

For immediate release

**GOOD THINGS COME IN THREES:  
ACCLAIMED CLARINETIST RICHARD STOLTZMAN'S 2005-06 SEASON  
INCLUDES THREE NEW YORK CITY APPEARANCES,  
THREE WORLD PREMIERES, AND THREE CD RELEASES**

Performances at Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the People's Symphony Concerts at Washington Irving High School with pianist Emanuel Ax, Takacs Quartet, and pianist Peter John Stoltzman

It is said that good things come in threes, and acclaimed clarinetist Richard Stoltzman brings vibrant music triple-fold to his fans during the 2005-2006 season. He will make three New York City appearances, perform three world premieres, and release three new CDs. Mr. Stoltzman will appear at Carnegie Hall, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and in the Peoples' Symphony Concerts series at Washington Irving High School in performance with pianist Emanuel Ax, the Takacs Quartet, and pianist Peter John Stoltzman, who is the clarinetist's son.

**THREE NEW YORK CITY APPEARANCES**

- Stoltzman will perform in recital with pianist Emanuel Ax at The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Concert Hall (1000 Fifth Avenue at 82nd Street) on Friday, December 16, 2005 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40 each, and \$150 for the "Chamber Mix" Series, available by calling the Concerts & Lectures Department at 212/570-3949. Updated schedules and programs are available at the Museum's website, [www.metmuseum.org](http://www.metmuseum.org). The program is as follows:
  - Debussy-Premiere Rhapsody
  - Brahms-Sonata No. 1 in F Minor, Opus 120
  - Bernstein-Sonata
  - Beaser-Souvenirs
  - Lukas Foss-Three American Pieces

- Stoltzman will appear at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall (881 Seventh Avenue at 57<sup>th</sup> Street) with the Takacs Quartet on Friday, April 21, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. This concert is part of the "Chamber Sessions III" and the "Takacs Quartet: Accent on Mozart series." Ticket prices are \$44 and \$52, available by calling CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800 or by purchasing online, [www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org). The program is as follows:
  - Mozart - Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 581
  - Bartók - String Quartet No. 3
  - Schubert - String Quartet in D Minor, D.810, "Death and the Maiden"
- Stoltzman will perform with pianist Peter John Stoltzman (his son) in the sold-out Peoples' Symphony Concerts series at Washington Irving High School on Saturday, April 22, 2006 at 8 PM. Information available by calling 212-586-4680; further information at [www.pscny.org](http://www.pscny.org). The program is as follows:
  - Debussy - Rhapsody
  - Poulenc - Sonata
  - Bernstein - Sonata
  - Copland - Sonata
  - Arr. Peter John Stoltzman – Vão da Mosca
  - Arr. Peter John Stoltzman - Brazilian Dorian Dream
  - Piazzolla - TBA

### THREE PREMIERES AND OTHER NEW MUSIC

Richard Stoltzman has been a champion of new music since his early career when he performed with TASHI. This season, he continues with performances of three world premieres and one regional premiere. American composer David Stock's Clarinet Concerto will be premiered with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony on November 5, 2005. With the Syracuse Symphony in September 2005, Stoltzman premiered Argentinean composer Astor Piazzola's "Contemplacion y Danza," which, according to Stoltzman, is "far removed from his basic tango language [and], as far as I know, it's the first time it's ever been performed." In December 2005, Stoltzman will revisit, in performance with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Takemitsu's "Fantasma Cantos," the regional premiere for this piece written for Stoltzman and commissioned by the British Broadcasting Corporation premiered in 1991 with the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra.

### THREE NEW CD RELEASES

#### *REFLECTIONS*

Richard Stoltzman has just released *Reflections* (MMC 2105), a collection of contemporary works by composers Perlongo, Lay, Goodwin, Iannaccone, and Stiller, recorded with the Warsaw National Philharmonic Orchestra with

conductors George Manahan and Jerzy Swoboda. Over thirty composers have created works for Stoltzman to record with the Warsaw Slovak Radio Orchestra and Seattle Symphony Orchestra. This is the fifth CD in an ongoing series for MMC.

