

LINCOLN
CENTER
presents

Great Performers

Date: January 2, 2008
Contact: Katherine Johnson
212-875-5049, kjohnson@lincolncenter.org

GREAT PERFORMERS PRESENTS MIDORI IN A THREE-CONCERT MINI-SERIES THAT WILL EXPLORE THE WORKS OF TAKEMITSU AND SCHNITTKE, BEGINNING FEBRUARY 13

Additional Concerts to Take Place February 24 and May 4

Celebrated violinist and arts educator Midori will begin a three concert mini-series presented by *Great Performers* on Wednesday, February 13 at 8 PM in the Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall. This performance is the first of three concerts taking place at the Rose Theater February 13, February 24 and May 4, during which Midori and a variety of guest artists will explore the parallels and contrasts in the music of Russia's Alfred Schnittke (1934-1998) and Japan's Tōru Takemitsu (1930-1996), two significant composers who flourished in the last century. The concerts will juxtapose works by Schnittke and Takemitsu with works by composers who influenced them.

On February 13, Midori is joined by pianist Marc-André Hamelin, cellist Johannes Moser and the Miró Quartet for a program including Takemitsu's *A Way a Lone* for string quartet (1981), one of three works in a series inspired by James Joyce's *Finnegan's Wake*; his *Between Tides* for Violin, Cello and Piano (1993), the last of the composer's several related works focused on water imagery; Ravel's Sonata for Violin and Piano and Debussy's String Quartet in G minor.

Midori returns Sunday, February 24 at 5 PM for a concert in the Rose Theater that will include Schnittke's Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano, and Septet for flute, two clarinets, violin, viola, cello and organ; Shostakovich's Piano Quintet in G minor; and Bach's Trio Sonata in G major. Guest artists include pianist Marc-André Hamelin, David Kim, viola, Johannes Moser, cello, Demarre McGill, flute, Anthony McGill, clarinet, Carol McGonnell, clarinet, Paulo Bordignon, harpsichord and organ, and the Daedalus Quartet. The final concert in the series takes place Sunday, May 4 at 5 PM in the Rose Theater, with works by Takemitsu (*Toward the Sea II*, and *Rain Coming*) and Schnittke (Concerto grosso No. 1) as well as Ravel (Introduction et allegro) and Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No. 5).

Tickets for each concert, priced at \$30, \$40, \$50 and \$60 are available at the Avery Fisher Hall box office, Broadway at 65th Street, through CenterCharge at (212) 721-6500, or on the Lincoln Center website at LincolnCenter.org.

Despite being contemporaries, Takemitsu and Schnittke composed in sharply different styles. Yet Midori, who discovered the composers as a teenager, describes them as "singular 20th-century voices, expressions not only of their time, but of their national backgrounds." She explains that, "While Takemitsu draws from his Japanese culture and also from French impressionists Debussy and Ravel, Schnittke reveres the formal structures his Soviet predecessors. Both composers were persons of contradictions and their music is very different, but both took Bach as inspiration. Their music seems complementary to me, like two facets of the same prism focused on 20th-century music."

UBS is a proud sponsor of *Great Performers* 2007/2008.

Midori has focused on 20th-century and contemporary composers in recent years. Her last *Great Performers* appearance in April 2007 featured the New York premiere of a work she commissioned from Einhojuhani Rautavaara with pianist Robert McDonald, and she recently gave a tour featuring repertoire written between the years 1979-2000.

The 2007-2008 season marks violinist Midori's first quarter-century before the public. In a year replete with activity, Midori will play over 90 concerts, making six trips to Europe and three to Asia. In addition to her concerts at Lincoln Center, highlights of Midori's season include traveling to Florida with the Cleveland Orchestra and to Japan with the Philadelphia Orchestra; making her third all-new music recital tour, this time to Europe; devoting significant energy to her myriad community engagement initiatives in the U.S. and in Asia, and significantly increasing her commitment to USC's Thornton School of Music, as she assumes the position of Chair of the Strings Department in September. On September 21st, the International Day of Peace, Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary General of the United Nations, designated Midori an official Messenger of Peace, a great honor accorded fewer than 20 people since the U.N. program's inception over ten years ago. Her community engagement organization *Midori & Friends*, which she founded in 1992 in response to serious cutbacks in music education in New York City schools, is celebrating its 15th Anniversary this school year in NYC. Her Japanese based community organization, *Music Sharing*, is expanding internationally with recent programs in Vietnam and Cambodia. Midori will be featured on a new Sony BMG Masterworks release - sonatas of J.S. Bach (No.2 in A minor) and Bartók (No.1 in C-sharp minor) - with pianist Robert McDonald, due for release this January.

