



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Photos attached, other versions available upon request

Madison Symphony Orchestra, Beyond the Score®: *Scheherazade*
An Enchanting Classical Music Experience and Performance, January 14 & 15, 2017

MADISON, WI – Join the Madison Symphony Orchestra (MSO) and Music Director John DeMain as they explore one of the most popular orchestral works ever written with **Beyond the Score®: *Scheherazade*** on Jan. 14 and 15 in Overture Hall.

Beyond the Score®: *Scheherazade* is an opportunity for concertgoers to discover Russian composer **Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov**'s colorful and exotic *Scheherazade* in a whole new way. The first half experience encompasses video, photos, musical excerpts, and American Players Theatre actors **Jim DeVita** and **Brenda DeVita** telling the story. In the second half, *Scheherazade* will be performed from start to finish, by the Madison Symphony Orchestra with John DeMain conducting.

The captivating music of *Scheherazade* evokes images and passions with a solo violin representing the intoxicating storyteller, Scheherazade. Based on an ancient Persian legend, Scheherazade staves off her death at the hands of her cruel Sultan husband, by regaling him with stories for 1001 nights until he falls in love with her. Rimsky-Korsakov evokes the moods of her various tales with memorable and haunting melodies.

Designed for classical music aficionados and newcomers looking to delve deeper into the world of classical music, *Beyond the Score* explores *Scheherazade*'s context in history, how it relates to the work of other composers, and the events of Rimsky-Korsakov's life that influenced its creation. The *Chicago Tribune* said of the *Beyond the Score* series, "Seldom has enlightenment proved so entertaining."

As a young man, Rimsky-Korsakov spent almost three years at sea with the Russian Navy and was exposed to other cultures. With nineteenth-century readers fascinated by exotic settings and fairy tales, he first conceived of creating an orchestral work based on the tales known as *The Thousand and One Nights* in 1887, when he was the leading teacher at the St. Petersburg Conservatory.

The concerts are Saturday, January 14, at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, January 15, at 2:30 p.m. in Overture Hall, 201 State Street.

Single Tickets are \$15 to \$60 each, available at madisonsymphony.org/beyondthescore, through the Overture Center Box Office at 201 State Street, or by calling the Box Office at (608) 258-4141.

Groups of 15 or more can save 25% by calling the MSO office at (608) 257-3734. For more information, visit madisonsymphony.org/groups.



Student rush tickets can be purchased in person on the day of the concert at the Overture Center Box Office at 201 State Street. Students must show a valid student ID and can receive up to two \$12 or \$15 tickets. More information is at: madisonsymphony.org/studentrush. Students receive 20% savings on advance ticket purchases for seats in select areas of the hall.

Seniors age 62 and up receive 20% savings on advance and day-of-concert ticket purchases in select areas of the hall.

Discounted seats are subject to availability, and discounts may not be combined.

Beyond the Score® is a production of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Gerard McBurney, Creative Director for Beyond the Score®.

ABOUT THE MADISON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Madison Symphony Orchestra celebrates its 91st season in 2016-2017 and its 23rd season under the leadership of Music Director John DeMain. The MSO has grown to be one of America's leading regional orchestras, providing Madison and south central Wisconsin with cultural and educational opportunities to interact with great masterworks and top-tier guest artists from around the world. Find more information at madisonsymphony.org

Major funding for the Beyond the Score®: *Scheherazade* January concerts is provided by A Good Friend of the Symphony.

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