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CSO kicks off season with Totally Tchaikovsky

COLUMBUS, GA, September 2, 2014 - The Columbus Symphony Orchestra (CSO) is pleased to present *Totally Tchaikovsky* on Saturday, September 13, 2014. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. attend Know the Score, a pre-concert conversation with Music Director and Conductor George Del Gobbo, about the music being performed during the concert in the Studio Theatre.

At 7:30 p.m. the concert will commence with the orchestra performing Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48, Romeo & Juliet Overture-Fantasy, and Symphony No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 36* in Bill Heard Theatre at RiverCenter for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$5 to \$36 and may be purchased at the RiverCenter Box Office, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or one hour prior to the performance (enter doors located on Broadway side under covered drive to visit the box office). Student tickets are available for \$10. Tickets for children under 12 years of age are \$5. For more information call the CSO office at 706.323.5059 or visit us online at www.csoga.org.

CSO Music Director and Conductor George Del Gobbo commented, "Tchaikovsky was, and remains, the most popular of all Russian composers who lived during the nineteenth century (the Romantic period in music). His music is built upon a gift for writing long, lyrical melodies. No matter what type of composition he wrote (concerto, symphony, tone poem), beautiful melodies always served as the cornerstones upon which the music was built. This talent, combined with an accomplished skill at orchestration (dressing up his melodies in the sound and color possibilities provided by a large orchestra) gives his music a popular appeal which is as strong today as it was a hundred-and-fifty years ago."

According to Del Gobbo, "The power and the passion of this music, combined with the lyricism of its melodies, serve to give this music accessibility and a broad appeal. This is a concert that will please long-time audience members as well as being a terrific introduction to symphonic music for first-time concert goers."

To learn more about the music being performed prior to the concert visit the CSO website at www.csoga.org. Listings of concert program notes complete with musical excerpts are available under each concert listing on the CSO website.

Totally Tchaikovsky is presented by Aflac, TSYS, Boomer 95.3, 103.7Litefm, News 1420WRCG and Columbus and the Valley Magazine.

S'MORES – (Final Dress Rehearsal) for this concert is on Saturday, September 13, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for seniors over 60 who cannot travel at night; parents who want to expose their young children (under 12) to music; and fine arts students from local colleges and universities (with student i.d.). The cost is \$5 for seniors and students and \$3 for children. No reservations or tickets are required. Please pay at the door. For more information call 706.256.3640.

The Columbus Symphony Orchestra, formed in 1855, is the second orchestra founded in the nation and the first founded in Georgia. The CSO, under the direction of George Del Gobbo, has long been considered one of the Southeast's premier musical ensembles. The CSO's performance venue at RiverCenter for the Performing Arts, Bill Heard Theatre, seats 2,000 patrons and provides a state-of-the-art visual and acoustic experience. The 2014-15 season includes four classical concerts, an annual family Christmas concert, a Valentine's Day country concert, and one Champagne and Dessert concert. For more information about the CSO visit our website at www.csoga.org.