



For Immediate Release

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Houston Symphony

Jennifer Mire

(713) 337-8560

jennifer.mire@houstonsymphony.org

Discovery Green

Kim Tarleton

(713) 524-0661

kim@elmorepr.com

**HOUSTON SYMPHONY GIVES FREE CONCERT
AT DISCOVERY GREEN**

HOUSTON (March 25, 2014) – On April 22, the Houston Symphony will perform its first free concert at Discovery Green. Celebrating joint anniversaries, the Houston Symphony’s Centennial Season and Discovery Green’s sixth birthday, the two organizations will be joining forces to create a unique outdoor event open to all. Led by Concertmaster Frank Huang, the concert will include a performance of Astor Piazzolla’s tango-inspired *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, a set of four tango compositions representing the four seasons, alongside Tchaikovsky’s famous *Serenade for Strings*.

“We are excited for this upcoming collaboration,” said Houston Symphony Executive Director and CEO Mark C. Hanson. “As we celebrate our Centennial Season, what better way to show our appreciation and love for this city than to partner with another great organization and offer a free concert at Discovery Green, a first for the Houston Symphony!”

Before the concert, attendees can take part in tango demonstrations by The Argentine Tango School of Houston, enjoy tango music by Rene Casarsa and sample free wine provided by Spec’s beginning at 6:30 p.m. Attendees will also be able to taste empanadas and view a six-tier display cake in honor of the Houston Symphony and Discovery Green’s birthdays, graciously provided by Phoenicia Specialty Foods.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for our two local and respected organizations to partner together to bring Houstonians a world class concert,” said Discovery Green President Barry Mandel . “It’s also a great way for us to commemorate Discovery Green’s sixth birthday and another year of bringing dynamic programming to our visitors.”

Discovery Green and the Houston Symphony thank the event’s honorary chairman, the Honorable Daniel O. Deodato, Consul General of Argentina; the Mayor’s Office of International Communities; and partners Spec’s, Phoenicia Specialty Foods, the Argentine Tango School of Houston and Rene Casarsa.

HOUSTON SYMPHONY COMMUNITY CONCERT

Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Tango and Tchaikovsky: The Houston Symphony at Discovery Green

Frank Huang, conductor and concertmaster

Piazzolla: Four Seasons of Buenos Aires

Tchaikovsky: Serenade for Strings

Discovery Green, 1500 McKinney St

FREE

For more information, visit www.houstonsymphony.org or www.discoverygreen.com

About Frank Huang

First Prize Winner of the 2003 Walter W. Naumburg Foundation’s Violin Competition and the 2000 Hannover International Violin Competition, Frank Huang has an established career as a violin virtuoso. At age 11, he first performed with the Houston Symphony in a nationally broadcast concert and has served as the orchestra’s concertmaster since 2010.

He has performed with orchestras throughout the world, including the Cleveland and Genoa Orchestras, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Saint Paul and Amadeus! Chamber Orchestras, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and the NDR Radio Philharmonic of Hannover. Recent concerts include debuts in Wigmore Hall (London), Salle Cortot (Paris), Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.) and Herbst Theatre (San Francisco). His second recital in Alice Tully Hall featured the world premiere of Donald Martino’s Sonata for Solo Violin.

Huang has performed on NPR's Performance Today, Good Morning America and CNN's American Morning. His first commercial recording with Fantasies by Schubert, Ernst, Schoenberg and Waxman was released on the Naxos label in 2003. He has performed in many competitions and won top prize awards in the Premio Paganini International Violin Competition and the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis. He received Gold Medals in the Kingsville International Competition, the Irving M. Klein International String Competition and the D'Angelo Young Artist Competition.

Deeply committed to chamber music, Huang has attended the Marlboro Chamber Music Festival, Ravinia's Steans Music Institute, The Seattle Chamber Music Society's Summer Festival and the Caramoor Festival; he frequently participates in Musicians From Marlboro tours. He was selected by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center to be a member of the prestigious Chamber Music II program. Huang was previously first violinist of the Grammy® award-winning Ying Quartet and on faculty at the Eastman School of Music.

Huang is a faculty member at Rice University and the University of Houston and teaches during the summers at the Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Texas Music Festival and South Korea's Great Mountains International Music Festival. He performs with pianist Gilles Vonsattel and cellist Nicolas Altstaedt and serves as concertmaster and leader of Sejong, a conductorless chamber orchestra in New York.

About Discovery Green

Discovery Green is a 12-acre park created by a public-private partnership between the City of Houston and the non-profit Discovery Green Conservancy. Since the park opened in April 2008, it has welcomed more than 6 million visitors and hosted more than 600 public and private events per year. The Discovery Green Conservancy works with hundreds of programming partners to present three dynamic programming seasons each year most of which are FREE and open to the public. As a non-profit organization, the Conservancy raises all the funds needed for the programming that Houstonians enjoy.

About the Houston Symphony

During the 2013-14 Season, the Houston Symphony celebrates its 100th year as one of America's leading orchestras with a full complement of concert, community, education, touring and recording activities. The Houston Symphony is one of the oldest performing arts organizations in Texas whose inaugural performance was held at The Majestic Theater in downtown Houston on June 21, 1913. Today, with an annual operating budget of \$30.4 million, the full-time ensemble of 87 professional musicians is the largest performing arts organization in Houston, presenting more than 280 concerts for 280,000 people, including 84,000 children, annually. For tickets and more information, please visit www.houstonsymphony.org or call 713-224-7575.

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