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INDIANA UNIVERSITY
AUDITORIUM

INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN AND INDIANA BOUND: THE MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA BRINGS CELEBRATED SOUND TO IU AUDITORIUM

WHAT: Minnesota Orchestra
WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 8 p.m.
WHERE: IU Auditorium

TICKETS: Tickets start at \$15 for IU Bloomington students with a valid ID and \$30 for the general public, on sale now. Individual tickets may be purchased online at IUauditorium.com, in person at the IU Auditorium Box Office, as well as through Ticketmaster.com or charge by phone at (800) 745-3000. The IU Auditorium Box Office is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. – With over a century of acclaimed performances and 175 programs presented each year, the Grammy Award-winning Minnesota Orchestra’s brings its sound to IU Auditorium on January 23.

Since its inception in 1903, the Minnesota Orchestra has committed themselves to building the orchestral repertoire of the future. They have premiered or commissioned over 300 compositions, introducing major new works by Jeff Beal, Sebastian Currier, Claudio Puntin, and James Stephenson in the 2016–2017 and 2017–2018 seasons alone.

Their performance at IU Auditorium will include Sibelius’s *En Saga*, Opus 9; Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Opus 23; and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 in A major, Opus 92. The performance features the Orchestra’s music director Osmo Vänskä as conductor and celebrated pianist Inon Barnatan along with nine Minnesota Orchestra musicians who attended IU’s Jacobs School of Music.

Hailed as “one of the most admired pianists of his generation” by *The New York Times*, Inon Barnatan is praised for his poetic sensibility and musical intelligence. His musical education connects him to some of the 20th century’s most illustrious pianists and teachers. He studied first with Professor Victor Derevianko, and in 1997 he moved from Tel Aviv to London to study at the Royal Academy of Music with Maria Curcio and Christopher Elton. He was a recipient of Lincoln Center’s Martin E. Segal Award in 2015, recognizing “young artists of exceptional accomplishment,” as well as the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2009.

Vänskä, the Minnesota Orchestra’s 10th music director, is renowned internationally for his compelling interpretations of the standard, contemporary, and Nordic repertoires. He has led the Orchestra on five major European tours—most recently drawing rave reviews in August 2016 for performances at festivals in Edinburgh, Amsterdam, and Copenhagen, plus a special concert in Lahti, Finland, where for 20 years he was music director of the Lahti Symphony. He also led the Minnesota Orchestra on a historic tour to Havana, Cuba, where the orchestra became the first American orchestra to perform in the island nation since the thaw in Cuban-American diplomatic relations.

Barnatan recently concluded his third and final season as the inaugural artist-in-association of the New York Philharmonic. Philharmonic music director Alan Gilbert calls Barnatan “the complete artist: a

wonderful pianist, a probing intellect, passionately committed, and a capable contemporary-music pianist as well.”

The Minnesota Orchestra performs regularly in notable concert halls across the globe such as Carnegie Hall, where they made their New York City debut in 1912. The Orchestra has played concerts in Australia, Canada, Europe, the Far East, Latin America, and the Middle East. And everywhere they go, international tours receive high praise.

However far they go across the globe, the Minnesota Orchestra maintains a strong commitment to educating their own community and forging connections through classical music. The Minnesota Orchestra connects with more than 85,000 music lovers annually through family concerts and educational programs, including their Young People’s Concerts series.

Indiana University Connections

Nine members of the Minnesota Orchestra attended the Jacobs School of Music (eight graduates) including Robert Anderson (bass), Jean Marker De Vere (violin), Roger Frisch (violin), Brian Mount (percussion), Beth Rapier (cello), Anthony Ross (cello), Catherine Schubilske (violin), Deborah Serafini (violin), and David Williamson (bass).

Current Jacobs faculty member Jorja Fleezanis, the Dorothy Richard Starling Chair in Violin and Head Coach and Creative Director of Orchestral Studies, was concertmaster of the Minnesota Orchestra from 1989 to 2009. She was the longest-tenured concertmaster in the orchestra’s history and only the second woman in the U.S. to hold the title of concertmaster in a major orchestra when appointed.

Bloomington Residency ([Click for Complete Schedule of Events](#))

During their time in Bloomington, the Minnesota Orchestra will complete a residency of educational and outreach activities involving the Jacobs School of Music and the community at large. Orchestra members and Jacobs faculty will collaborate to offer a wide variety of masterclasses for students studying horn, trombone, trumpet, tuba, percussion, flute, bassoon, oboe, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, double bass, and harp.

Vänskä will also conduct a rehearsal with the Jacobs School of Music Philharmonic Orchestra. Additionally, music students will have the opportunity to rehearse side-by-side with the orchestra on the Auditorium’s stage as well as attend an open rehearsal observation.

Additional residency programming includes IU alumni members of the Minnesota Orchestra speaking with the Jacobs School of Music’s Project Jumpstart students as well as a strings demonstration at Fairview Elementary school and a Hutton Honors College luncheon.

For more information on the Minnesota Orchestra and the rest of the 2017–2018 season, visit IUauditorium.com. The website features video clips and a selection of songs from this season’s performances, in addition to a direct link to the IU Auditorium Facebook and Twitter pages, whose members receive exclusive benefits throughout the year.

The Minnesota Orchestra at IU Auditorium is presented in partnership with Indiana University Office of the President, IU Foundation, and WFIU. IU Auditorium’s 2017–2018 season is presented by B97, Curry Auto Center, *The Herald Times*, CFC Properties, and IU Division of Residential Program and Services.

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