

Violin Prodigy to Perform with the SPO

SPARTANBURG, SC— Brilliant prodigy and acclaimed soloist Kristin Lee is set to perform with the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra on Saturday, November 14 at 7:00pm in Twichell Auditorium. Lee will take the stage to deliver Sibelius's epic *Violin Concerto*, op. 47, a virtuosic piece that is darkly melodic and hauntingly beautiful. Maestra Sarah Ioannides has programmed this exciting music with two equally impressive works: *Dreamtime Ancestors* by Christopher Theofanidis and the classic *Enigma Variations* by Edward Elgar.

Lee, recently honored with the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant, is a violinist of remarkable versatility and impeccable technique who enjoys a vibrant career as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. A rising star, she was chosen to study with Itzhak Perlman after he heard her perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto with Juilliard's Pre-College Symphony Orchestra. Since graduating Juilliard with a Masters in violin performance, Lee has appeared as a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, the Korean Broadcasting Symphony of Korea, and many others. She has appeared on the world's finest concert stages, including Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, the Kennedy Center, Philadelphia's Kimmel Center, the Louvre Museum in Paris, and Korea's Kumho Art Gallery.

<http://www.violinistkristinlee.com/about/>

The concert will open with the exclusive SC premiere of *Dreamtime Ancestors* by the award winning composer Christopher Theofanidis. Along with several organizations around the country, the SPO took part in a collaborative project to commission a new work by Theofanidis. The result is this cinematic piece based on aboriginal creation myths found in Australia.

Theofanidis has had performances by many leading orchestras from around the world, including the London Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Moscow Soloists, the National, Atlanta, Baltimore, St. Louis, Detroit, and California Symphonies, and now the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra can be counted among these top organizations.

<http://www.theofanidismusic.com/Biography.html>

For the grand finale, Sarah Ioannides will then lead the orchestra on an epic and playful journey into the realm of Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. One of the classical world's most beloved works, the piece offers a series of orchestral sketches that relate to different people in the composer's life. Though he shared this information openly, Elgar also gave the work the title "*Enigma*," hinting at a hidden mystery or musical cryptogram. Though many scholars have tried to identify clues to unravel the riddle, none have ever solved the puzzle!

For tickets, \$21 and up for adults; \$9 and up for students, visit www.spartanburgphilharmonic.org or call 864-596-9724. Tickets may be purchased in person at the Twichell Box Office, West Wilson Room 204, 580 East Main Street, Spartanburg, SC.

Pre-concert activities include a reception in the Twichell lobby beginning at 6:00pm and *Classical Conversations* with Christopher Vaneman at 6:15pm in the Lawson Academy Recital Hall.

####

About the Music Foundation of Spartanburg – The Music Foundation of Spartanburg is dedicated to enriching the Spartanburg community and surrounding areas through performance of classical music by the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra (SPO), both for entertainment and educational outreach. Founded in 1948 and led by Music Director and Conductor Sarah Ioannides, the SPO is comprised of professional musicians from diverse backgrounds who form an ensemble capable of performing a variety of musical styles and repertoire. www.spartanburgphilharmonic.org