According to Stoltzman, "Each of the five CDs thus far has captured a vibrant part of the spectrum of possibilities for the instrument as these composers have seen it and *Reflections* reveals the widest emotional gamut yet. "Sunburst," by Daniel James Perlongo, brilliantly orchestrates that twinkling but ferocious star which sustains our planet and the ten-minute wailing and jazzy tour de force for both clarinet and orchestra seems to sum up the benign fireball suspended in a cold cosmos. Then, from Keith Lay's "Earth Caoin," comes a quiet searing wail of anguish in the heavens. The angelic clarinet falls in a tearful trail of tones toward the earth. In Gordon Goodwin's puckish "Paraph," a remembered clarinet lick once played by an old buddy reverberates throughout the whole orchestra for a joyful and creative reflection on a simple motive and a friendship celebrated in music. Anthony Iannaccone builds a virtuosic "Concertante for Clarinet and Orchestra" with generous heartfelt lyricism for both soloist and orchestra - sailing to a final triumph of optimism. And the "Procrustean Concerto" of Andrew Stiller is a bold, terrifying, bizarre reflection of music's parameter seen darkly, distantly, primitively and powerfully in an ornate, slightly distorted and disturbing mirror."

#### *FATHER AND SON*

Father Richard Stoltzman and pianist son Peter John Stoltzman have performed together around the world from the Hollywood Bowl to Carnegie Hall. The father-son duo merges the sounds of two generations, from classic to jazzy on this recording. The repertoire spans Debussy, Bernstein, Monk, Gershwin, to original compositions by Peter John Stoltzman. In the words of Richard Stoltzman, "My son, Peter John, and I are sharing the stage as equal artists speaking to each other through the music. For better or worse, many feelings often go unmentioned between parent and child. However, in the process of rehearsing, interpreting and creating music, some of the deepest emotions well up through the sounds of clarinet and piano intertwining, blending, apposing, elongating, trusting, yielding, and all the time breathing and being together through the singing sonorities."

#### *RAUTAVAARA - CLARINET CONCERTO*

Richard Stoltzman and Finish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara engaged in a unique and fruitful collaboration resulting in the composition of a new Clarinet Concerto which has just been released on CD (Ondine [ODE 1041-2]). The work was recorded under the baton of Leif Segerstam with the Helsinki Philharmonic, and was premiered with National Symphony Orchestra with conductor Leonard

Slatkin in 2002. Stoltzman recalls the collaboration and recording process, "During my first visit to Helsinki, Rautavaara and I spoke about Benny Goodman. He asked me if I had known him and I told him about our little sessions playing old Italian clarinet duets in his Manhattan penthouse. Then Rautavaara recalled his youthful enjoyment of the Benny Goodman quartet and we both agreed the signature sound of BG's clarinet and Lionel Hampton's vibes evoked a satisfying sense of nostalgia. Again, when he asked me about my experience with the Copland Concerto I mentioned how much my mother always loved the work because she thought the harp part sounded so heavenly. You can imagine how surprised and pleased I was when I finally heard Rautavaara's orchestration of the concerto. Now each time I hear the prominent parts for harp and vibes a little inner smile of recognition from our early conversations glows inside me. Because of health problems Rautavaara was unable to attend the premieres at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center or with the BBC in London. But he had heard one of the live broadcasts. When I finally arrived in Helsinki for concerts with the Philharmonic and the recording, Rautavaara called me at my hotel to welcome me and my wife and to invite us to lunch in his house the next day. He said he was looking forward to hearing the concerto for the first time live and wanted to question me concerning something in the BBC broadcast he had heard a few months earlier. Well, when we arrived for lunch the next day after a few pleasantries he took me aside and said, 'You know I liked your broadcast but I have to ask you two things. One is why did you take so long before starting the last movement; and second, do you think the third movement is a bit too short?' To this final question I could only reply, 'I love the music as it is but, of course, you are the composer, so...' As to the delay in starting, I explained to him that after having played the long lines of the slow movement where the clarinet has almost no resting points, I physically needed a respite of a few seconds before launching the finale. Well there was still a bit of time before his wife was ready to serve lunch so he took me over to the piano, and began beating a triplet rhythm with his hands - not on the keyboard, but on the wooden casing! Soon he had pencil and paper and was creating a tom-tom solo before my very eyes which would soon fulfill my plea for a respite in between the movements. A solo percussion part magically appeared to save the day and start the third movement. Then, as we played through the work, he pointed out a large section of music which I had always enjoyed and, to my astonishment, he suddenly exclaimed, 'Let's have you play this again!' Now the concerto had suddenly grown to a length the composer deemed properly proportioned. Finally, one last request from the presumptuous clarinetist -- after climbing the heights to reach the ultimate ultra high B, would the gracious composer be so kind as to give the note a more generous length? Well, Rautavaara had assumed with such a high note the clarinetists would be happiest leaving as soon as possible. But in fact I confided in him that after a journey to reach the peak, I really wanted to enjoy the view. Rautavaara recalled his first favor of the seven measure tom-tom solo and decided a brief flurry from the drummer would perfectly underscore the tom-tom and

support the high perch! And with that his wife called us to lunch. "

