



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2014

CSO's Popular, Free Happy Hour Concert Series to Resume in 2014-15

First Concert to Feature Guest Conductor Stephen Squires on October 2

Due to its rousing success last season, the Columbus Symphony will continue its Happy Hour free concert series in the 2014-15. The first concert will feature guest conductor Stephen Squires on Thursday, October 2, at the Ohio Theatre. The performance will last approximately 90 minutes and feature Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, Stacy Garrop's *Thunderwalker*, and Mozart's Symphony No. 40. WOSU's Christopher Purdy will host, adding commentary on each of the works and interviewing the conductor throughout the evening. The 2014-15 Happy Hour concert series is presented by PNC Arts Alive with additional support from Watershed Distillery and the Johnstone Fund for New Music.

The Columbus Symphony presents Happy Hour with Stephen Squires at the Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.) on Thursday, October 2. Doors open at 5:30pm. The concert begins at 6:30pm. Admission is free. Cash bar. Free appetizers. No intermission.

PNC Arts Alive is a multi-year, \$2.5 million initiative of the PNC Foundation that supports visual and performing arts groups with the goal of increasing arts access and engagement in new and innovative ways.

"We know what art can do, how it changes perspectives, even changes lives. From classical music and fine art to dance and theatre, we're committed to keeping the arts alive in central Ohio," said Michael Gonsiorowski, PNC regional president for central Ohio.

About guest conductor Stephen Squires

Professor of Conducting in the Music Conservatory at the Chicago College of Performing Arts, Roosevelt University, Stephen Squires is a musician with a career that blends his passions for conducting, teaching, and performing. He serves a number of Illinois music organizations including Resident Conductor of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra, Music Director of the Mendelssohn Chamber Orchestra, Music Director of the Millar Brass, and Music Director of the Illinois Brass Band. Fully committed to conducting the music of living composers, Squires has premiered more than 50 new works.

www.columbussymphony.com

CALENDAR LISTING

The CSO presents HAPPY HOUR with Stephen Squires

Thursday, October 2, 6:30 pm

Ohio Theatre (39 E. State St.)

This concert will be led by guest conductor Stephen Squires and feature Vaughan Williams' *Serenade to Music*, Stacy Garrop's *Thunderwalker*, and Mozart's Symphony No. 40. WOSU's Christopher Purdy will host, adding commentary on each of the works and interviewing the conductor throughout the evening.

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The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The CSO also appreciates the support of the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973, and the Kenneth L. Coe and Jack Barrow, Arthur G. Wilmer, and Sayre Charitable funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all its citizens.

About the Columbus Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1951, the Columbus Symphony is the longest-running, professional symphony in central Ohio. Through an array of innovative artistic, educational, and community outreach programming, the Columbus Symphony is reaching an expanding, more diverse audience each year. This season, the Columbus Symphony will share classical music with more than 175,000 people in central Ohio through concerts, radio broadcasts, and special programming. For more information, visit www.columbussympphony.com.

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