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YOUNG MUSICIANS FOUNDATION

MEDIA RELEASE

Debut Orchestra Announces 2016/17 Season

Los Angeles, August 15, 2016: The Young Musicians Foundation (YMF) Executive Director Walter Zooi and Music Director Yuga Cohler, today announced the 2016/17 season of the YMF Debut Orchestra. Founded in 1955, the YMF Debut Orchestra is one of the foremost pre-professional training orchestras in the U.S. André Previn, Lawrence Foster, Glenn Dicterow and Michael Tilson Thomas are among the Orchestra's notable alumni.

Mr. Cohler has programmed a season that reflects YMF's 62-year old tradition of encouraging adventurous programming combined with the interpretation of significant classical repertoire. "My intention for this season," explains Cohler, "is to explore the function of music in society. I believe strongly that music can serve as a platform for eliciting deeper thought and empathy from the people who listen to it. By presenting works that are seemingly disparate in terms of their origins, inspirations, and categorizations, I hope to provide a context for audiences to find the commonalities between these works."

Performances are free of charge unless indicated.

Friday, October 21st, 2016, 7:30pm at the Broad Stage,

1310 11th St, Santa Monica 90401

The inaugural concert's program includes Paul Dukas' *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, perhaps one of the most well-known and overtly programmatic pieces performed today. Mr. Cohler has chosen to juxtapose this work with Thomas Adès' *Asyla*, the Latin plural of "asylum," a work that outlines distinctly darker programmatic territory. The third piece in the program is Hector Berlioz' *Symphonie fantastique*, a romantic combination Dukas' occult references and Adès' modernist fever dream.

Sunday, November 20th, 2016, 6:00pm at the Bing Theatre, Los Angeles County Museum of Art,

5905 Wilshire Blvd., LA, 90036

The program includes two major works by French composer Darius Milhaud: *Le Boeuf sur le toit* and *La Création du monde*. Milhaud's incorporation of surrealism through the use of unexpected tonal elements and structures deconstructs the linear narratives upon which these pieces are based. Alberto Ginastera's *Variaciones concertantes* is a concerto for orchestra that features every instrument in the ensemble as a soloist, prompting a structural consideration of component parts, both the instruments and music itself, that comprise the whole.

**Saturday, February 25th, 2017, 7:30pm at Colburn School's Zipper Hall,
200 S Grand Ave, Los Angeles, 90012**

This all-strings program features Arnold Schoenberg's Waltzes for String Orchestra, a lesser-known early work that reflects the 23 year-old composer's admiration of Viennese classicism and the music of Brahms. While not an examination of music's component elements that characterized the composer's later works, Waltzes for String Orchestra is primarily concerned with form and function. The program also includes Leonard Bernstein's Serenade (after Plato's Symposium). Plato's *Symposium* is an examination of the source, purpose and nature of love, and gave rise to term "Platonic" when referring to relationships. Beethoven's String Quartet No. 14 in C# minor, op. 131 (arranged for string orchestra), about which composer Robert Schumann commented "After this, what is left for us to write? [The piece has a] grandeur [...] which no words can express." "Featured soloist is violinist **Charles Yang**, whose technical virtuosity has been described as "crystalline, yet muscular," by the *Financial Times*, and according to the *Boston Globe* "[Yang] plays classical violin with the charisma of a rock star."

**Monday, March 27th 2017, 8:00pm at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts,
9390 N Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90210**

YMF's annual Gala and Performance. The orchestra will perform Johann Christian Bach's attributed Concerto for Cello in C minor. Featured soloist will be Sarah Kave. Accomplished well beyond her 12 years of age, she is this year's winner of YMF's highly competitive Discovery Prize. Additional repertoire will be announced soon. Tickets are \$25 and \$50. For ticketing information call 213-617-7707.

The Great Music Series, Friday, April 28th, 2017

The season concludes with the second installment of the phenomenally successful inaugural concert of the *Great Music Series*, YEETHOVEN, an orchestral mash up of the music of Beethoven and Kanye West, which drew an audience three times larger than the 840-seat Aratani Theater could hold and was acclaimed by nearly 60 national media outlets, including the *Los Angeles Times*, *Rolling Stone Magazine*, *USA Today*, *The Guardian* (UK) and the influential music blog *Pitchfork*.

This year's Great Music Series will compare and coningle the influential genre of Electronic Dance Music (EDM) to works from the classical canon through the juxtaposition, using the orchestra as a platform. Mr. Cohler is currently exploring collaborative partnerships with influential EDM DJs and producers. EDM works and styles will be compared and contrasted primarily to works from with the minimalist school of orchestral music by composers such as Steve Reich, John Adams and similarly resonant works such as the 4th movement of Sibelius' 5th Symphony and Stravinsky's Symphony in C.

In keeping with the culture of EDM performances, the time and location of this concert will be announced shortly before the event.

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