



Media contact:
Lucy Beighle 239-3193
lucybeighle@yahoo.com

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Missoula Symphony Orchestra Presents “The New World” —Popular Piece Not Performed in Decades—

(Missoula, Montana) –With a nod to the upcoming celebration of Thanksgiving, the Missoula Symphony Orchestra presents its second concert of the season, “The New World,” on Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. respectively, in the University Theatre on the UM campus.

The cornerstone of the concert is Antonin Dvorak’s Symphony No. 9, “From the New World,” which is one of the most popular pieces in orchestral repertoire, and one that Missoula Symphony audiences have not had the opportunity to hear in decades. “It was written by Dvorak to reflect the spirit of his host country, America,” Music Director Darko Butorac says. “The audience will hear the influence of both the African American and Native American culture, and a hint of what we now would recognize as a “western theme song.” He adds, “It’s a very passionate piece—this is just one of those works that need to be heard.”

In addition to Dvorak’s classic, the program also features two other pieces. The show opens with “Concerto Romanesc,” a modern composition by Gyorgy Ligeti. Although Ligeti is most famous for his avant garde music featured in Stanley Kubrick films such as *2001: A Space Odyssey* and *Eyes Wide Shut*, Butorac describes this piece as one of Ligeti’s “youthful” pieces inspired by the folk music of Romania.

This is followed by Franz Liszt’s “Piano Concerto No. 1 in E Flat,” the perfect piece to show off the virtuosity of piano soloist, Yu Kosuge. “The orchestra is more an accompanist than a partner in this piece,” says Butorac. “This is Yu Kosuge’s moment to shine.” Tokyo born Kosuge, who has been performing with orchestras since the age of nine, has a highly successful international career and works with many of the leading European orchestras. “Her concert schedule reads ‘Japan, Austria, Spain, Missoula.’ We’re really lucky to have someone of Yu’s caliber come to Missoula,” says Butorac.

“The New World” is the second concert of the season—next up will be Holiday Pops on December 3 and 4. Tickets for “The New World” and season tickets are available online at **missoulasymphony.org**, by phone at **721-3194**, or in person at the **Symphony office at 320 E. Main Street**.