

The New Crossroads of American Music

Press Release



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ENJOY TWO EVENINGS OF POPS
MUSIC WITH EMF'S YOUNG ARTISTS
ORCHESTRAS AND CHELSEA TIPTON II!

Greensboro, NC- EMF proudly presents two wonderful pops concerts in a casual and soothing setting, featuring its gifted Young Artists Orchestra. Led by **guest conductor Chelsea Tipton II**, these trendy performances offer varied renditions of pops favorites to create an enjoyable musical occasion for all audiences. The first concert, part of Greensboro City Arts *Music for a Sunday Evening in the Park* Series, will take place on **Sunday, July 12, 2009 at 6:30pm** at the **Founders Lawn at Guilford College** (5800 W Friendly Ave. Greensboro, North Carolina 27410). The following performance "*Under the Oaks*" is scheduled for **Monday, July 13, 2009 at 7:30pm in Elon University**. Both concerts are **FREE** for the general public.

Raised in the Triad, an EMF alumni, and now Resident Conductor of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, **Chelsea Tipton II**, has built a successful reputation as one of the most innovative and versatile musical figures in the nation. A brilliant musician and educator, Tipton strives to make music accessible to the public. His charm, openness and commitment to outreach in the community appeal to audiences, musicians and critics alike. Tipton's undoubted talent has taken him to lead the stage of famous orchestras, such as: the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony Orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, amongst others.

Tickets for most Eastern Music Festival events: Triad Stage Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579.TIXX or www.EasternMusicFestival.org.

*a service fee will apply

Discounts are available for full-time students with a valid ID, seniors aged 65 or older, and groups of 10 or more for most performances. Young Artists and EMF*kids* concerts offer family-friendly packages. Please call the box office about packages. This season most discounts will be available at the door. Discounts and gift certificates will not be accepted for concerts designated as special events.

**Dates, programs, venues, and artists are subject to change.*

The 2009 Eastern Music Festival season is sponsored in part by the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro, the North Carolina Arts Council, Lincoln Financial Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Southern Arts Federation, WFDD Triad Arts Station, Greensboro's News and Record, Continental Airways, Yes! Weekly, and Piedmont Music Center (Steinway Pianos).

For more information about EMF or its programs, please visit www.EasternMusicFestival.org, or call toll free: 1.877.833.6753

More about Chelsea Tipton II

Entering his fourth season as Resident Conductor of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, American conductor **Chelsea Tipton II** has won over audiences and critics alike with his vibrant musicality, accessibility, versatility and extraordinary commitment to education outreach. As a sought-after guest conductor, Tipton has appeared with major orchestras in the United States, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Houston Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony Orchestra, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, the Brooklyn Philharmonic, the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, among others.

The 2006-2007 season saw Tipton in guest conducting engagements with the Cleveland Orchestra as well as Houston, Detroit, Atlanta and New Jersey symphonies. These were in addition to his regular Toledo Symphony season appearances that feature a Pops Series and a Family Series. Recent highlights included a last minute replacement for Robert Spano to conduct an all-Gershwin season finale with the Brooklyn Philharmonic in 2005. The *New York Times* applauded Tipton for “[leading] sweeping and vibrant performances of *Rhapsody* and *An American in Paris*.”

For the 2004-2005 season, Chelsea Tipton guest conducted the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Nashville Symphony, the Louisville Philharmonic, the Windsor Symphony and the Oberlin Conservatory Chamber Orchestra. In June of 2004, the conductor led the Boston Pops Orchestra in their annual Gospel Night Concert that the *Boston Globe* called an “impressive debut.”

In October 2001, Tipton was one of the ten conductors selected to conduct the New York Philharmonic in a Special Reading Session mentored by Kurt Masur. His strong commitment toward education was shown through his dedicated work with the Sphinx Competition to promote African American and Hispanic emerging artists in classical music in addition to working with the New World Symphony to involve local high school students in concerts.

Prior to his appointment with the Toledo Symphony, Tipton was associate conductor with the Savannah Symphony Orchestra for four seasons and music director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra for three seasons.

He has held faculty positions at Central Michigan University (CMU) as assistant professor where he was director of the CMU Symphony and a visiting professor in clarinet and chamber music at Western Michigan University. He has served on the faculty of the Apple Hill Chamber Music Festival in New Hampshire and served four seasons as assistant conductor with the Eastern Music Festival in North Carolina during the summers.

Tipton earned a master of music degree in orchestral conducting from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance from the Eastman School of Music, with additional studies at the University of Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music and the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors in Hancock, Maine. As a clarinetist, Mr. Tipton has performed with several orchestras, including the Rochester Philharmonic, the Heidelberg Festival Opera Orchestra (Germany) and the Chicago Sinfonietta. He has appeared on the NBC "Today" show with Wynton Marsalis and has performed as a section clarinet player with James Galway and the Eastman Philharmonia, Wynton Marsalis and the Eastman Wind Ensemble and the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra on recordings with RCA Classical, CBS Masterworks and Pro Arte labels.

A devotee of the Japanese martial art form aikido, Chelsea Tipton II is dedicated to using positive and harmonious forces in challenging difficulties.

More about Eastern Music Festival

Now in its 48th year, the Eastern Music Festival & School is recognized for its prodigious contributions to the field of American music and its commitment to nurturing talented American and international youth through a collaborative learning process. The program brings together a cross-section of America's most sought-after artists with pre-professional students in a five-week schedule of 100 concerts and music-related events.

Music Director Gerard Schwarz heads a distinguished list of participating artists scheduled for 2009, including **Peter Serkin, Sarah Chang, Horacio Gutiérrez, Nadja Salerno Sonnenberg, Xavier Phillips**, plus many others.

The Festival also produces a popular *EMFfringe* series of alternative programming, featuring everything from Americana to alt country, blues, jazz and gospel with artists such as **Mike Cross, The John Cowan Band, Laurelyn Dossett, Steep Canyon Rangers, Waybacks, The Chris Hicks Band**, blues artist **Larry McCray** and more.

EMF*kids* offers camps and concerts with each uniquely designed to foster a love and knowledge for classical and non-classical music. This year's concerts are **Shana Banana** and **Dan Zanes**. EMF*jazz&blues* runs each spring and EMF Fringe on the Fall each autumn. Season tickets on sale through June 27th (EMF*fringe* season tickets on sale through July 9th); single tickets on sale now. www.EasternMusicFestival.org; Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579-TIXX.

The Eastern Music Festival's mission is to promote musical enrichment, excellence, professional collaboration, innovation and diversity through a nationally-recognized teaching program, music festival, concerts and other programs which will enhance the quality of life, health and vitality of our region.

EMF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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