



NEWS FOR RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Beethoven and Rodrigo Highlight March Concert *Kenneth Meyer performs guitar concerto at Patchogue Theatre*

Stellar classical guitarist Kenneth Meyer, a Patchogue native, joins the Long Island Philharmonic and Maestro David Stewart Wiley in a one-night only performance of Joaquin Rodrigo's exquisite *Concierto de Aranjuez* and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 on Saturday, March 14, 2009 at 8 p.m. at the Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Of Kenneth Meyer's playing, *The Buffalo News* said he is "impeccably articulate with superb technique." *The Washington Post* adds he "plays with impressive gravity and power."

Joaquin Rodrigo achieved international acclaim when he composed *Concierto de Aranjuez* in 1939. The piece was inspired by the gardens at the Royal Palace of Aranjuez in Rodrigo's native Spain and seeks to evoke the beauty and tranquility that captivated the blind composer's senses. Now a 20th century classic, the concerto was the first piece Rodrigo wrote for guitar with orchestra and the popular Adagio movement went on to inspire the next generation of musicians. Most notably, Miles Davis' groundbreaking jazz album, "*Sketches of Spain*", features several takes of the movement.

Though many of Beethoven's works were not fully appreciated during his lifetime, his seventh symphony won instant popularity. The symphony has a lighter mood than his previous symphonies, using dance themes and emphasizing rhythm instead of melody to provide momentum in the piece.

Guitar students and aficionados can join soloist Kenneth Meyer for a hands on Master Class on Friday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at the Patchogue Theatre. The Master Classes are designed to give students an opportunity to perform with world renowned musicians appearing as guests with the Long Island Philharmonic. All Master Classes is free and open to the public.

Long Island Philharmonic programs are made possible, in part, through public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency; support from the New York State Office of Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Nassau County Office of Cultural Development; Suffolk County under the auspices of the office of Cultural Affairs, Steve Levy, County Executive; and the Huntington Arts Council. The Philharmonic offers special thanks to its corporate sponsors: Arbor National Commercial Mortgage LLC, Audiovox, BAE Systems, Bank of America, CA, Inc., David Lerner Associates, Frank and Camille's, Henry Schein, Inc., HIP Health Plan of New York, HSBC, J.H. Cohn LLP, mindSHIFT, LI Pulse, NEFCU, Newsday, Oheka Castle, OSI Pharmaceuticals, Pulte Homes, Roslyn Savings Foundation, UBS Financial Services and the WE'RE Group.

Saturday, March 14, 2009 · 8 p.m. at Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts

BEETHOVEN AND THE ROMANTIC GUITAR

Long Island Philharmonic

David Stewart Wiley, Music Director & Conductor

Kenneth Meyer, guitar

Beethoven *Coriolan Overture, Op. 62*
Rodrigo *Concierto de Aranjuez*
 I. Allegro con spirito
 II. Adagio
 III. Allegro gentile
Beethoven *Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op.92*
 I. Poco sostenuto – Vivace
 II. Allegretto
 III. Presto – Assai meno presto
 IV. Allegro con brio

Please join Maestro Wiley one hour before each Classics Concert for Pre-Concert Conversations

Ticket Information

Prices: \$68, \$50, \$30, \$20

Tickets may be purchased by phone or in person at the Philharmonic Box Office 631.293.2222, 1 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 2C21, Melville, NY 11747 or online at www.lipharmonic.org.

A \$2 per ticket handling fee will be applied to all individual tickets ordered through the Box Office or website.

For complete information about the Philharmonic's season, call 631.293.2223, or visit online at www.lipharmonic.org.

About the Long Island Philharmonic

The Long Island Philharmonic, currently in its 30th season, is the largest performing arts organization and the only professional orchestra in the region. Founded in 1979 by folk singer Harry Chapin and group of local business leaders, the Orchestra was conceived as an artistic institution that would serve as the cornerstone of Long Island's cultural life. Today, the Philharmonic continues to provide cultural and educational programming of the highest level to the residents of Long Island. Considered one of the nation's most honored and respected regional orchestras, the Long Island Philharmonic was designated a "Primary Arts Organization" by the State of New York. The Philharmonic is the resident orchestra of the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts and an inaugural inductee of the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

The Long Island Philharmonic is noted for excellent artistic leadership beginning with founding Music Director Christopher Keene (1979-1990), followed by Marin Alsop (1990-1996), David Lockington (1996-2000), and current Music Director David Stewart Wiley who has led the Orchestra since 2001.

More than 30,000 lives are enriched each year by the Philharmonic's extensive Arts-in-Education and Community Engagement Programs, Random Acts of Music (RAM) presented in schools, concerts halls, libraries, hospitals, museums, and community centers. Among these are Youth Concerts, the Annual Young Artist Competition, the Master Class Series, numerous In-School Programs, Orchestra at Work, and Kids at Concerts.

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About the Artist

Kenneth Meyer, guitar

Patchogue native **Kenneth Meyer** is the national first-prize winner at the 1994 MTNA Collegiate Artist Competition. He is regarded by the *Washington Post* as, "A thinking man's guitarist – he focuses on the inner structure of a piece...and plays with impressive gravity and power." The *Buffalo News* has called him "impeccably articulate with superb technique."

Since his professional concert debut at the Teatro de la Opera de Maracay, Mr. Meyer continues to appear in recital, as a chamber musician, and soloist with orchestra in venues throughout North America, South America and Europe. Highlights include concerts in the Weill Recital Hall, Wolf Trap, the Skirbal Cultural Center, the historic Basilica di San Clemente, the Museo de Barquisimeto, Museo del Teclado, the Sala José Felix Ribas, the Teatro de Teresa Cerreño and the Ford Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to live concerts, his performances have been featured on film, radio and most recently, on the Albany records label.

Frequently in demand as a guest artist at colleges and universities across the country, Mr. Meyer has given concerts and lectures at, among others, the Eastman School of Music, the State University of New York College at Fredonia, Syracuse University, Cornell University, the University of Southern Mississippi, North Carolina School of the Arts, the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Hochstein School of Music, Delta College, Canisius College, Finger Lakes and Saint Joseph's Community Colleges and the University of Caracas in Venezuela. In addition, he is an active performer and teacher at music festivals and has been featured at the Rome, Alexandria, Eastman Guitar Summerfest and the Alirio Diaz Guitar Festivals.

Mr. Meyer's commitment to the cultivation and performance of new music has led to awards from the Barlow Endowment, the Argosy Foundation, and the Eastman School's Hanson Institute for American Music, interpretive instruction from Milton Babbitt and premiere performances of compositions by, among others, Leslie Basset, Edward Green, Gregory Mertl, Edie Hill, Kevin Ernste, Nicolas Scherzinger, Donald J. Sparr, James Piorkowski and Canadian composer Robert Baker. His diversity as a musician has also led to performances on mandolin, banjo and electric guitar with, among others, the Syracuse Opera, the Syracuse Society for New Music and the Broadway touring production of the Who's rock opera, "Tommy." Most recently, Meyer was the featured soloist in a concerto for Electric Guitar and Wind Ensemble composed by Evan Hause.

Kenneth Meyer holds degrees in Music Composition and Performance from the State University of New York at Fredonia and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees from the Eastman School of Music. He has served on the faculties of East Carolina University, SUNY at Fredonia and the Eastman School of Music and currently directs a thriving guitar studies program at Syracuse University's Setnor School of Music.

Dr. Kenneth Meyer resides in Geneva, NY with his wife and two young sons where he also serves on the faculties of Hobart and William Smith Colleges.

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