

PRESS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACT: Cynthia Carter-West

757-282-2804

ccarterwest@vafest.org

Itzhak Perlman Performs

With pianist Orion Weiss and artists from the Perlman Summer Music Program

In a special Virginia Arts Festival “Preview Performance”

Wednesday, March 19, at 7:30 pm,

Sandler Center for the Performing Arts, Virginia Beach

The great violinist Itzhak Perlman will perform with pianist Orion Weiss and artists from his Perlman Summer Music Program on Wednesday, March 19, at Virginia Beach’s Sandler Center for the Performing Arts.

Undeniably the reigning virtuoso of the violin, **Itzhak Perlman** enjoys superstar status rarely afforded a classical musician. Beloved for his charm and humanity as well as his talent, he has come to be recognized by audiences all over the world who respond not only to his flawless technique, but to the irrepresible joy of making music which he communicates. His **Perlman Music Program** offers young musicians “of rare and special talent” a supportive musical community where they can fully explore their gifts, studying with and performing alongside Perlman himself as well as other renowned artists.

Now the master brings his proteges and the acclaimed young pianist **Orion Weiss** to Virginia Beach for a rare and intimate performance of chamber music. Weiss has been hailed for his “dazzling” (*The Washington Post*) performances, both as a soloist and as part of an ensemble.

The program will include Mendelssohn’s Quintet No.2 for Strings in B flat Major, Op. 8; Bartok’s String Quartet No. 3; and Brahms’ Quintet for Piano and Strings in F minor, Op. 34.

Tickets are \$35, \$55, and \$75 (students \$20), available at the Sandler Center box office, by phone at 1-888-3COX-TIX, or online at COXTix.com. For more information on this performance, visit sandlercenter.org. For more information on the Virginia Arts Festival, visit vafest.org.

Fast Facts:

ITZHAK PERLMAN

- Born in Israel in 1945, Itzhak Perlman completed his initial training at the Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. He came to New York and soon was propelled into the international arena with an appearance on “The Ed Sullivan Show” in 1958. Following his studies at the Juilliard School, Perlman won the prestigious Leventritt Competition in 1964, which led to a burgeoning worldwide career.
- Perlman has appeared with every major orchestra and in recitals and festivals throughout the world.
- He has been honored with four Emmy Awards, most recently for PBS documentary “Fiddling for the Future,” which chronicled his work as a teacher and conductor in the Perlman Music Program.
- Perlman's recordings regularly appear on the best-seller charts and have won fifteen Grammy Awards.
- President Reagan honored Perlman with a "Medal of Liberty" in 1986. In December 2000, President Clinton awarded Perlman the “National Medal of Arts”. In December 2003, Perlman was awarded the Kennedy Center Honors.
- On television, Perlman has entertained and enlightened millions of viewers of all ages on shows as diverse as “The Late Show with David Letterman,” “Sesame Street, the “Tonight” show, the Grammy awards telecasts, several “Live From Lincoln Center” broadcasts and multiple PBS specials.
- One of Perlman's proudest achievements was his collaboration with film score composer John Williams in Steven Spielberg's Academy Award winning film *Schindler's List* in which he performed the violin solos.
- His presence on stage, on camera and in personal appearances of all kinds speaks eloquently on behalf of the disabled and his devotion to their cause is an integral part of his life.

ORION WEISS

- Orion Weiss has appeared with the symphony orchestras of New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Houston, Baltimore, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Phoenix, Rochester, Memphis, Annapolis, Louisville, and Omaha, as well as the Minnesota Orchestra, Pacific Symphony and Oregon Symphony, among others. In 2005, he toured Israel with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Itzhak Perlman.

Mr. Weiss's impressive list of awards includes the Gilmore Young Artist Award, an Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Gina Bachauer Scholarship at the Juilliard School, the 2005 Juilliard William Petschek Award, and the Mieczyslaw Munz Scholarship. He was featured in both the 2004 *Musical America* and the March 2004 *Symphony Magazine* as part of the next generation of great artists in classical music.

Weiss's debut recording will be released in spring 2008 by Yarlung Records.