Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestra Performs at the PAC Sept. 28

SAN LUIS OBISPO – In a stirring start to the Cal Poly Arts new 07/08 performing arts series, Hungary’s own FRANZ LISZT CHAMBER ORCHESTRA opens the season at the Cohan Center on Friday, September 28, 2007 at 8 p.m.

The evening is led by founding member Janos Rolla – one of Hungary’s foremost violinists, renowned throughout the world for his performances as a chamber musician and soloist.

In a review of a recent FLCO concert, the St. Louis Post Dispatch raved: “It was electrifying; bold phrasings and earthy, irresistible dynamic energy.”

The special program designed for the Harman Hall concert features Felix Mendelssohn’s “String Symphony No. 10 in b minor,” “Introduction and Allegro” by Edward Elgar, “Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2” by Franz Liszt, Antonin Dvorak’s “Serenade in E Major,” and a stunning finale of Johannes Brahms’ “Hungarian Dances Nos. 2, 4 and 6.”

The Orchestra adopted the name of the great Hungarian composer in homage to the genius whose name is inseparable from Hungarian music and whose spirit infuses the musical landscape of the world.

Originally formed at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest, the Orchestra made its debut in 1963 and has since played a significant role in Hungary’s musical life. Through its recordings, innumerable radio broadcasts, and international tours, the ensemble has become one of the most renowned and esteemed chamber orchestras performing today.

The Orchestra has toured throughout the world and regularly tours in Europe, the United States, South America, the Far East, and Australia. It appears on the world’s leading concert stages and at major international festivals including the Edinburgh, Lucerne, Bath, Flanders, Helsinki, Gstaad and Montreux Festivals.

The Orchestra’s repertory covers virtually the entire historical span of classical music: from Bach, Vivaldi, Haydn, and Mozart through Schubert and Tchaikovsky to 20th Century composers such as Alfred Schnittke and Dmitri Shostakovich.

The Orchestra has recorded more than 200 discs and was awarded the Grand Prix of the French Academie du Disque in Paris three times; they’ve earned "Record of the Year" titles in Hungary many times over.

A pre-concert lecture with Cal Poly Music Department faculty emeritus, Clifton Swanson, will be held at 7 p.m. in the Philips Recital Hall.

Tickets for the performance are $38 - $44, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Sponsored by Robert and Linda Takken, with additional support provided by KCBX 90.1 FM. For audio and video samples of all Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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