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Pasadena Symphony Association

Pasadena Symphony & POPS

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Images, word document, and PDF available at: <http://www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org/pr-berstein-gershwin/>

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**POP THE CORK AT PASADENA SYMPHONY'S OPENING NIGHT WITH
BERNSTEIN, GERSHWIN & NEW MUSIC DIRECTOR DAVID LOCKINGTON**

Pasadena, CA – Get ready to celebrate the most popular and iconic American orchestral music ever created at the Pasadena Symphony's opening night concert on Saturday, November 1st featuring the jazzy, classical geniuses of **Bernstein & Gershwin** under the thrilling direction of new Music Director David Lockington with 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. performances at Ambassador Auditorium.

Pasadena's most anticipated night of the concert season will feature Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, Gershwin's bombastic Piano Concerto in F featuring Grammy nominated pianist Terrence Wilson plus Lockington's very own composition Ceremonial Fantasy Fanfare. "This program will get everybody sharing memories of 'I remember when,'" adds Lockington, "my Overture, which started as a fanfare and developed into a fantasy celebration, will hopefully add a unique and personal flavor to the festivities."

Lockington enthralled audiences and critics alike at last year's game-changing debut concert when the orchestra was described as "signal[ing] a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy emotion...a new Pasadena Symphony" by the *LA Times*.

Celebrate opening night in style and luxuriate in the new and lively Symphony Lounge, yet another addition to the delightful and elegant concert experience the Pasadena Symphony offers. Located in the beautiful outdoor plaza at the Ambassador Auditorium, audiences can now enjoy delicious morsels specially created for the evening, fine wines, and sparkling conversation before the concert and during intermission.

Performances are also accompanied by a popular pre-concert discussion that gives the audience insights into the music and musicians one-hour before curtain.

The Ambassador Auditorium is located at 131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA. Ticket prices start at \$35 and may be purchased online at www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org or by calling (626) 793-7172.

IF YOU GO:

- **What:** The Pasadena Symphony presents Bernstein & Gershwin
- **When:** Saturday, November 1, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Ambassador Auditorium | 131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105
- **Cost:** Tickets start at \$35.00
- **Parking:** Valet parking is available on Green Street for \$15. General parking is available next to the Auditorium at the covered parking structure for \$10. ADA parking is located at the above-ground parking lot adjacent to the Auditorium (entrance on St. John Ave.) for \$10. Parking purchased onsite is cash only.
- **Symphony Lounge:** Located on the plaza at Ambassador Auditorium. Open before the concert and during intermission.
- **Pre-Concert Discussion:** Pre-concert discussion begins one hour before curtain and is available to all ticket holders.

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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

David Lockington begins his tenure this year as Music Director of the Pasadena Symphony.

In his 14th season as Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony, David Lockington has created a lasting legacy of artistic achievements and genuine community enrichment. 2005 marked Lockington's conducting debut at New York's Carnegie Hall. The New York Times commended the Grand Rapids Symphony, under his artistic leadership for being a model in the Classical music world. Lockington also earned a 2007 Grammy Award nomination and has led five recordings with Grand Rapids. The recordings have received high praise including the CD of Adolphus Hailstork's Second and Third symphonies, released internationally on the Naxos label in 2007. Additionally, 2008 saw the successful start of the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Choruses. At his initiative, the Symphony has also reached out to new and diverse audiences through its annual community concert "Symphony with Soul," now in its 12th season.

Lockington's guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Saint Louis, Houston, Detroit, Seattle, Toronto, Vancouver, Colorado, Oregon, Phoenix, Indianapolis, Pacific, Nashville, San Diego, Kansas City and Columbus Symphonies; the Louisville Orchestra and National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa; the Buffalo, Rochester, Calgary and Louisiana Philharmonics; and the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall. Internationally, he has conducted the China Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra in Beijing and Taiwan, led the English Chamber Orchestra on a tour in Asia and appeared with the Orquesta Sinfonica del Principado de Asturias in Spain and the Northern Sinfonia in Great Britain.

Since September 2007 Mr. Lockington has served as music director of the Modesto Symphony Orchestra in California. In May 2012, he was named principal conductor of Spain's Orquesta Sinfonica del Principado de Asturias. Prior to leading the Grand Rapids Symphony, Mr. Lockington held the music directorships of the Long Island Philharmonic, New Mexico Symphony Orchestra, Cheyenne Symphony and Ohio Chamber Orchestra. For three years he held the post of assistant conductor with the Denver Symphony Orchestra and Opera Colorado. Mr. Lockington was also associate conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Lockington began his career as principal cellist with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. After completing his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Cambridge, he came to the U.S. on a scholarship to Yale University, where he received his master's degree in cello performance and studied conducting with Otto Werner Mueller.

