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The Chappaqua Orchestra Announces 2010-2011 Season

Chappaqua, New York, September 7, 2010 – The Chappaqua Orchestra, under the baton of **Michael Shapiro**, brings world renowned musicians, unique programs, and exciting performances to intimate venues in Northern Westchester. Don't miss this season's offerings of fine music, from intimate chamber performances to large orchestral works, with some family fun in between.

About The Chappaqua Orchestra's 2010/2011 Concert Season

Sunday, September 26, 2010 at 3 pm – *The Saddest Music Ever Written: The Story of Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings.*

Author **Thomas Larson's** multimedia presentation will explore the cultural impact of Samuel Barber's *Adagio for Strings*, which in addition to being used in numerous film and television scores has provided the musical backdrop for some of America's saddest public gatherings, including memorials for Presidents Roosevelt and Kennedy, Albert Einstein, and Grace Kelly, and more recently as a memorial to the victims of 9/11. The **Cassatt String Quartet** will highlight the presentation with a performance of Barber's String Quartet, Op. 11, the second movement of which became the famous *Adagio for Strings*. This special event is FREE and offered in collaboration with the Chappaqua Library.

What do you think is the saddest music ever written? Visit the Chappaqua Library or www.chappaquaorchestra.org to nominate your own candidate for the title. A list of titles will be published on the Library and Orchestra websites after September 26.

Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 3:30 pm – *New Castle Community Sing*

December 4th will bring the third annual *New Castle Community Sing* back to downtown Chappaqua. All ages and voices are welcome to join musicians, choristers, friends, and neighbors to raise the roof with the sound of music. This combination "variety show" and "sing-a-long" will feature the talents of local performers. Everyone's favorite music will be included, with new selections added this year. Lyrics will be provided so that everyone can join in the fun, or simply listen to the sound of a full orchestra celebrating a season of holiday cheer. This **free** concert will

conclude with a short parade to the old Greeley House for the New Castle Historical Society's Holiday Tree Lighting. The music will begin on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 3:30 pm at the Robert E. Bell Middle School Auditorium, 50 Senter Street in Chappaqua, NY. The Tree Lighting will follow at the New Castle Historical Society at 4:30 pm.

Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 3 pm –*Love'em and Liebermann* with clarinet soloist **Jon Manasse**

Horace Greeley High School graduate **Lowell Liebermann** is one of America's most recorded and performed living composers. His work is known for its audience appeal. Enjoy Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet ballet music and Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy, then feast your ears on the New York Premiere of Lowell Liebermann's Clarinet Concerto performed by world-renowned clarinetist **Jon Manasse**. The Roanoke Times said of the Virginia premiere, "Lowell Liebermann's magnificent new clarinet concerto outshone everything else. When the concerto cruised to a breathless finish...it seemed clear that we had heard a piece that will remain in the repertoire for decades to come. But it will take a player of Manasse's caliber to do justice to Liebermann's work. This bravura work requires not merely a professional player, but a virtuoso."

The concert will be held on Sunday, May 22, 2011 at 3 pm at the Horace Greeley High School Auditorium, 70 Roaring Brook Road in Chappaqua, NY. Tickets are \$20 and students are free. Purchase tickets before May 1, 2011 and obtain reserved seats. All other seats will be general admission. For tickets and information call 914-238-9220, or visit www.chappaquaorchestra.org

About The Chappaqua Orchestra

Hailed as "The Jewel of New Castle," The Chappaqua Orchestra has served Northern Westchester since 1958. Under the baton of **Michael Shapiro**, the orchestra is a sophisticated ensemble of artists with a strong commitment to reaching the community in new and exciting ways. Since its founding, inspired by its first chairman, Jacob A. Evans, and Music Director Boris Koutzen, The Chappaqua Orchestra has always emphasized high musical standards. Notable artists who have appeared with the orchestra include Edward Arron, Timothy Fain, Joseph Fuchs, Kikuei Ikeda, Ruth Laredo, Andrew Litton, Vanessa Williams, and Eugenia Zuckerman. Distinguished conductors of the orchestra have included Jesse Levine, Norman Leyden, Andrew Litton, James Sadewhite, and Wolfgang Schanzer.

