



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2010

CONTACT

JANNA GRAHAM

559-261-0611 ext. 612

Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2

Fresno, California – October 12, 2010 – Music Director **Theodore Kuchar** and the **Fresno Philharmonic** welcome pianist **Orli Shaham** who will join the orchestra in a performance of Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 on October 23 and 24 at the Saroyan Theatre in downtown Fresno.

Ticket prices start at \$15, of which a limited number remain available. Tickets can be purchased online at www.fresnophil.org, or by calling the Philharmonic Box Office at 559-261-0600. The Fresno Philharmonic performs at the Saroyan Theatre in downtown Fresno on Saturday, October 23, 2010 at 8:00pm and Sunday, October 24, 2010 at 2:30pm.

Also on the program is Dvorak's *My Home Overture* and Smetana's Selections from "Ma Vlast" (My Fatherland) including *The High Castle*, *The Moldau*, *Sárka*, and *From Bohemia's Meadows and Forests*. Early arrivers to the concerts can learn about the music by attending *Inside Music* with the Philharmonic's Executive Director Don Reinhold. These thirty minute lectures begin one hour before the performances and are free to all concertgoers.

Pianist Orli Shaham received her first scholarship for musical study from the America-Israel Cultural Foundation at age five to study with Luisa Yoffe at the Rubin Academy of Music in Jerusalem. By age seven, she traveled to New York with her family to begin study with Nancy Stessin, and became a scholarship student of Herbert Stessin at The Juilliard School a year later. She has also won the Gilmore Young Artist Award and the Avery Fisher Career Grant, two prestigious prizes given to further the development of outstanding talent. In addition to her musical education, Orli Shaham holds a degree in history from Columbia University.

Driven by a passion to bring classical music to new audiences, Orli Shaham maintains an active parallel career as a respected broadcaster, music writer and lecturer. In 2005, she began a collaboration with Classical Public Radio Network as the host of "Dial-a-Musician," a feature she created especially for the radio network. The concept of the program was to enhance listeners' experiences of music and musicians. During the feature she directed listeners' questions about classical music to fellow musicians -by literally dialing them up for the correct answer. Her program hosted over 60 guests including composer John Adams, pianists Emanuel Ax and Yefim Bronfman, Emerson String Quartet violinist Philip Setzer and cellist David Finckel, and sopranos Natalie Dessay and Christine Brewer.

###