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Musical collaborations fill RVS shows

Frey to perform Schumann's Cello Concerto; Ashland concert is sold out

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Cellist Elinor Frey of Ensemble KORE in Montreal is returning to the Rogue Valley for concerts in Ashland, Medford and Grants Pass.

Posted: 8:35 AM February 24, 2011

Cellist Elinor Frey of Ensemble KORE in Montreal will be the featured soloist for Rogue Valley Symphony concerts this weekend.

Frey was a favorite with the symphony during its 2008-2009 season and has been invited back to perform Schumann's Cello Concerto. The work is scored for solo cello, two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two trumpets, timpani and strings.

Schumann's Cello Concerto was completed after the composer became a music director in Düsseldorf, Germany. The concerto was never played during Schumann's lifetime. It premiered in 1860 at the Leipzig Conservatory four years after Schumann's death.

The symphony's performances, under the direction of Maestro Martin Majkut, are set for Friday, Feb. 25, in the Music Recital Hall on the Southern Oregon University campus, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland; Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Craterian Ginger Rogers Theater, 23 S. Central Ave., Medford; and Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Performing Arts Center, 830 N.E. Ninth St., Grants Pass. The Friday performance at SOU is sold out.

Frey and Majkut will present a free lecture at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 25, at the Music Recital Hall. The talk will be about the upcoming concerts' programs, and there will be musical demonstrations by Frey.

Performances also will include Dvorak's Slavonic Dances performed by members of symphony with the Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon.

The symphony also will present Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite." In collaboration with a group of Rogue Valley artists, an exhibit of works inspired by the composer's interpretation of Russian folk tales will be displayed in the lobbies of each concert venue (See story below).

Saturday's show is at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday's show is at 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$26 and \$33 for the Medford concert and \$23 and \$30 for the Grants Pass concert. Student tickets cost \$5. A limited number of economy seats are available at the Medford and Grants Pass performances for \$10. For tickets, see www.rvsymphony.org or call 541-552-6398.

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