The orchestra includes both professional and professional-level volunteer musicians, most of whom are Westchester residents. The orchestra has performed at venues such as the Jacob Burns Film Center, the Seven Bridges Middle School and Horace Greeley High School Auditoriums, the Chappaqua Library, the First Congregational Church of Chappaqua, Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester, The Presbyterian Church of Mt. Kisco, Reader's Digest Auditorium, and the Paramount Center for the Arts. The Chappaqua Orchestra enhances the arts education program in the Chappaqua Public Schools through small ensemble performances in the elementary schools, joint concerts with the Horace Greeley High School Orchestra and Chorus, a mentoring program for selected music students, and annual family concerts geared toward young audiences. The orchestra also fosters the development of new artists and smaller chamber groups by showcasing their performances in smaller venues. To learn more about The Chappaqua Orchestra, please visit www.chappaquaorchestra.org.

About Music Director/Conductor Michael Shapiro

Michael Shapiro, Music Director and Conductor of The Chappaqua Orchestra since 2001, is dedicated to presenting challenging repertoire in the context of thematic programming, while

building an ensemble of top musicians. Under Maestro Shapiro, The Chappaqua Orchestra has reached new artistic heights. In recent years, The Chappaqua Orchestra's performances have been likened to those of major orchestras, and the 2006 production of the Verdi Requiem, performed in collaboration with the Taconic Opera, was termed Westchester's "musical event of the decade."

Mr. Shapiro has performed internationally, including appearances in Berlin, Siena, Victoria, New York, Boston, Minneapolis, and Washington, D.C. His repertoire as a conductor includes most of the standard symphonic, operatic, and ballet works. He is known for his keen understanding of and appreciation for new music. He served for two years as Music Consultant to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, where he produced and performed the music of composers who perished in or fled Europe during the Second World War. Michael Shapiro worked as an assistant conductor at the Zurich Opera Studio and has appeared internationally as the conductor of his own music, including recording the film score for the Israel Broadcasting Authority documentary, *Distant Relatives*. With The Chappaqua Orchestra, he premiered his score for the classic film, *Frankenstein*, at the Jacob Burns Film Center and later at the Paramount Theater. Other performances of the work include its Boston premiere at Coolidge Corner Theater in Brookline and the Midwest premiere by the Beloit Janesville Symphony, Robert Tomaro, conductor. Mr. Shapiro served as one of the composers-in-residence at the 2010 Cabrillo Music Festival in Santa Cruz where the Festival Orchestra conducted by Marin Alsop performed the California premiere of his *Roller Coaster* (which received its first performance during The Chappaqua Orchestra's 50th Season). This season's highlights include the recording of Mr. Shapiro's Second Violin Sonata and Peace Variations by violinist Timothy Fain, and the prime time broadcast of his film scores for a new NBC television crime show. Mr. Shapiro also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Conductor's Guild. To learn more about Michael Shapiro, please visit www.michaelshapiro.com.

About Thomas Larson

Thomas Larson is the author of *The Memoir and the Memoirist: Reading and Writing Personal Narrative*, Swallow Press / Ohio University Press, 2007. His book, now in its third printing, is the first of its kind to evaluate the dramatic rise of the memoir in the last twenty years and to explore the craft and purpose of contemporary memoir writing. Pegasus Books: *The Saddest Music Ever Written* was a finalist for Barnes & Noble's Fall "Discover" Award. *Saddest Music* is an exploration of Barber's Adagio, the Pieta of music, and its enigmatic composer—in celebration of the centenary of his birth. New work in 2010 includes an essay-review of David Shields' *Reality Hunger* for Agni Online, a profile of crime writer Caitlin Rother in *San Diego Magazine*, a review of S. L. Wisenberg's *The Adventures of Cancer Bitch* for *Contrary*, a review of Elif Batuman's *The Possessed* for *The Rumpus*, and two feature stories for the *Reader*: the murder-suicide of Frank and Ginger Bass and wild boars in San Diego's backcountry. For twelve years, Larson has been a contributing writer for the weekly *San Diego Reader* where he specializes in investigative journalism, narrative nonfiction, and profiles. For the *Reader* Larson has written more than forty cover stories. Among them are several true-crime murder stories and a feature on a Salvadoran immigrant who died from neglect at a San Diego federal detention center; a profile of conservative political writer, Dinesh D'Souza; the end-of-life tale of Mark Twain's daughter, Clara Clemens; the story of Marilyn Monroe and *Some Like It Hot*, filmed at the Hotel Del Coronado; an article on pit bulls, sympathetic to their point-of-view; an exposé of a Mexican girl sold into sexual slavery in San Diego county; a profile of socialist author Mike Davis; articles on the molecular origin of life, the personal motivation industry, and San Diego's 2007 subprime mortgage meltdown; and a profile of the renowned psychologist Ken Druck, whose Jenna Druck Foundation offers support for parents who have lost their children. For more information visit www.thomaslarson.com

