



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GUEST CONDUCTOR VASILY PETRENKO
TO LEAD ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
MAY 17, 19, and 20, 2012**

**Pianist Kirill Gerstein To Perform
Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No. 2**

**Program To Also Include Elgar's *Cockaigne* Overture
And Rachmaninov's Symphony No. 2**

Guest conductor Vasily Petrenko will lead the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in a program featuring Elgar's *Cockaigne* Overture and Rachmaninov's Symphony No. 2. Pianist Kirill Gerstein will join the Orchestra for Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No. 2. The performances will take place May 17 and 19, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. and May 20, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in Atlanta Symphony Hall at the Woodruff Arts Center.

These performances will mark Mr. Petrenko's second time leading the Orchestra and Mr. Gerstein's second appearance with the Atlanta Symphony.

About the Repertoire

ELGAR

***Cockaigne* Overture**

Edward Elgar composed his *Cockaigne* Overture during an especially challenging period. Following the triumphant premiere of his "Enigma" Variations in June of 1899, Elgar accepted an invitation from the Birmingham Festival to compose a sacred choral work... ([more](#))

SHOSTAKOVICH

Piano Concerto No. 2

Almost a full quarter-century separates the two Piano Concertos by Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich. Shostakovich composed his First Piano Concerto in 1933... ([more](#))

RACHMANINOV

Symphony No. 2

Sergei Rachmaninov completed his First Symphony in August of 1895. Thanks in large part to the efforts of composers Sergei Taneyev and Alexander Glazunov, the Symphony received its premiere at the Hall of the Nobility in St. Petersburg (now St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall) on March 15, 1897... ([more](#))

About the Artists

Vasily Petrenko was born in 1976 and started his music education at the St Petersburg Capella Boys Music School – the oldest music school in Russia. He then studied at the St Petersburg Conservatoire and has also participated in masterclasses with such major figures as Ilya Musin, Mariss Jansons, Yuri Temirkanov and Esa-Pekka Salonen... ([more](#))

Russian-born pianist **Kirill Gerstein** is one of today's most intriguing young musicians. His masterful technique, musical curiosity, and probing interpretations have led to explorations of classical music and jazz, advanced degrees by the age of 20, a professorship in piano by the age of 27, and a full performance schedule at the world's major music centers and festivals... ([more](#))

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**, currently in its 67th season, consistently affirms its position as one of America's leading Orchestras by performing great music, presenting great artists, educating, and engaging... ([more](#))

Concert Previews

Audiences have the opportunity to learn more about the music they'll be hearing at concerts with free [Concert Previews](#) given by composers, conductors, educators, and musical experts, all hosted by [ASO Insider and Program Annotator Ken Meltzer](#). Thursday evenings, 7:00–7:30 p.m. in Symphony Hall (unless otherwise noted). Concerts previews are **free and open to all concert ticket holders**. Speakers and locations are subject to change.

Fanfare Pre-Concert Dinner Buffet

An Atlanta Symphony tradition returns in the 2011–2012 season — *Fanfare*, the pre-concert buffet-style dining by Legendary Partners, will be available to all concertgoers at all evening Delta Classical, Superpops!, and the Cola-Cola Holiday concert performances from 6:00–8:00 p.m. ... ([more](#))

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This concert is part of the Delta Classical Concert Series. **Delta Air Lines** is the Official Airline of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

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Single tickets for these performances are \$21 to \$79. All single tickets for the 2011–2012 season are on sale now, and available online at atlantasymphony.org, or by calling (404) 733-5000. Tickets may also be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com, all ticketmaster outlets, and the [Woodruff Arts Center Box Office](#), located in the Woodruff Arts Center at 15th and Peachtree Streets. Box office hours are Monday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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VASILY PETRENKO AND KIRILL GERSTEIN

Delta Classical Series

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, May 17, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 19, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 20, 2012, 3:00 p.m.

Vasily Petrenko, conductor
Kirill Gerstein, piano
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

ELGAR
SHOSTAKOVICH
RACHMANINOV

Cockaigne Overture
Piano Concerto No. 2
Symphony No. 2

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