



PRESS RELEASE

CYPRUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS “BRIGHT DAYS AND ROMANTIC NIGHTS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN”

The Cyprus Symphony Orchestra will be presenting a special programme with works inspired from the history, myths, atmosphere, temperament and characteristic rhythms of Cyprus, Spain and Italy. The Orchestra joins forces with the distinguished artists maestro **Sarah Ioannides** and pianist **Elena Mouzalas** to interpret the Symphonic Poem *Anerada* for Piano and Orchestra by Andreas G. Orphanides, Manuel del Falla's *Nights in the gardens of Spain* for piano and orchestra and Symphony no.4 (“Italian”) by Felix Mendelssohn.

Two concerts will be given at 8:30pm on **Thursday 23 May 2013** at **Pallas Theatre**, Paphos Gate, Nicosia, and **Friday 24 May 2013** at the **Rialto Theatre** in Limassol. Tickets are available at the Theatres' box office (Pallas Theatre, tel. 22 410181 from Wednesday 22/5/13, Rialto Theatre, tel. 7777745) at €12 and €7 (18- 26 years old and pensioners). Free entrance for children and students under 18 years old. Information: 22463144, www.cyso.org.cy

The artists:

Elena Mouzalas is of Greek Cypriot origin. She started playing the piano at the age of three and graduated from Krino Kalomiri's class at the National Conservatory of Athens, with First Class honours. She continued her studies at the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris with scholarships from the French Government, the Onassis Foundation and A.G. Leventis Foundation. In 1976, she graduated from Pierre Sancan's piano class and Christian Lardé's chamber music class, and was awarded the Premier Prix. She won the 2nd Prize at the “Gian Batista Viotti” International Piano Competition, in Vercelli-Italy (1975) and the Laureate of the “Queen Sofia” International Piano Competition Madrid (1977). She has performed, among others, in France, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Italy, Spain, Greece, Cyprus, Canada, UK and the USA. She has performed with orchestras such as Radio-France Philharmonic, Brussels National, Montreal Metropolitan, Berlin Radio Symphony, London Mozart Players, Budapest Philharmonic, Singapore Radio Orchestra, Athens and Thessaloniki State Orchestras, Cyprus Symphony Orchestra a.o. She has recorded works by Greek composers, Haydn, Beethoven, Martinů and Weber. She is member of the B.D. of the Hellenic Cultural Center of Paris, Artistic Director of the “Manolis Kalomiris” Festival in Samos and piano professor at the Music Department of the Ionian University. In 2008 the France Euro Méditerranée Organization awarded Ms Mouzalas the “Successful Woman Award”. In a worldwide vote organised by SKY and BBC Television during 2008, she was voted one of the 100 most significant Greeks. From the year of 2013 she was nominated as a Counselor at the Ministry of Education and Culture of Greece for topics concerning musical education.

Described by the *New York Times* as a conductor with “unquestionable strength and authority,” **Sarah Ioannides'** dynamic presence has won praise from audiences and critics internationally with engagements spanning five continents. Recent guest appearances include the Rochester Philharmonic, Louisville Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, North Carolina Symphony, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestre Nationale de Lyon, and the Flemish Radio Orchestra. Music Director of the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra since 2005, and Music Director of the El Paso Symphony from 2005-11, Ioannides' successful tenures have established effective community relationships through creative programming, dynamic performances, premiers and city arts projects. Ioannides was recently named in the *Los Angeles Times* as one of six female conductors breaking the glass podium. She has been noted in the *New York Times* as part of “a new wave of female conductors in their late 20's through early 40's. Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra from 2002-2004, Ioannides also worked with composer Tan Dun from 1999-2004 developing skills in creative and multi-media performance. In the field of opera, Ioannides led the European premiere of Stephen Paulus' *The Woodlanders*, garnering acclaim from the *Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Independent* and *The Telegraph* in the UK. Receiving Masters degrees from both Oxford University and the Juilliard School of Music, Ioannides is recipient of numerous prizes and scholarships including a Fulbright Scholar while at Curtis Institute of Music and the JoAnn Falletta award for the most promising female conductor.



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Dr. Andreas G. Orphanides is a university professor, the Rector of European University Cyprus and the President of the European Association of Higher Education Institutions. Apart from his academic activities, has systematically been working creatively with music composition. Compositions of his have been performed in Cyprus, Europe and America. His most recent works are Symphony in D minor *Olympic Legacy* (for symphony orchestra, choir and soloist-baritone), Symphonic Suite in F major *Koines Rizes* (for symphony orchestra), Symphonic Poem *Anerada* for Piano and Orchestra, *Doxaste–Giortaste* for choir and symphonic band, the *University Anthems* of European University Cyprus and Open University of Cyprus (composition and lyrics), as well as three compact discs, *EURASHE Gala Concert at Tallinn 'Orphanides meets Kapp'*, *Fyllokarkia* (composition and lyrics), and *Nisi tou Erota* (lyrics).

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