Midori was born in Osaka, Japan, in 1971 and began studying the violin as a child with her mother. Her career was launched at an early age when, in 1982, conductor Zubin Mehta invited her to be a surprise guest soloist for the New York Philharmonic's traditional New Year's Eve concert. Midori has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Gender Studies at the Gallatin School of New York University, graduating magna cum laude, and in 2005 received her Master's degree in Psychology.

UBS is a proud sponsor of *Great Performers 2007/2008*.

Great Performers in Rose Theater is sponsored by Movado.

Support is provided by Bruce and Suzie Kovner, Rita E. and Gustave M. Hauser, The Florence Gould Foundation, Movado, The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc., Continental Airlines, The Shubert Foundation, The Norman & Rosita Winston Foundation, Ann and Gordon Getty Foundation, Great Performers Circle, Chairman's Council, and Friends of Lincoln Center.

Public support is provided by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Additional corporate support is provided by The Bank of New York Mellon.

Endowment support is provided by UBS.

Movado is an Official Sponsor of Lincoln Center, Inc.

WNBC/WNJU are Official Broadcast Partners of Lincoln Center, Inc.

Continental Airlines is the Official Airline of Lincoln Center, Inc.

Nokia is the Official Mobile Equipment Provider of Lincoln Center, Inc.

MetLife is the National Sponsor of Lincoln Center, Inc.

Great Performers is a presentation of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts (LCPA), which serves three primary roles: presenter of superb artistic programming, national leader in arts and education, and manager of the Lincoln Center campus. As a presenter of more than 400 events annually, LCPA's programs include *American Songbook*, *Great Performers*, *Lincoln Center Festival*, *Lincoln Center Out of Doors*, *Midsummer Night Swing*, the *Mostly Mozart Festival*, and *Live From Lincoln Center*. In addition, LCPA is leading a series of major capital projects on behalf of the resident organizations across the campus.

Lincoln Center is committed to providing and improving accessibility for people with disabilities. For information, call the Department of Programs and Services for People with Disabilities at (212) 875-5375.

Lincoln Center Presents *Great Performers*

MIDORI AND THE MUSIC OF SCHNITTKE AND TAKEMITSU: A THREE-CONCERT SERIES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13 2008 at 8:00 P.M.

Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall

Pre-Concert Lecture at 6:45 with Midori and Peter M. Grilli in the Rose Theater

Midori, violin

Johannes Moser, cello

Marc-André Hamelin, piano

Miró Quartet

Ravel: Sonata for Violin and Piano

Takemitsu: *A Way a Lone*

Takemitsu: *Between Tides*

Debussy: String Quartet in G minor

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2008 at 5:00 P.M.

Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall

Pre-Concert Lecture with Laurel E. Fay at 3:45 in the Irene Diamond Education Center
(5th floor of the Time Warner Center at Broadway and 60th St)

Midori, violin

David Kim, viola

Johannes Moser, cello

Demarre McGill, flute

Anthony McGill, clarinet
Carol McGonnell, clarinet
Paolo Bordignon, harpsichord and organ
Marc-André Hamelin, piano
Daedalus Quartet

Bach: Trio Sonata in G major
Schnittke: Sonata No. 1 for Violin and Piano
Schnittke: Septet for flute, two clarinets, violin, viola, cello and organ
Shostakovich: Piano Quintet in G minor

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2008 at 5:00 P.M.
Rose Theater, Frederick P. Rose Hall

Midori, violin
Michael Stern, conductor
Augustin Hadelich, violin
Aaron Boyd, violin
Nicholas Cords, viola
David Kim, viola
Edward Arron, cello
Kurt Muroki, bass
Demarre McGill, flute and alto flute
Nathan Hughes, oboe
Anthony McGill, clarinet
Adrian Morejon, bassoon
Brad Gemeinhardt, horn
Kevin Cobb, trumpet
Michael Boschen, trombone
Nancy Allen, harp
Ayano Kataoka, percussion
Daniel Spiegel, piano
Paolo Bordignon, harpsichord
Daedalus Quartet

Takemitsu: *Toward the Sea II*
Ravel: Introduction et allegro
Takemitsu: *Rain Coming*
Schnittke: Concerto grosso No.1
Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No.5 in D major

Tickets: Tickets for all three concerts are priced at \$30, \$40, \$50 and \$60 are available at the Avery Fisher Hall box office, Broadway at 65th Street, through CenterCharge at (212) 721-6500, or on the Lincoln Center website at LincolnCenter.org.