ABOUT TERRANCE WILSON

Pianist **Terrence Wilson** has established a reputation as one of today's most gifted instrumentalists. He has appeared with the symphony orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Washington, DC (National Symphony), San Francisco, St. Louis, Cleveland, Minnesota, Philadelphia and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Among the conductors with whom he has worked are Marin Alsop, Christoph Eschenbach, Neeme Jarvi, Yoel Levi, Andrew Litton, Jesus Lopez-Cobos, Robert Spano, Yuri Temirkanov, Stanislaw Skrowaczewski and Gunther Herbig.

Highlights of Mr. Wilson's 2011-12 season include engagements with the Cincinnati Symphony, performing Rachmaninoff's 2nd Piano Concerto under the baton of Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, and the Atlanta Symphony, playing Ravel's G Major Concerto with conductor Mei-Ann Chan. He will also be guest artist with the orchestras of Wichita, Santa Barbara, Albany, Stamford and Helena. He returns to the Jacksonville Symphony in February 2012 as pianist in Beethoven's Triple Concerto, and to Cincinnati's Xavier University Piano Series, where he will perform in recital in March.

His appearances in the 2010-11 season included those with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra performing Prokofiev's 3rd Piano Concerto under Music Director JoAnn Falletta, and with the orchestras of Buffalo, Syracuse, Tucson, Reno, Duluth, Peoria and Las Cruces. He performed Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* in summer 2011 with the Baltimore Symphony, and Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* at the Brevard Festival. In the 2009--10 season, he returned to the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra for performances of Liszt's 2nd Concerto with Xian Zhang, and performed with the Indianapolis Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, Winston-Salem Symphony, Grand Rapids Symphony, Modesto Symphony, and with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow. North American recital appearances include the cities of Seattle and Cincinnati.

Abroad, Terrence Wilson has played concerti with such ensembles as the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra in Switzerland, the Malaysian Philharmonic, and the Orquesta Sinfonica do Estado de Minas Gerais in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. In 2005, he toured Spain with the Baltimore Symphony

with Yuri Temirkanov conducting.

Terrence Wilson has received numerous awards and prizes, including the SONY ES Award for Musical Excellence, an Avery Fisher Career Grant, and the Juilliard Petschek Award. He has also been featured on several radio and television broadcasts, including NPR's "Performance Today," WQXR radio in New York, and programs on the BRAVO Network, the Arts & Entertainment Network, and public television

Terrence Wilson is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where he studied with Yoheved Kaplinsky. He has also enjoyed the invaluable mentorship of the Romanian pianist Zitta Zohar. A native of the Bronx, he resides in Montclair, New Jersey.

ABOUT THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

Recent Acclaim for the Pasadena Symphony and POPS

"The Pasadena Symphony signals a new direction...teeming with vitality...dripping with opulent, sexy emotion." Los Angeles Times.

"...full of pulsating energy from first note to last... the strings were lushly resonant, the wind principals were at the top of their games, and the brass rang out with gleaming vigor." – Pasadena Star News.

Formed in 1928, the Pasadena Symphony and POPS is an ensemble of Hollywood's most talented, sought after musicians. With extensive credits in the film, television, recording and orchestral industry, the artists of Pasadena Symphony and POPS are the most heard in the world.

The Pasadena Symphony and POPS performs in two of the most extraordinary venues in the United States: Ambassador Auditorium, known as the *Carnegie Hall of the West*, and the luxuriant Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden. Internationally recognized, Grammy-nominated conductor, David Lockington, serves as the Pasadena Symphony Association's Music Director, with performance-practice specialist Nicholas McGegan serving as Principal Guest Conductor. The multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer dubbed "The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook," Michael Feinstein, is the Principal Pops Conductor, who succeeded Marvin Hamlisch in the newly created *Marvin Hamlisch Chair*.

A hallmark of its robust education programs, the Pasadena Symphony Association has served the youth of the region for over five decades through the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras (PYSO) comprised of five performing ensembles, with over 250 gifted 4th-12th grade students from more than 50 schools all over the Southern California region. The PYSO Symphony often performs on the popular television show *GLEE*.

The PSA provides people from all walks of life with powerful access points to the world of symphonic music.