About the Cassatt String Quartet

Acclaimed as one of America's outstanding ensembles, the Manhattan based *Cassatt String Quartet* has performed throughout North America, Europe, and the Far East, with appearances at New York's Alice Tully Hall and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, the Tanglewood Music Theater, the Kennedy Center and Library of Congress in Washington, DC, the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris and Maeda Hall in Tokyo. The Quartet has been presented on major radio stations such as National Public Radio's Performance Today, Boston's WGBH, New York's WQXR and WNYC, and on Canada's CBC Radio and Radio France.

Formed in 1985 with the encouragement of the Juilliard Quartet, the Cassatt initiated and served as the inaugural participants in Juilliard's Young Artists Quartet Program. Their numerous awards include a Tanglewood Chamber Music Fellowship, the Wardwell Chamber Music Fellowship at Yale (where they served as teaching assistants to the Tokyo Quartet), First Prizes at the Fischhoff and Coleman Chamber Music Competitions, two top prizes at the Banff International String Quartet Competition, two CMA/ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming, a recording grant from the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust, and commissioning grants from Meet the Composer and the National Endowment for the Arts. In 2004, they were selected for the centennial celebration of the Coleman Chamber Music Association in Pasadena, California.

The Cassatt celebrated its twentieth anniversary in 2006 with a series of world premieres and a performance at the Library of Congress on the Library's Stradivarius Collection, made successful debuts in Italy and Mexico during 2007 and celebrated American composer Joan Tower's 70th birthday in 2008 with a series of concerts at New York City's Symphony Space and Sarah Lawrence College. In 2009, the Cassatt offered concerts for the American Academy in Rome, Cornell and Syracuse Universities and gave mini-residencies at the Centro Nacional de las Artes in Mexico City, Vassar College and at the University of Texas at Austin.

Their third annual Texas high school educational residency, Cassatt In The Basin! includes intensive workshops, coachings and rehearsals which includes the commissioned work "Blossom" by *Larry Dillon* for Triple Quartet, in a side-by-side performance of students with the Cassatt. In 2010, the Texas Music Educators Association invites the group to offer a clinic during their annual conference in San Antonio and the Cassatt celebrates the 100th anniversary of *Samuel Barber's* birth with baritone Gerald Dolter in "Dover Beach" and Barber's famous Adagio for String Quartet.

Equally adept at classical masterpieces and contemporary music, the Cassatt has collaborated with a remarkable array of artists/composers including pianist *Marc-André Hamelin*, soprano *Susan Narucki*, flutist *Ransom Wilson*, jazz pianist *Fred Hersch*, didgeridoo player *Simon 7*, the *Trisha Brown Dance Company*, distinguished members of the *Cleveland* and *Vermeer Quartets*, and composers *Louis Andriessen* and *John Harbison*.

With a deep commitment to nurturing young musicians, the Cassatt, in residencies at Princeton, Yale, Syracuse University, the University at Buffalo and the University of Pennsylvania, has devoted itself to coaching, conducting sectionals and reading student composers' works, while offering lively musical presentations in music theory, history and composition. Selected by Chamber Music America, they recently served as guest artists for their New Music Institute; a series to help presenters market new music to their audiences. Summer finds them in residence at the innovative Seal Bay Festival of Contemporary American Chamber Music.

This season, the Cassatt adds to its extensive collection of premiere recordings with the release of two CD's on the Naxos Label; works by *Andy Teirstien* and *Dan Welcher's* three Quartets, including his new *Cassatt* inspired by paintings of Mary Cassatt.

Named three times by The New Yorker magazine's *Best Of...CD Selection*, the Cassatt's discography includes eclectic new quartets by Pulitzer Prize-winner *Steven Stucky* and *Tina Davidson* (Albany Records), by *Daniel S. Godfrey* (Koch International Classics) and by Grawemeyer and Rome Prize-winner *Sebastian Currier* (New World) as critiqued in The New York Times "(*Quartetset*) was written for the Cassatt... which plays it strongly here."

