

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Box office: 941-225-6500

Media: Su Byron ▪ [subyron@verizon.net](mailto:subyron@verizon.net)

*For media ticket inquiries, please email Su Byron at [subyron@verizon.net](mailto:subyron@verizon.net).*

**Sarasota Concert Association presents**

## **Behzod Abduraimov**

**January 15, 7:30 p.m., at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall**

**In a Great Performance Series Concert**

*Recognized as much for his depth of substance as well as his sweeping style, this young Uzbeki pianist has already performed with the world's leading orchestras in collaboration with such conductors as Ashkenazy and Gergiev and brings to Sarasota a program fresh from a second appearance at Carnegie Hall.*

***“With prodigious technique and rhapsodic flair, Mr. Abduraimov dispatched the work’s challenges, including burst upon burst of arm-blurring octaves, with eerie command.” (The New York Times)***

(Sarasota, Florida) The Sarasota Concert Association is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a lineup of world-renowned classical artists and ensembles. Its 2020 Great Performers Series season opens on Wednesday, January 15, 7:30 p.m., at the Van Wezel Performing Art Hall, with the renowned pianist Behzod Abduraimov performing Chopin’s 24 Preludes, Op. 28, Debussy’s “Children’s Corner,” and Mussorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition.” *Individual tickets are \$30 to \$80. Subscriptions for all six 2020 GPS concerts are \$140, \$225, \$300, \$400, and*

*\$450. Tickets and information for the Great Performers Series are available by calling 941-225-6500 or online at [www.scasarasota.org](http://www.scasarasota.org).*

Behzod Abduraimov's performances combine an immense depth of musicality with phenomenal technique and breath-taking delicacy. Recognized as much for his depth of substance as well as his sweeping style, this young Uzbeki pianist has already performed with the world's leading orchestras in collaboration with such conductors as Ashkenazy and Gergiev and brings to Sarasota a program fresh from a second appearance at Carnegie Hall.

"There is a direct connection that could be made between Abduraimov's breadth of musical maturity and the wide-ranging scope of his program," says Charles Turon Ph.D. Turon a pianist, educator and recently retired professor of piano, music theory and music history at State College of Florida, explains that the first half of the program begins with all 24 Chopin Preludes, which in themselves range from the deceptively simple to unquestionably virtuosic. "As a bookend to these miniature masterpieces is Mussorgsky's 'Pictures at an Exhibition,' a work of rich imagination inspired by a varied set of 10 drawings and paintings capped with the monumental 'Great Gate of Kiev.' Between Chopin and Mussorgsky, Abduraimov explores the magic of childhood through Debussy's 'Children's Corner,' a work the composer dedicated to his own daughter. The variety of this program will provide the audience with a very wide array of emotions and afford Abduraimov the opportunity to display both intimate expression and impressive pianism."

## **The 2020 Great Performers Series Season: Upcoming**

**January 29, 2020: Orpheus Chamber Orchestra**

“Champions of Collaboration,” the Grammy-award winning Orpheus Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1972 to create a conductorless orchestra with the intimacy of a chamber ensemble. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

**February 12, 2020: Chicago Symphony Orchestra**

Led by the preeminent conductor Riccardo Muti, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra has been recognized as “one the five top orchestras in the world” by *Gramophone* magazine. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

**February 25, 2020: The Knights and Gil Shaham, violin**

Dedicated to transforming the orchestral experience and eliminating barriers between audiences and music, The Knights share the stage with one of the foremost violinists of our time, Gil Shaham. *(At Riverview Performing Arts Center)*

**March 12, 7:30 p.m.: Pacifica Quartet and Orion Weiss, piano**

Orion Weiss, acclaimed as “one of the most sought-after soloists of his generation,” joins forces with the Pacifica Quartet—an ensemble widely praised for its gripping interpretations of string quartet cycles. *(At Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall.)*

**March 30, 7:30 p.m.: Musicians from Marlboro**

An offshoot of the Marlboro Festival created by Rudolf Serkin, the Musicians from Marlboro are acclaimed both for their joyous, thoroughly prepared performances and for fostering artists at the beginning of their careers—including such luminaries as Yefin Bronfman, Richard Goode, and Richard Stoltzman. *(At Riverview Performing Arts Center)*

**About the Sarasota Concert Association**

The Sarasota Concert Association (SCA) is a nonprofit organization that fosters greater appreciation for world-class classical music by offering the community two engaging programs from December to April. The Great Performers Series, in its 75<sup>th</sup> season, brings world-renowned orchestras and chamber groups to the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall and

the Riverview Performing Arts Center. The Music Matinee Series features outstanding regional artists in free community concerts at Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center and other venues. For more information about SCA, visit [www.scasarasota.org](http://www.scasarasota.org).

**Photos courtesy of the artist.**