

TACOMA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SARAH IOANNIDES | MUSIC DIRECTOR

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The era of
Sarah!

Song, Pipe, and Dance Stars Shine in Tacoma Symphony's *Songs from the Emerald Isle*

TACOMA, WA – Music Director Sarah Ioannides' own Celtic program *Songs from the Emerald Isle* to showcase song, pipe and dance stars alongside the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, March 22nd at 2:30 p.m. at the Pantages Theater. *Songs from the Emerald Isle* features tap dancer Trent Kowalik, uilleann piper Andrew Thomson, and soprano Kaitlyn Lusk, nationally acclaimed for her performances in the *Lord of the Rings Symphony*.

Ms. Lusk made her major orchestral debut with the Baltimore Symphony in 2003 at the age of 14. Kaitlyn has been the featured vocal soloist in Howard Shore's *Lord of the Rings Symphony*, performing this role with more than 50 of the world's finest orchestras and renowned conductors. Her expanded role in the Live-to-Projection performances of the *Lord of the Rings* films has brought her center stage at Radio City, Royal Albert Hall, the Sydney Opera House, Munich, Lucerne, Singapore, Paris, Taiwan, and Chicago. At Shore's request, she performed the Academy Award winning song "Into the West" as part of the Grammy Honors in New York City. In 2012 alone she performed with five of the world's greatest orchestras—Munich, Rotterdam, Chicago, Sydney and London.

Lusk has been invited to join with the 21st Century Orchestra and Maestro Ludwig Wicki in several concerts featuring the music of Ennio Morricone, highlighting motion pictures' greatest works. Her new show *FilmSong* features her unforgettable voice in a 75-minute tour de force of tunes from blockbuster movies backed by a full orchestra. Fluently singing Disney favorites, *Moon River*, Judy Garland standards, the *Titanic* theme, and more, Kaitlyn Lusk has established herself as one of the most versatile vocalists in the industry.

Of Irish descent, Mr. Kowalik was born in New York, beginning dance lessons at age three. He is a five-time undefeated North American Champion and a World Champion. On December 17, 2007, Kowalik made his London debut in the starring role of *Billy Elliot the Musical*. In 2008, he reprised the role on Broadway and in 2009 became the youngest person ever to receive the Tony Award. The production of *Billy Elliot* was nominated for 15 Tony Awards in all, including Best Musical. Trent Kowalik graduated from The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School–Pre-Professional Division American Ballet Theatre in 2013 and currently attends Princeton University where he is a member of the Princeton University Ballet and BodyHype Dance Company.

A Connecticut native, Andrew started playing music at an early age. After high school, he auditioned for and enlisted in the U.S. Marines, where he spent one of two years working at the Navy School of Music. Afterward in 2013, he graduated from Ithaca College with a major in percussion performance and composition and a minor in Native American studies. He is currently recording a CD and writing a concerto for orchestra and Gaelic musician, featuring marimba, Irish whistles, and uilleann pipes.

This concert is sponsored by Key Bank and Marine Floats. Media sponsor is Showcase Magazine.

Tacoma Symphony Orchestra's season has included several sell-outs and this concert is likely to do the same in advance of the show. For tickets, \$19 and up for adults; \$12 and up for students, 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.

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