The Cassatt has recorded for the Koch, Naxos, New World, Point, CRI, Tzadik, and Albany labels and is named for the celebrated American impressionist painter Mary Cassatt. For more information visit www.cassattquartet.com

About Composer Lowell Liebermann

Lowell Liebermann is one of America's most frequently performed and recorded living composers. Called by the *New York Times* "as much of a traditionalist as an innovator." Mr. Liebermann's music is known for its technical command and audience appeal. Having written over one hundred works in all genres, several of them have gone on to become standard repertoire for their instruments, including his Sonata for Flute and Piano, which has been recorded more than twenty times to date, and his Gargoyles for Piano, which has been recorded fifteen times.

Mr. Liebermann has written two full-length operas, both of which were enthusiastically received at their premieres. His first, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, was the only American opera to be commissioned and premiered by Monte Carlo Opera. His second opera *Miss Lonelyhearts*, to a libretto by JD McClatchy after the novel by Nathanael West, was commissioned by the Juilliard School to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Among his orchestral works, Mr. Liebermann has composed three Symphonies - the second, with chorus, written for the centennial of the Dallas Symphony; a concerto for orchestra; three piano concertos; and concertos for many other instruments. Piano Concerto No.3 was commissioned for pianist Jeffrey Biegel by a consortium of eighteen different orchestras both here and abroad. Stephen Hough and the Indianapolis Symphony performed Liebermann's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, which the orchestra commissioned to celebrate Raymond Leppard's farewell concert as conductor. His Violin Concerto was commissioned and premiered by the Philadelphia Orchestra with violinist Chantal Juillet, and conducted by Charles Dutoit. The New York Philharmonic and principal trumpet Philip Smith presented the premiere of Mr. Liebermann's Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra, which the *Wall Street Journal* described as "balancing bravura and a wealth of attractive musical ideas to create a score that invites repeated listening. [Liebermann] is a masterful orchestrator, and just from this standpoint the opening of the new concerto is immediately arresting," also noting that the "rousing conclusion brought down the house."

In the realm of chamber music, Mr. Liebermann has composed four string quartets - the two most recent for the Ying and Orion Quartets respectively; four Cello Sonatas; two Piano Trios; Sonatas for Flute, Violin, Viola, Flute and Harp; and works for many other combinations

A pianist himself, Mr. Liebermann has written a wealth of music for the solo instrument, much of which frequently appears on concert and competition programs. Mr. Liebermann was awarded the very first American Composers' Invitational Award by the 11th Van Cliburn Competition after the majority of finalists chose to perform his Three Impromptus, which were selected from works submitted by forty-two contemporary composers. In an interview with newscaster Sam Donaldson, Van Cliburn described Mr. Liebermann as "a wonderful pianist and a fabulous composer."

Liebermann's Symphony No. 2 was premiered in February 2000 by the Dallas Symphony and Chorus under the direction of Andrew Litton. *Time* magazine wrote, "now brazen and glittering,

now radiantly visionary, the Liebermann Second, a resplendent choral symphony, is the work of a composer unafraid of grand gestures and openhearted lyricism." Mr. Litton and the DSO recorded the symphony and the Liebermann Concerto for Flute and Orchestra for Delos, with Eugenia Zukerman the soloist. In February 2001, the Dallas Symphony gave the New York premiere of Liebermann's Piano Concerto No. 2 at Carnegie Hall, with Stephen Hough as soloist. Stephen Wigler of the *Baltimore Sun* found the concerto to be "perhaps the best piece in the genre since Samuel Barber's concerto." John Ardoin, of the *Dallas Morning News*, described the work as "more than a knockout; it is among the best works of its kind in this century." Stephen Hough's recording of the concerto -- conducted by the composer -- received a 1998 Grammy Award nomination for Best Contemporary Classical Composition.

Sir James Galway has commissioned three works from Mr. Liebermann: the Concerto for Flute and Orchestra, the Concerto for Flute, Harp and Orchestra, and Trio No. 1 for Flute, Cello and Piano. Sir Galway premiered the Flute Concerto in 1992 with the St. Louis Symphony and the double concerto with the Minnesota Orchestra in 1995. That same year, Sir Galway performed the Flute Concerto with James Levine and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra at Carnegie Hall. Sir Galway recorded both works, along with Mr. Liebermann's Concerto for Piccolo and Orchestra, for BMG, with Mr. Liebermann conducting.

Mr. Liebermann acted as Composer-in-Residence for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra for four years. He served the same role for Sapporo's Pacific Music Festival, the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and many other organizations.

