has been set aside for performances by our own students as well as students and groups from our local community.

Eric Gill stated, “The artist is not a different kind of person, but every person is a different kind of artist.” The Soka Performing Arts Center will serve as a bridge that can be traversed by many of these artists. The goal is to help create enjoyment and understanding of our fellow man and the artist that resides in all of us.

I hope you enjoy this evening, and many more evenings at the Soka Performing Arts Center in the future.

Sincerely,

David C. Palmer
General Manager

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**Soka Performing Arts Center**

**Grand Opening, September 17**

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**Soka Performing Arts Center**

**PRESENTS**

**ORANGE COUNTY’S PACIFIC SYMPHONY**

CARL ST. CLAIR | MUSIC DIRECTOR

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**Featuring:**

Carl St. Clair, conductor
Horacio Gutiérrez, piano

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**JOHN ADAMS**
(b. 1947)

Short Ride in a Fast Machine

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**SERGEI RACHMANINOFF**
(1873 - 1943)

Concerto No.2 in C Minor for Piano & Orchestra, Op.18
Moderato
Adagio sostenuto
Allegro scherzando
Horacio Gutiérrez, Piano

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**INTERMISSION**

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**SERGE PROKOFIEV**
(1891 - 1953)

Selections from Romeo And Juliet
Montagues and Capulets
Masks
Balcony Scene
The Death of Tybalt

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**MAURICE RAVEL**
(1875 - 1937)

Suite No.2 from Daphnis et Chloé
Lever du jour
Pantomime
Danse générale
Horacio Gutiérrez, Piano

Considered one of the great pianists of our time, Horacio Gutiérrez is consistently praised by critics and audiences alike for the poetic insight and technical mastery he brings to a diverse repertoire. Since his professional debut in 1970 with Zubin Mehta and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Mr. Gutiérrez has appeared regularly with the world’s greatest orchestras and on its major recital series.

In past seasons, Mr. Gutiérrez has given recitals at Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw, Berlin’s Philharmonie, the Schleswig-Holstein Festival and New York’s Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall, as well as in Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and Cleveland. Since 2009, he has performed on subscription and on tour with the Cleveland Orchestra twice, among many other concerts.

His 2011-2012 engagements include returns to the Symphony Orchestras of Baltimore, Atlanta, St. Louis, San Francisco, Winnipeg and San Diego, plus opening the new Soka Arts Center in Orange County, CA, performing the Rachmaninov Concerto No. 2 with the Pacific Symphony. A favorite of New York concertgoers, Mr. Gutiérrez has performed on numerous occasions at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall and Carnegie Hall in recital and with orchestra. He has been a frequent soloist at the Mostly Mozart Festival and has appeared on its season-opening Live from Lincoln Center telecast. As a chamber musician, he has collaborated with the Guarnieri, Tokyo and Cleveland quartets as well as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. In 1982, he was the recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize.

Mr. Gutiérrez is a strong advocate of contemporary American composers. Of special importance were his performances of William Schuman’s Piano Concerto in honor of the composer’s 75th birthday at New York’s 92nd Street Y and of Andre Previn’s Piano Concerto with the New York Philharmonic with Mr. Previn conducting. He frequently includes George Perle’s Phantasyplay on his recital programs and Mr. Perle wrote a set of nine bagatelles dedicated to Mr. Gutiérrez.

Mr. Gutiérrez’s Telarc recordings include Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 3 with Lorin Maazel and the Pittsburgh Symphony, nominated for a Grammy Award. Also available on that label are separate discs of the two Brahms Concertos, both with Andre Previn and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1 and Rachmaninoff’s Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini with David Zinnman and the Baltimore Symphony. For the Chandos label he has recorded Prokofiev’s Concertos No. 2 and 3 with Neeme Jarvi and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. His most recent recording, “George Perle: A Retrospective”, was named one of the ten best recordings of 2006 by The New Yorker. His television performances in Great Britain, the United States and France have been widely acclaimed, and won him an Emmy Award for his fourth appearance with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He has also been welcomed three times by Johnny Carson on The Tonight Show. A great film and theater fan, he has performed in recital with Irene Worth and Mariette Hartley.

Born in Havana, Cuba, Horacio Gutiérrez appeared at the age of 11 as guest soloist with the Havana Symphony. He became an American citizen in 1967. A graduate of the Juilliard School, he is married to pianist Patricia Asher and resides in New York City.

Carl St.Clair, Conductor
William J. Gillespie Music Director Chair
Music Director, Pacific Symphony

In 2011-12, Music Director Carl St.Clair celebrates his 22nd season with Pacific Symphony. During his tenure, St.Clair has become widely recognized for his musically distinguished performances, his commitment to building outstanding educational programs and his innovative approaches to programming. St.Clair’s lengthy history with the Symphony solidifies the strong relationship he has forged with the musicians and the community. His continuing role also lends stability to the organization and continuity to his vision for the Symphony’s future. Few orchestras can claim such rapid artistic development as Pacific Symphony—the largest orchestra formed in the United States in the last 40 years—due in large part to St.Clair’s leadership.

