

# MCO CULTURAL EXCHANGE FOUNDATION

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**For Immediate Release**

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**MUSICIANS FROM THE FORMER SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES  
PERFORM A FREE CONCERT AT CARNEGIE HALL AS A  
"GIFT TO THE CITY OF NEW YORK"**

**Solo Artists from Russia, Turkmenistan, Armenia,  
Belarus, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Ukraine  
perform with members of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra**

In recognition of the extreme hardship that so many New York residents are experiencing after Hurricane Sandy, a group of talented classical artists from Russia and neighboring lands present a free concert at **Carnegie Hall in Stern Auditorium on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 8:00 pm.**

This "Gift to the City of New York" features "New Stars for a New Century" and members of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra. The concert has been organized by Master Productions and The Cultural Exchange Foundation, with the support of the Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation of the CIS (IFESCO).

Under the direction of Constantine Orbelian, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra will perform with solo artists representing seven former Soviet countries that now comprise the Commonwealth of Independent States. The soloists include Ripsime Ayrapetyants, *violin* (Russia-Turkmenistan); Fédor Roudine, *violin* (Russia); Nina Minasyan, *soprano* (Armenia); Anton Moiseyenko, *clarinet* (Belarus); Elona Ten, *soprano* (Kazakhstan), Irena Gulzarova, *piano* (Uzbekistan); and Vadym Kholodenko, *piano* (Ukraine).

The program will include works by Tchaikovsky, Liszt, Arensky, Sarasate, Rachmaninoff, Rossini, Bizet-Waxman, Sayat Nova, Babadzhanyan and Shostakovich. Joining the Moscow Chamber Orchestra as a guest artist for this performance will be Andrew Balio, Principal Trumpet of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Free tickets are available in advance at the Carnegie Hall Box Office at 57th Street and Seventh Avenue. Tickets are limited to eight (8) per person. For further information, call 212.247.7800.

**What: "New Stars for a New Century" in a "Gift to the City of New York"**

**When: Wednesday, December 12, 2012, 8:00pm**

**Where: Carnegie Hall/Stern Auditorium**

**Tickets: Free tickets available in advance at the Carnegie Hall Box Office. Limit of 8 per person.**

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## **Repertoire:**

Arensky: *Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky, Op. 35a*

Tchaikovsky: *Two Romances*

Vavilov: *Ave Maria*

Liszt: *Malédiction*

Bizet/Wazman: *"Carmen" Fantasie*

Rossini: *Introduction, Theme and Variations for Clarinet & Orchestra*

Komitas/Aslamazian: *Three Armenian Folk Songs*

Sarasate: *Zigeunerweisen, Op. 20*

Rachmaninoff: *Vocalise*

Babadzhanyan: *Vocalise*

Sayat-Nova: *Kani Vor Dzhanim*

Shostakovich: *Concerto No. 1 for Piano, Trumpet and Strings*

## **About the IFESCCO**

Intergovernmental Foundation for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation of the CIS (IFESCCO) was established in 2006 by the Governments of the Commonwealth of Independent States. The members of the IFESCCO are Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan. The mission of the IFESCCO is to promote the intercultural dialogue and cooperation of the CIS member states through education, science, culture, communication and information, sport, tourism and youth work. The IFESCCO works closely with international and intergovernmental organizations, such as UNESCO, the International Association of Academies of Sciences (IAAS) and the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly.

## **About Master Productions**

Based in Moscow, Master Productions specializes in organizing and presenting events that promote professional development of young talents in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Since 2004, with the support of the prominent film director, actor and public figure Nikita Mikhalkov and in cooperation with the International Center of Talents, Master Productions organizes a competitive casting of young artists to take part in the World Championships of Performing Arts in Hollywood. Talented young artists from around the world participate in this event every year.

## **About The Cultural Exchange Foundation**

The Moscow Chamber Orchestra Cultural Exchange Foundation engages in a variety of charitable efforts aimed at educating people of all ages about great music and creating good will between cultures. The organization was originally formed to strengthen and expand the resources of the Moscow Chamber Orchestra in its innovative programs to share Russia's rich cultural heritage, and to increase visibility and presence for the orchestra in the U.S. through collaborations with American artists. Founded in 2000 by Constantine Orbelian, the CEF also sponsors scholarship programs for exceptionally gifted young musicians.