

UP Arts Presents: Simply Stunning Soloists

By Philippa Lotzé

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The University of Pretoria Symphony Orchestra, under the auspices of UP Arts will be staging a carnival of concerti in their new programme, *Simply Stunning Soloists*. Showcasing the various talents within the orchestra, nine students will present movements from concerti that highlight their virtuosic nuances.

Trumpet fanfares will reign in Methenjwa Machi's rendition of Hummel's Trumpet *Concerto in E-Flat Major*. He will be playing the third movement which is notorious for its technical flair as it was written to explore the wonders of the new keyed trumpet. Carin Jansen van Vuuren will be playing the first movement of Lalo's *Symphonie Espagnole* for violin, a Spanish flavoured piece written by a Frenchman. The *Symphonie Espagnole* encapsulates the spirit of Spain with wild Spanish rhythms and teasingly beautiful melodies.

The second and third movements from the *Concerto for Violin No 5* by Vieuxtemps will be performed by Mia Björkman. This piece highlights the fluid and expressive melody that can be produced by such a fine instrument and speaks of lyricism and has an almost poetic nature. Ané du Toit will offer Vivaldi's *Winter*, from the *Four Seasons*. This is a tempestuous recreation of the season in a picture of sound and will be subtly illustrated by Du Toit.

Laetitia van Niekerk, UPSO's principal flautist and Daniel Kwak (her second), will be performing the ever popular Cimarosa *Symphonie Concertante for Two Flutes*. The opening movement vibrates with an orchestral fanfare and immediately kicks off with the two flutes in a virtuosic battle only to culminate in beautiful counterpoint and brilliant harmony with the orchestra.

Junnan Sun, the principal clarinetist in the orchestra will present the first two movements of Weber's Clarinet Concerto No 1 which showcases the astounding range and adaptability of the clarinet. A whirlwind of passion and emotion, Camille Saint-Saëns' *Allegro Appassionato* played by Catherine Schenck, will display the diversity and agility of the 'cello. Jaco van Staden the co-principal hornist in the orchestra will present the lyrical lines and the beauty that is synonymous with Mozart. Jaco will play the second movement, the quasi-operatic Romance (Andante) from Mozart's 4th Horn Concerto.

This concert can be heard on 22 September 2010 in the Musaion, University of Pretoria, Main Campus at 19:00 under the baton of Eric Rycroft. Tickets will be available at the door only and are priced at R 60 and R 40. For more information please feel free to contact 012 420 4183 or email, upso@up.ac.za.

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