The 2011-12 season features the inauguration of a three-year vocal initiative, "Symphonic Voices," with productions of La Boheme and a Family series production of Hansel and Gretel, as well as two world premiers and three "Music Unwound" concerts highlighted by multimedia elements and innovative formats, including the 12th annual American Composers Festival, celebrating the traditional Persian New Year known as Nowruz.

In 2008-2009, St.Clair celebrated the milestone 30th anniversary of Pacific Symphony. In 2006-07, he led the orchestra’s historic move into its home in the Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The move came on the heels of the landmark 2005-06 season that included St.Clair leading the Symphony on its first European tour—nine cities in three countries playing before capacity houses and receiving extraordinary responses. The Symphony received rave reviews from Europe’s classical music critics—22 reviews in total.

He recently concluded his tenure as general music director and chief conductor of the German National Theater and Staatskapelle (GNTS) in Weimar, Germany, where he recently led Wagner’s “Ring Cycle” to great critical acclaim. St.Clair was the first non-European to hold his position at the GNTS; the role also gave him the distinction of simultaneously leading one of the newest orchestras in America and one of the oldest orchestras in Europe. He has also served as the general music director of the Komische Oper Berlin.

In North America, St.Clair has led the Boston Symphony Orchestra, (where he served as assistant conductor for several years), New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, Atlanta, Houston, Indianapolis, Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver symphonies, among many.

Under St.Clair’s dynamic leadership, the Symphony has built a relationship with the Southern California community by understanding and responding to its cultural needs. A strong advocate of music education for all ages, St.Clair has been essential to the creation and implementation of the symphony education programs including Classical Connections, arts-X-press and Class Act.
Pacific Symphony

Pacific Symphony, celebrating its 33rd season in 2011-12, is led by Music Director Carl St.Clair, who marked his 20th anniversary with the orchestra during 2009-2010. The largest orchestra formed in the U.S. in the last 40 years, the Symphony is recognized as an outstanding ensemble making strides on both the national and international scene, as well as in its own burgeoning community of Orange County. Presenting more than 100 concerts a year and a rich array of education and community programs, the Symphony reaches more than 275,000 residents—from school children to senior citizens.

The orchestra paid tribute to St.Clair's milestone in 2009-10 with a celebratory season featuring innovative, forward-thinking projects. These included the launch of a new series of multi-media concerts called “Music Unwound,” featuring new visual elements, varied formats and more to highlight great masterworks.

Founded in 1979 by Keith Clark with a $2,000 grant, the Symphony made its debut in December 1979 at the Plummer Auditorium in Fullerton, with Clark conducting. By 1983, the orchestra had moved its concerts to the Santa Ana High School auditorium, made its first recording and begun to build a subscriber base. Through Clark's leadership, the Symphony took residency at the new Orange County Performing Arts Center in 1986, which greatly expanded its audience. Clark served in his role of music director until 1990.

The Symphony offers moving musical experiences with repertoire ranging from the great orchestral masterworks to music from today's most prominent composers, highlighted by the annual American Composers Festival.

With a vision for the future, the Symphony is dedicated to developing and promoting today's young and established composers and expanding the orchestral repertoire. This commitment to new works is illustrated through the Symphony's commissions and recordings, in-depth explorations of American artists and themes at the American Composers Festival. The Symphony's innovative approaches to introducing new works to audiences received the prestigious ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming in 2005 and 2010. In 2009, the League of American Orchestras named the Symphony as one of five innovative orchestras to be profiled in an in-depth study.

The Symphony's award-winning education programs are designed to integrate the Symphony and its music into the community in ways that stimulate all ages and form meaningful connections between students and the organization. St.Clair actively participates in the development and execution of these programs. The orchestra's Class Act residency program has been honored as one of nine exemplary orchestra education programs in the nation by the National Endowment for the Arts and the League of American Orchestras. Added to Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra on the list of programs in 2007-08 were Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble and Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings.

Presenting more than 100 concerts a year and a rich array of education and community programs, the Symphony touches more than 275,000 Orange County residents—from school children to senior citizens. In addition to its winter home, the Symphony presents a summer outdoor series at Irvine’s Verizon Wireless Amphitheater, the organization's summer residence since 1987.

Soka University of America

Soka University of America is proudly celebrating its 10th Anniversary throughout 2011

Soka University is a private, non-profit, four-year liberal arts college and graduate school located on 103-acres in south Aliso Viejo, CA. The university offers a 9:1 student/faculty ratio (average class size 13) and an interdisciplinary liberal arts degree with concentrations in Environmental Studies, Humanities, International Studies and Social and Behavioral Sciences. “The mission of Soka University is to foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life.” Daisaku Ikeda, Founder, Soka University of America.

US News & World Report Best Colleges 2012 Rankings place SUA in the top ten liberal arts colleges on the West Coast – along with being #1 in Most International Students and #2 in Ethnic Diversity. About 60% of Soka University's students come from the United States and 40% have come from more than 40 other countries. All SUA students study a non-native language and participate in a semester of study abroad during their junior year. This is a requirement for graduation and is included in tuition.

