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Pasadena Symphony Association

Pasadena Symphony & POPS

Contact: Marisa McCarthy

MMcCarthy@PasadenaSymphony-Pops.org

(626) 793-7172 ext. 13

Pasadena
SYMPHONY

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For artist images please visit: <https://pasadenasympphony-pops.org/press-release-beethoven-symphony-no5/>

**Pasadena Symphony Hosts Los Angeles Premiere of Adam Schoenberg's *Orchard in Fog*
with Celebrated Violinist Anne Akiko Meyers**

Plus Beethoven's Fifth Concludes the Symphony's 91st Season

Pasadena CA – Music Director **David Lockington** and the **Pasadena Symphony** conclude its 91st season with **Beethoven Symphony No. 5** at **Ambassador Auditorium** on Saturday, **May 4, 2019** with matinee and evening performances at 2pm and 8pm. This fate-filled program opens with **Verdi's *La forza del destino* (The Force of Destiny)** overture and closes with fate knocking at the door with the four most notorious notes in Classical music for **Beethoven's Fifth**. In between these two masterpieces of fate, celebrated violinist **Anne Akiko Meyers** will perform the Los Angeles premiere of ***Orchard in Fog***, a beautifully meditative violin concerto by Los Angeles composer **Adam Schoenberg**, to bring what Lockington calls “a great triumphant ending to our season.”

Schoenberg wrote *Orchard in Fog* specifically for Meyers to bring to life on the famed “Vieuxtemps” Guarneri del Gesu, considered by many to be the finest violin in the world today. Meyers' San Diego premiere of *Orchard in Fog* garnered accolades far and wide with the *San Diego Union Tribune* writing “Meyers' playing is what it always has been: a national treasure.” A Southern California native, Anne has risen to international stardom, and was named *Billboard's* 2014 top-selling classical instrumental soloist with many of her 37 albums debuting at #1 on *Billboard's* charts. Known for her passionate performances, purity of sound, and deeply poetic interpretations, Meyers is committed to commissioning significant new works from living composers.

“I am excited to return to perform with the dynamic and thoughtful maestro, David Lockington and the Pasadena Symphony for Adam Schoenberg's Violin Concerto. Adam is one of today's most acclaimed living composers and has written a concerto that weaves a beautiful story about a man looking back on his life and love. I am tuned to an F-string instead of the standard G, D, A, E and this creates beautiful effects normally not heard on the Ex-Vieuxtemps Guarneri del Gesu, dated 1741, which I exclusively perform on. These performances will be the Los Angeles premiere and should not be missed!”

– Anne Akiko Meyers

To learn more about the music, come early for Insights – a free pre-concert dialogue with Music Director David Lockington and composer Adam Schoenberg, which begins one hour prior to each performance. Patrons who plan to arrive early can also enjoy a drink or a bite in the lively Symphony Lounge, yet another addition to the carefree and elegant concert experience the Pasadena Symphony offers. A posh setting along Ambassador Auditorium's beautiful outdoor plaza, the lounge offers uniquely prepared menus from Claud & Co for both lunch and dinner, a full bar and fine wines by Michero Family Wines, plus music before the concert and during intermission.

All concerts are held at Ambassador Auditorium, 131 South St. John Ave, Pasadena, CA with performances at 2pm and 8pm. Single tickets start at \$35 and may be purchased online at www.pasadenasymphony-pops.org or by calling (626) 793-7172.

IF YOU GO:

- **What:** The Pasadena Symphony presents Beethoven Symphony No. 5

David Lockington, *conductor*

Anne Akiko Meyers, *violin*

Verdi *Overture to La forza del destino*

Schoenberg *Orchard in Fog*

Beethoven *Symphony No. 5*

- **When:** Saturday, May 4, 2019 at 2:00pm and 8:00pm

- **Where:** Ambassador Auditorium | 131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105

- **Cost:** Tickets start at \$35.00

- **Parking:** Valet parking is available on South St. John directly past the auditorium for \$20 (cash only). General parking is available in two locations: next to the Auditorium (entrance on St. John Ave) at the covered parking structure for \$10 (cash only) and directly across Green St. at the Wells Fargo parking structure (entrance at Terrace Drive) for \$10 (cash or credit accepted). ADA parking is located at the above-ground parking lot adjacent to the Auditorium (entrance on St. John Ave.) for \$10 (cash only).

