EMERALD CITY MUSIC

Artistic Director, Violinist Kristin Lee

CLASSICAL MUSIC GETS A FACELIFT IN SEATTLE, TACOMA, AND OLYMPIA, WA

Emerald City Music is a fresh take on Classical music, bringing 45 renowned musicians to new audiences in the Puget Sound.

(SEATTLE, WA) New York based violinist Kristin Lee, a young and accomplished musician who was recently awarded the Avery Fisher Career Grant, has co-founded a new chamber music series in the Puget Sound called Emerald City Music. Beginning performances in September 2016, this one-of-a-kind concert series combines 45 of the world’s most renowned artists with provocative and compelling hand-selected music. Lee, alongside Executive Director Andrew Goldstein, crafted an unforgettable concert experience unique to the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia, as further detailed below.

CONCERTS IN THE HEART OF SOUTH LAKE UNION

Nestled behind Kakao Coffee & Chocolate in South Lake Union is an intimate venue for music lovers. Concert attendees mingle with artists over local drinks before hearing an hour of incredible chamber music; live and up close. The causal atmosphere – with no stage or assigned seating – gives listeners a place to enjoy timeless music in good company.

Seven late-night performances over the 2016/17 season will feature 45 of the world’s most renowned musicians. With thematic programming curated by violinist Kristin Lee, each concert is a 60-minute – no intermission – exploration of the world’s best and most unique classical music. Each concert features music by living composers side-by-side with masterworks.

Performance dates and artists will be announced March 2016.
CHAMBER MUSIC IN TACOMA AND OLYMPIA, WA
With a mission to expand chamber music in the entire Puget Sound, Emerald City Music will host two performances in Tacoma, WA and five performances in Olympia, WA over the 2016/17 season. These full-length Saturday-night performances will feature the same 45 world-class musicians in the South Sound’s most acoustically dynamic concert halls.

Performance dates and artists will be announced March 2016.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
Though the first season starts in September 2016, Emerald City Music offers a variety of engagement opportunities now.

Community Talks: Hosted by libraries, Rotary Clubs, and churches, Emerald City Music delves into some of the best stories of Classical music’s history. These hour-long talks feature live music by a string quartet, and are free and open to the public. Upcoming events can be found on our website calendar: www.emeraldcitymusic.org/calendar

Happy Hour Meet Ups: Want to meet other music lovers? What better way than at an Emerald City Music happy hour! These events give audiences (and occasionally musicians) the chance to mingle and socialize together. Upcoming events can be found on our website calendar: www.emeraldcitymusic.org/calendar

School Programs: Emerald City Music is partnering with Universities and High Schools to provide workshops and master-classes to local music students. Acclaimed musicians visiting during our 2016/17 season will visit schools to engage, inspire, and educate music students in the region.

WHY SPREAD THE WORD
To make the inaugural season – and our community engagement activities – happen, Emerald City Music is raising $210,000 from community leaders in Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia. 100% of these funds come from individuals in these cities, and we need help getting the word out to these individuals. This important work will not happen without financial support from community leaders.
A NOTE FROM KRISTIN LEE

“As a traveling violinist, there is nothing more gratifying than seeing the reactions of the audience being so moved by the music. Practicing, traveling, and constant time zone changes that lead to lack of sleep can get really exhausting, but the moment I get on that stage and feel the energy of the audience’s excitement, all that is left in me is pure joy and satisfaction. It’s really interesting to meet these audience members in person as well. I have witnessed numerous times how they were able to feel the emotions they haven’t felt in years, and feeling perfectly safe and comfortable to be in that vulnerable state.

Music clearly has the power to heal and bring people together, and this is the reason why I feel so passionate about bringing Emerald City Music to the Pacific Northwest. Andrew Goldstein (Executive Director and co-founder) and I specifically chose chamber music because chamber music is the most intimate form of music that one can experience as an audience member. Often times, people feel separated and detached from what is going on stage, but chamber music allows the audience to experience a concert as if they are part of the performance. One can examine the interaction between the musicians, and hear different melodies coming in and out from one instrument to another. It always keeps the audience stimulated and excited to see what is coming up next. I can’t be happier to share this power of music, and I can’t wait to see what great benefits it will bring to the communities of Seattle, Tacoma, and Olympia.”

EMERALD CITY MUSIC: SUMMARY FACTS & FIGURES

In our inaugural season:

- Seven concerts in Seattle, two in Tacoma, and five in Olympia, WA.
- Total annual performance attendance expected to reach 4,000.
- The $397,000 annual budget supports 14 concerts per year in addition to at least 20 outreach events.
- 45 artists will visit the region from around the world, including New York City, Houston, Boston, Seoul, Los Angeles, and London.
- The 2016/17 season will be announced in March 2016. However, Emerald City Music is currently announcing one artist per week via Facebook (facebook.com/emeraldcitymusic), Twitter (twitter.com/emeraldctymusic) and Instagram (instagram.com/emeraldcitymusic).