

TACOMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SARAH IOANNIDES | MUSIC DIRECTOR

DATE: Oct. 1, 2014
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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the era of
Sarah!

New era for TSO begins with premiere by world-famous percussionist

TACOMA, WA – Percussion superstar Dame Evelyn Glennie will take center stage with her vast array of instruments this coming October when the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra opens its 2014-2015 performance season. The October 25 season opener will also mark the inaugural concert of new Music Director Sarah Ioannides, whose appointment was announced late last year on the heels of a two-year search encompassing a hundred international applicants.

Held in Tacoma's historic Pantages Theater, the concert will feature the world premiere of *Portraits of Immortal Love*, a new percussion concerto written expressly for Ms. Glennie by composer Sean O'Boyle. *Portraits* is written in commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of World War I. Also on the program will be Ravel's *Bolero*, Debussy's *Nocturnes*, and Respighi's *Pines of Rome*. *Bolero* is famous for its repeating, lyrical melodic line and ostinato snare drum beat, which gradually builds in volume to a crashing conclusion. The Debussy and Respighi are big, colorful works as well, which together with the Ravel and O'Boyle will make for a spectacular, exciting evening of music.

Dame Evelyn Glennie is the first person in musical history to successfully create and sustain a full-time career as a solo percussionist. As one of the most eclectic and innovative musicians on the scene today she creates performances of such vitality that they almost constitute a new genre. Awarded Dame Commander of the British Empire in 2007, the double Grammy award winning artist gives more than 100 concerts a year worldwide. Her diversity of collaborations includes visual mixing of live music with the likes of DJ Yoda and the 'Beat Boxer' Shlomo. Other collaborations include Nana Vasconcelos, Kodo, Bela Fleck, Björk, Bobby McFerrin, Sting, The Kings Singers, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. In July 2012 Glennie was featured in the Opening Ceremony of the 2012 Olympics in London. Born in Scotland, Glennie is based in the beautiful countryside of Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom.

This will mark a fitting opening to the era of Sarah Ioannides, who mounts the TSO podium as the TSO's first new music director in two decades, succeeding Harvey Felder. Hailed by *The New York Times* as a conductor with "unquestionable strength and authority," Sarah Ioannides is a passionate advocate of classical music through innovative projects, community engagement, education, and championing new works. The British conductor is a versatile musician, whose past studies include violin, viola, piano, and French horn, as well as singing, recorder, saxophone, and guitar. Ioannides served as Assistant conductor and Production Coordinator to Tan Dun, composer of the music for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, for many multimedia performances worldwide.

This concert, one of the premier events of Tacoma Arts Month 2014, is sponsored by Boeing, Gordon Thomas Honeywell and Pacific Northwest Eye Associates. Ms. Glennie's appearance is underwritten by the Tacoma Philharmonic Endowment Fund and the Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation.

For tickets, \$19 and up, visit www.tacomasympphony.org or call 253-591-5894 or toll free at 800-291-7593. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Broadway Center Box Office, 901 Broadway, Tacoma, Monday-Friday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday Noon-4 p.m.

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