His music has been widely represented on CD, with over sixty releases so far. Koch International Classics has released two discs in an ongoing series of Liebermann's complete piano music with pianist David Korevaar, a recording of his flute chamber music with flautist Alexa Still, and a disc featuring his Piano Quintet and Clarinet Quintet with clarinetist Jon Manasse. Upcoming releases will include a song disc, and the complete cello music performed by Andres Diaz with Mr. Liebermann at the piano. Additional recordings of Mr. Liebermann's music are available on Hyperion, Virgin Classics, Albany, New World Records, Arabesque, Centaur, Cambria, Musical Heritage Society, Intim Musik, Opus One and others.

Orchestras worldwide have performed Liebermann's works, including the New York Philharmonic, the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, L'Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, the Tokyo NHK Symphony, L'Orchestre National de France, and the symphonies of Dallas, Baltimore, Seattle, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Minnesota. Among the many artists who have performed Liebermann's works are Sir James Galway, Charles Dutoit, Garrick Ohlsson, Andreas Delfs, the Beaux Arts Trio, Raymond Leppard, Stephen Hough, Kurt Masur, Joshua Bell, the Orion Quartet, the Ying Quartet, Hans Vonk, Steven Isserlis, Andrew Litton, Susan Graham, Edo de Waart, David Zinman, Jesus Lopez-Cobos, Paula Robison, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Stuart Bedford, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet.

Mr. Liebermann maintains an active performing schedule as pianist and conductor. He has collaborated with such distinguished artists as flautists Sir James Galway and Jeffrey Khaner, violinists Chantal Juillet and Mark Peskanov, singers Robert White and Carole Farley and cellist Andres Diaz. He performed the world premiere of Ned Rorem's "Pas de Trois" for Oboe, Violin and Piano at the Saratoga Chamber Music Festival. He made his Berlin debut at the Philharmonie performing his Piano Quintet with members of the Berlin Philharmonic. In 2006, on Mr. Liebermann's 45th birthday, the Van Cliburn Foundation presented a highly successful all-Liebermann concert as part of their "Modern at the Modern" series, with the composer at the piano and featuring the premiere of Liebermann's 3rd Cello Sonata. Mr. Liebermann is a Steinway Artist.

Lowell Liebermann was born in New York City in 1961. He began piano studies at the age of eight, and composition studies at fourteen. He made his performing debut two years later at Carnegie Recital Hall, playing his Piano Sonata, Op.1, which he composed when he was fifteen. He holds bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees from the Juilliard School of Music. Among his many awards is a Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters as well as awards from ASCAP and BMI. Theodore Presser Company is the exclusive publisher of his music. He currently resides in Weehawken, New Jersey with his partner, pianist and conductor William Hobbs, their Australian Shepherd named Daphne, and an American Eskimo named Phoebus. To learn more about Lowell Liebermann, please visit www.lowellliebermann.com

About Clarinetist Jon Manasse

Among the most distinguished classical artists of his generation, clarinetist **JON MANASSE** is internationally recognized for his inspiring artistry, uniquely glorious sound and charismatic performing style.

Jon Manasse's current season is highlighted by return performances with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra and debuts with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Erie Philharmonic, The Chappaqua Orchestra, Montana's Missoula Symphony Orchestra and Oregon's Rogue Valley Symphony. With pianist Jon Nakamatsu, he continues to tour throughout the United States as half of the acclaimed Manasse/Nakamatsu Duo.

Jon Manasse's solo appearances include New York City performances at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Avery Fisher Hall and Alice Tully Hall, Hunter College's Sylvia & Danny Kaye Playhouse, Columbia University, Rockefeller University and The Town Hall, fourteen tours of Japan and Southeast Asia - all with the New York Symphonic Ensemble, debuts in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Osaka and concerto performances with Gerard Schwarz and the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra, both at Lincoln Center's Avery Fisher Hall and at the prestigious Tokyu Bunkamura Festival in Tokyo. With orchestra, he has been guest soloist with the Augsburg, Dayton, Evansville, Naples and National philharmonics, Canada's Symphony Nova Scotia, the National Chamber Orchestra and the Alabama, Annapolis, Bozeman, Dubuque, Florida West Coast, Green Bay, Indianapolis, Jackson, Oakland East Bay, Pensacola, Princeton, Richmond, Seattle, Stamford and Wyoming symphonies, under the batons of Leslie B. Dunner, Peter Leonard, Eckart Preu, Matthew Savery, Alfred Savia and Lawrence Leighton Smith. Of special distinction was Mr. Manasse's 2002 London debut in a Barbican Centre performance of Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto* with Gerard Schwarz and the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields.