- **Symphony Lounge:** Located on the plaza at Ambassador Auditorium. Opens at 12:30pm before the matinee and 6:00pm before the evening performance.

- **Pre-Concert Discussion:** Pre-concert discussions with David Lockington begins one hour before curtain and is available to all ticket holders at no cost.

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 300 gifted 4th-12th grade students from more than 50 schools all over the Southern California region. The PYSO has toured internationally at prestigious venues in New York, Vienna, and most recently San Jose, Costa Rica. They regularly perform throughout Southern California and have appeared 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.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

David Lockington Conductor

David Lockington began his career as a cellist and was the Principal with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain for two years. After completing his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Cambridge where he was a choral scholar, Mr. Lockington came to the United States on a scholarship to Yale University where he received his Master's Degree in cello performance and studied conducting with Otto Werner Mueller. He was a member of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra and served as assistant principal cellist with the Denver Symphony Orchestra for three years before turning to conducting.

Over the past thirty years, David Lockington has developed an impressive conducting career in the United States. A native of Great Britain, he served as the Music Director of the Grand Rapids Symphony from January 1999 to May 2015, and is currently the orchestra’s Conductor Laureate.

He has held the position of Music Director with the Modesto Symphony since May 2007 and in March 2013, Mr. Lockington was appointed Music Director of the Pasadena Symphony. He has a close relationship with the Orquesta Sinfonica del Principado de Asturias in Spain, where he was the orchestra's Principal Guest Conductor from 2012 through 2016, and in the 15/16 season was named one of three Artistic Partners with the Northwest Sinfonietta in Tacoma, Washington.

In addition to his current posts, since his arrival to the United States in 1978 Mr. Lockington has held positions with several other American orchestras, including serving as Assistant Conductor of the Denver Symphony Orchestra and Opera Colorado, and Assistant and Associate Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In May 1993 he accepted the position of Music Director of the Ohio Chamber Orchestra, assumed the title of Music Director of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra in September 1995 and was Music Director of the Long Island Philharmonic for the 96/97 through 99/2000 seasons.

Mr. Lockington's guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Saint Louis, Houston, Detroit, Seattle, Toronto, Vancouver, Oregon and Phoenix symphonies; the Rochester and Louisiana Philharmonics; and the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall. Internationally, he has conducted the Northern Sinfonia in Great Britain, the Israel Chamber Orchestra, the China Broadcasting Symphony Orchestra in Beijing and Taiwan, and led the English Chamber Orchestra on a tour in Asia.

Recent and upcoming guest conducting engagements include appearances with the New Jersey, Indianapolis, Utah, Pacific, Colorado, Nashville, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Stamford, Tucson and Kansas City symphonies, the Florida and Louisville Orchestras, the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa and the Buffalo, Calgary and Oklahoma Philharmonics. Mr. Lockington's summer festival activities include appearances at the Grand Teton, Colorado Music, Interlochen, Chautauqua and Eastern Music festivals.

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Anne Akiko Meyers

Violin

Anne Akiko Meyers, is one of today's most in-demand violinists, performing as guest soloist with the world's top orchestras, presenting ground-breaking recitals, commissioning and performing new music, and releasing best-selling recordings. Anne was named Billboard's top-selling traditional classical instrumental soloist in 2014 and her albums have debuted at #1 on Billboard classical charts. Meyers is known for her passionate performances, purity of sound,

deeply poetic interpretations, innovative programming, and commitment to commissioning significant new works from living composers.

