



For Immediate Release: January 22, 2016

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Arapahoe Philharmonic Presents “Celestial Waters”

Program repeated for King Center Concert Series

Denver – The Arapahoe Philharmonic (AP), under the direction of Devin Patrick Hughes, presents “Celestial Waters,” the fourth subscription concert of the 2015–2016 season, on Friday, February 12, 2016, at Mission Hills Church, 620 SouthPark Drive, Littleton, CO 80120. “Celestial Waters” features Claude Debussy’s *La Mer* (The Sea) and guest soloist Gregory Walker in Johannes Brahms’ Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 77. Maestro Hughes will give a pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m.

Brahms wrote only one violin concerto in his career. It was dedicated to his friend Joseph Joachim, a highly-regarded violinist of his day. The concerto is technically demanding for the soloist while showcasing the orchestra as a formidable partner. Denver-based violinist Gregory Walker, on faculty at University of Colorado Denver, is the featured soloist. He will be performing his own cadenza in the concerto that will include the orchestra—an unusual and exciting addition to this masterpiece.

Perhaps Debussy’s most admired orchestral composition, *La Mer* is an impressionistic interpretation of the fluidity of the sea. Inspired by childhood memories and artistic and literary depictions, the music tells no story other than the ambient movement of wind and waves through Debussy’s colorful and imaginative orchestration.

A brief video about this program with Music Director Devin Patrick Hughes may be found at <http://www.arapahoe-phil.org/learn/compositions/>.

For more information and tickets, visit www.arapahoe-phil.org or call the Arapahoe Philharmonic office at 303-781-1892.

About Gregory Walker

Since his 2009 Philadelphia Orchestra debut, praised by *American Record Guide* as a performance of “precision and rapturous immediacy,” violinist Gregory Walker has gained international recognition for his “beautifully calibrated phrasing,” “ravishingly beautiful” tone, and the “sheer virtuoso force” of his delivery. He has developed unique collaborations with Poland’s Sinfonia Varsovia and Filharmonia

Sudecka, the Encuentro Musical de los Americas in Havana, Cuba, the Detroit Symphony, Colorado Symphony, Cleveland Chamber Symphony, Breckenridge Festival Orchestra, Oberlin Conservatory Orchestra, Ft. Collins Symphony, Yaquina Chamber Orchestra, Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, and Bavarian Youth Orchestra in Germany. He has performed at Norway's Tromsø Cathedral Series, the Gateways Music Festival in Rochester, New York, the Centro Mexicano para la Musica y las Artes Sonoras, Cork Orchestral Society Concert Series in Ireland, Peking University, and at the U.S. Library of Congress.

Walker was profiled in the internationally-distributed 2012 Chuck Fryberger documentary, *Song of the Untouchable*. His discography includes critically-acclaimed releases from the Newport Classic, CRI, Orion, Centaur, and Leonarda record labels. He has performed with pop star Lyle Lovett and, as past concertmaster of the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, appeared with Mstislav Rostropovich, Itzhak Perlman, Doc Severinsen, and the Marcus Roberts Trio. Walker has been featured on National Public Radio, in *Strings* magazine, and on the cover of the April 2007 *International Musician*. He can be heard on Albany Records' 2014 recording of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer George Walker's Violin Sonata No. 2.

About the Arapahoe Philharmonic

Founded in 1953, the Arapahoe Philharmonic is among the longest established, continuously operating musical resources in Colorado. After thriving under just two conductors between 1953 and 2012, T. Gordon Parks and Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr., we welcomed the exciting new conductor Devin Patrick Hughes to the podium in the 2013-2014 season. The orchestra's musicians are primarily volunteers playing for the love of music, with a core of compensated section principals who provide technical leadership and support the excellence of performance.

Concerts in our home of Mission Hills Church in Littleton feature repertoire spanning the centuries, from the great masters to composers of the current day. The Philharmonic is invested in future generations, presenting annual children's concerts, sponsoring outreach to schools, and presenting three collegiate-level competitions, the T. Gordon Parks Memorial Concerto Competition and the Vincent C. LaGuardia, Jr. Conducting and Composition Competitions.

About the Music Director

Devin Patrick Hughes was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Arapahoe Philharmonic in summer of 2013. He had previously held conducting posts with the Santa Fe Youth Symphony Association, Denver Contemporary Chamber Players, Denver Philharmonic Orchestra, Denver Young Artists Orchestra and Lamont Symphony Orchestra. He is also currently Music Director of the Boulder Symphony Orchestra. Hughes was the only American selected with eleven other finalists in the 2010 Arturo Toscanini International Conducting Competition in Parma, Italy. More information may be found at www.devinpatrickhughes.com.

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