During the 2009-2010 season, Jon Manasse gave the world premiere performances of Lowell Liebermann's *Concerto for Clarinet & Orchestra* with the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Music Director Neal Gittleman - performances that were recorded for commercial CD release. Subsequent performances included those with the symphony orchestras of Chappaqua, Evansville, Juneau, Las Cruces, North State (CA), Roanoke and the University of Massachusetts.

An avid chamber musician, Jon Manasse has been featured in New York City programs with The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Walter Reade Theatre (on Lincoln Center's "Great Performers Series"), The Sylvia & Danny Kaye Playhouse and Merkin Concert Hall; at the Aspen Music Festival, Caramoor International Music Festival, Colorado Springs Music Festival, Newport Music Festival, Sarasota Music Festival and France's Festival International des Arts, as well as the chamber music festivals of Bridgehampton, Cape and Islands, Crested Butte, Georgetown, St. Bart's, Seattle and Tucson. He has also been the guest soloist with many of the leading chamber ensembles of the day, including

The Amadeus Trio and Germany's Trio Parnassus and the American, Borromeo, Colorado, Lark, Manhattan, Moscow, Orion, Rossetti, Shanghai, Tokyo and Ying String Quartets, and has collaborated with violinist Joshua Bell and pianist Jon Nakamatsu.

Jon Manasse is also principal clarinetist of the American Ballet Theater Orchestra and the Mostly Mozart Festival Orchestra. In 2008 he was also appointed principal clarinetist and Ensemble Member of the Orchestra of St. Luke's in New York City. As one of the nation's most highly sought-after wind players, has also served as guest principal clarinetist of the New York Pops Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and New Jersey, Saint Louis and Seattle Symphony Orchestras, under the batons of Gerard Schwarz, Zdenek Macal, Jerzy Semkow, Robert Craft and Hugh Wolff. For several seasons, he was also the principal clarinetist of the New York Chamber Symphony. Mr. Manasse has been a guest clarinetist with the New York Philharmonic in concerts conducted by Valery Gergiev and André Previn, and, during the 2003-04 season, served as the principal clarinetist of The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, performing under the batons of Artistic Director James Levine and, among others, Andrew Davis, Valery Gergiev, and Vladimir Jurowski.

In addition to the premiere performances of Lowell Liebermann's *Clarinet Concerto*, which was commissioned for him, Jon Manasse has also presented the world premieres of James Cohn's *Concerto for Clarinet & String Orchestra* at the international ClarinetFest '97 at Texas Tech University and, in 2005, of Steven R. Gerber's *Clarinet Concerto* with the National Philharmonic.

Jon Manasse has six critically acclaimed CDS on the XLNT label: the complete clarinet concerti of Weber, with Lukas Foss and the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra; the complete works for clarinet and piano of Weber, with pianist Samuel Sanders; recording premieres of 20th Century clarinet works; "Clarinet Music from 3 Centuries," including Mozart's *Clarinet Quintet* (with the Shanghai Quartet), as well as music by Spohr, Gershwin, and James Cohn; James Cohn's *Clarinet Concerto #2*; and the concerti of Mozart, Nielsen and Copland, with the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra. Also available are his recordings of Steven R. Gerber's *Clarinet Concerto* with Vladimir Lande and the St. Petersburg State Academic Symphony on the Arabesque label and Lowell Liebermann's *Quintet for Clarinet, Piano and String Trio* on KOCH International. His debut CD with pianist Jon Nakamatsu, a harmonia mundi album of the Brahms *Clarinet Sonatas*, was released to international rave reviews, early in 2008. 2010 saw the release of concerti by Mozart and Spohr with Gerard Schwarz and the Seattle Symphony, also on the harmonia mundi label.

Jon Manasse is a graduate of The Juilliard School, where he studied with David Weber. Mr. Manasse was a top prize winner in the Thirty-Sixth International Competition for Clarinet in Munich and the youngest winner of the International Clarinet Society Competition. Currently, he is an official "Performing Artist" of both the Buffet Crampon Company and Vandoren, the Parisian firms that are the world's oldest and most distinguished clarinet maker and reed maker, respectively. Since 1995, he has been Associate Professor of Clarinet at the Eastman School of Music; in the fall of 2007 Mr. Manasse joined the faculty of his alma mater, The Juilliard School. Jon Manasse and his Duo partner, the acclaimed pianist Jon Nakamatsu, serve as Artistic Directors of the Cape Cod Chamber Music Festival, an appointment announced during summer 2006.

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