Last September she released her 37th album, *Mirror in Mirror*, on Avie Records. The album features compositions written or arranged for Ms. Meyers by Jakub Ciupiński, John Corigliano, Philip Glass, Morten Lauridsen, Arvo Pärt, and includes Ravel's *Tzigane* in the original luthéal version. In October, she appeared in four performances to celebrate the opening of the new Arvo Pärt Centre in Estonia (by special invitation of the legendary composer himself) and her performance of "Schindler's List" broadcasted in a Great Performances television special honoring John Williams. In December, she played the premiere of Rautavaara's *Fantasia* and Mason Bates' *Violin Concerto* with the Helsinki Philharmonic with Jan Söderblom conducting in a worldwide live-streamed performance. In 2019, Anne returns to Japan to premiere Rautavaara's *Fantasia* and tour with guitarist, Jason Vieaux, throughout the United States.

Anne recently premiered a new violin concerto, written for her by Adam Schoenberg, with the San Diego and Phoenix Symphony Orchestras and returned to Leipzig, Germany to premiere Rautavaara's *Fantasia* with the MDR Leipzig Radio Symphony Orchestra. Her recent recording of Rautavaara's *Fantasia* was the only classical instrumental work to be selected on NPR's 100 best songs of 2017. Other recent highlights include the world premiere of *Fantasia* by Einojuhani Rautavaara, a work written for her, and considered to be the composer's final masterpiece, with the Kansas City Symphony conducted by Michael Stern; recitals in Florida, New York, Virginia, and Washington D.C.; a return to the Nashville Symphony to perform the Bernstein *Serenade* with Giancarlo Guerrero; performances at the Kanazawa Music Festival performing the Beethoven *Concerto* with cadenzas by Mason Bates; a tour of New Zealand performing the Mason Bates *Violin Concerto* with the New Zealand Symphony; and performances in Krakow and Warsaw, Poland of the Szymanowski *Concerto* and Jakub Ciupiński's newly orchestrated, *Wreck of the Umbria*.

Other recent projects include a nationwide PBS broadcast special and a Naxos DVD featuring the world premiere of Samuel Jones' *Violin Concerto* with the All-Star Orchestra led by Gerard Schwarz and two new recordings – *Naïve Classics* celebrating Arvo Pärt's 80th birthday and a box set of Anne's RCA Red Seal discography on Sony Classics.

A champion of living composers, Meyers collaborates closely with many of today's leading composers. She has expanded the violin repertoire by commissioning and premiering works by composers Julia Adolphe, Mason Bates, Jakub Ciupiński, John Corigliano, Michael Daugherty, Jennifer Higdon, Samuel Jones, Arturo Marquez, Wynton Marsalis, Akira Miyoshi, Arvo Pärt, Gene Pritsker, Einojuhani Rautavaara, Somei Satoh, Adam Schoenberg, and Joseph Schwantner. Anne has collaborated with a diverse array of artists outside of traditional classical, including jazz icons Chris Botti and Wynton Marsalis; avant-garde musician, Ryuichi Sakamoto; electronic music pioneer, Isao Tomita; pop-era act, Il Divo; and singer, Michael Bolton. She performed the National Anthem in front of 42,000 fans at Safeco Field in Seattle, appeared twice on *The Tonight Show* and was featured in a segment on MSNBC's *Countdown* with Keith Olbermann that became that show's third most popular story of the year.

Anne has been featured on CBS Sunday Morning, CBS' "The Good Wife," NPR's Morning Edition with Linda Wertheimer, and All Things Considered with Robert Siegel and recently curated "Living American" on Sirius XM Radio's Symphony Hall with host, David Srebnik. She was on the popular Nick Jr. show, *Take Me To Your Mother*, with Andrea Rosen, and best-selling novelist, J. Courtney Sullivan, consulted with Anne for *The Engagements* and based one of the main characters loosely on her career. She also collaborated with children's book author and illustrator, Kristine Papillon, on *Crumpet the Trumpet*, where the character Violetta the violinist is played by Anne.

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