Undergraduate students also participate in Learning Clusters where students choose faculty advisors and work in teams to propose, research and model constructive approaches to local, regional and world problems. Learning Clusters have traveled to San Francisco, the Amazon River, Beijing and India to research projects.

All undergraduate students receive a laptop computer, which is included in tuition. SUA has 3400 computer ports on campus and wireless access. All SUA students live on campus in one or two-student rooms, each with its own bathroom.

SUA graduates have been accepted to top graduate programs, including Harvard, Yale, Stanford, USC, Columbia, Cornell, UC Berkeley, Oxford, Queens, NYU and Boston University. Although SUA offers only one undergraduate major, interdisciplinary Liberal Arts, SUA graduates have been accepted to graduate schools in law, international peace and conflict resolution, international politics, special education, public affairs, environmental science, educational psychology, human development, social science & comparative education, psychology, international educational development, elementary inclusive education, Japanese language pedagogy, public policy, urban and regional planning, geography, diplomacy, anthropology, statistics, art, music, history, TESOL, literature, business administration, creative writing, nursing, medicine…and more!

Soka University is founded on the Buddhist principles of peace, human rights and the sanctity of life and is open to top students of all nationalities and beliefs. SUA offers a free tuition program to qualified admitted BA students whose parent's annual earned family income is $60,000 or less. See www.soka.edu for more information.
The Opening Season of the Soka Performing Arts Center would not be possible without the support of our Board of Trustees, our Administration, our Sponsors and Partners.

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Grand Opening Season...
Soka Performing Arts Center...
Family Series

Five opportunities for families to enjoy the arts as entertainment and an incredible learning experience. Reasonable show prices for adults and children. Buy four or more of the shows using our Create Your Own Series option and save 15%.

Thursday, September 29, 2011 7:30 pm

**Woven Harmony**
Robert & Rebecca Bluestone
A unique and heartfelt interaction between a classical guitarist and a visual artist.

General Admission: $33 Seniors and Students: $23

Sunday, October 23, 2011 3:00 pm

**Water is Rising**
Dancers and musicians from the Pacific Atolls express their deep connection to nature and their ancestral past through multi-part harmonies, poetry, and gracious movement.

General Admission: $33 Seniors and Students: $23

Thursday, February 16, 2012 7:30 pm

**Pacific Symphony**
This performance includes pieces especially chosen for audiences of all ages and is a perfect way to introduce younger patrons to the joys of classical and symphonic music.

General Admission: $28 Seniors and Students: $21

Saturday, January 14, 2012 8:00 pm

**Peking Acrobats**
A troupe of amazing athletes with grace, charisma and razor-sharp precision.

General Admission: $48 Seniors and Students: $38

Saturday, April 21, 2012 8:00 pm

**“First Person: Seeing America”**
Featuring Ensemble Galilei with Neal Conan - and photographs inspired by seeing America for the first time.

General Admission: $33 Seniors and Students: $23
2011 – 2012 Opening season for the new 1000-seat performing arts center, acoustics by Walt Disney Concert Hall designer Yasuhisa Toyota

Saturday, September 17, 8:00 pm

Pacific Symphony
Horacio Gutiérrez, pianist
Carl St.Clair, conductor
Horacio Gutiérrez, one of the great pianists of our time, brings poetic insight and technical mastery to a diverse repertoire.

Thursday, September 29, 7:30 pm

Woven Harmony with Robert and Rebecca Bluestone
A unique and heartfelt interaction between a classical guitarist and a visual artist.

Tuesday, October 4, 7:30 pm

St. Petersburg Symphony with Xiayin Wang, pianist
Ms. Wang has performed at New York’s Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center and wins the hearts of her audiences.

Sunday, October 23, 3:00 pm

Water is Rising:
Dancers and musicians from the Pacific Atolls express their deep connection to nature through multi-part harmonies, poetry, and gracious movement.

October 28 ~ 30 - Soka BluePort Jazz Festival

Featuring Trio da Paz
Friday ~ October 28, 7:30 pm
Saturday ~ October 29, 3:00 & 7:30 pm
Sunday ~ October 30, 3:00 pm
Trio da Paz updates the infectious spirit of jazz-oriented Brazilian music redefining Brazilian Jazz with their harmonically adventurous interactions, daring improvisations and dazzling rhythms. Additional musicians scheduled include Bert Turetzky, Chuck Perrin, Tierney Sutton, Peter Sprague, Mike Garson, Charles McPherson Quintet with Gilbert Castellanos, Anat Cohen, Geoffrey Keezer and Ron Escheté.

Saturday, November 5, 8:00 pm

New Zealand String Quartet
The quartet is known for their revelatory performances of the standard classical quartet repertoire and their exciting realizations of newer works, many from New Zealand.

www.performingarts.soka.edu
1 University Drive, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656
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The musicians of Pacific Symphony are members of the American Federation of Musicians, Local 7.