#### ABOUT RICHARD STOLTZMAN

Richard Stoltzman's virtuosity, musicianship and sheer personal magnetism have made him one of today's most sought-after concert artists. As soloist with more than a hundred orchestras, as a captivating recitalist and chamber music performer, as an innovative jazz artist, and as a prolific recording artist, two-time Grammy Award winner Stoltzman has defied categorization, dazzling critics and audiences alike throughout many musical genres.

Stoltzman graduated from Ohio State University with a double major in music and mathematics. He earned his Master of Music degree at Yale University while studying with Keith Wilson, and later worked toward a doctoral degree with Kalmen Opperman at Columbia University. As a long-time participant in the Marlboro Music Festival, Stoltzman gained extensive chamber music experience and subsequently became a founding member of the noted ensemble TASHI, which made its debut in 1973.

Since then, Stoltzman's unique way with the clarinet has earned him an international reputation as he has opened up possibilities for the instrument that no one could have predicted. He gave the first clarinet recitals in the histories of both the Hollywood Bowl and Carnegie Hall, and, in 1986, became the first wind player to be awarded the Avery Fisher Prize. His talents as a jazz performer as well as a classical artist have been heard far beyond his annual tours. He has performed or recorded with such jazz and pop greats as Gary Burton, the Canadian Brass, Chick Corea, Judy Collins, Eddie Gomez, Keith Jarrett, the King's Singers, George Shearing, Wayne Shorter, Mel Tormé, and Spyro Gyra founder Jeremy Wall. His commitment to new music has resulted in the commissioning and premiere of numerous new works for the clarinet, including "Landscape with Blues" by Stephen Hartke (2001); a new concerto by Einojuhani Rautavaara which premiered in October 2002 with conductor Leonard Slatkin and the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall; and "American Dreams" by fellow Yale classmate William Thomas McKinley. All works have recently been recorded by Mr. Stoltzman.

Richard Stoltzman has a discography numbering over 50 releases on BMG/RCA, SONY Classical, MMC, BIS, Albany and other labels, including a Grammy-winning recording of the Brahms Sonatas with Richard Goode. Stoltzman's recent releases include "Amber Waves," a CD of American works, and the Trios of Beethoven, Brahms and Mozart with Emanuel Ax and Yo-Yo Ma, which won Stoltzman his second Grammy Award. Three additional recent releases include Nielsen, Prokofiev and Lutoslawski with the Warsaw Philharmonic conducted by Lawrence Leighton Smith (BMG/RCA), the Skrowaczewski Concerto with the

Saarbrücken Radio Orchestra, conducted by the composer (Albany), and three new clarinet concertos with the Seattle Symphony and Gerard Schwarz (MMC). His newest releases include Hartke's "Landscape with Blues" (Naxos), Rautavaara's Clarinet Concerto (Ondine), "Father and Son" CD featuring the Richard and Peter John Stoltzman family duo, and a fascinating spectrum of new American concerti by Stiller, Iannaccone, Goodwin, Lay and Perlongo on an album entitled "Reflections" (MMC). Stoltzman's two books, published by Carl Fischer, "The Richard Stoltzman Song Book," and "Aria," include some of his favorite performance pieces transcribed and arranged for clarinet.

The current season started as Stoltzman was presented with Yale's prestigious Sanford Medal. He continues to delight audiences during the 2005-6 season in performances with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, Boston Modern Orchestra, National Philharmonic, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Spokane Symphony Orchestra. He will premiere David Stock's Clarinet Concerto with the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra, and will appear in recital with colleagues Emanuel Ax, the American String Quartet, and the Takacs Quartet. His New York City appearances include performances at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carnegie's Zankel Hall, and the Peoples' Symphony Concerts. Stoltzman continues to appear at the summer festivals Campus Internazionale Musica in Sermoneta, Italy and The Orford Arts Centre in Canada.

Throughout the season, Stoltzman will continue his commitment as an active Board Member of Young Audiences to help bring music to children of all ages. Richard Stoltzman, also a Cordon Bleu-trained pastry chef, is the father of two children, Margaret Anne and Peter John. Stoltzman performs regularly and has recorded with his son, Peter John, who is a prominent jazz pianist. His wife Lucy is a violinist, and is Chair of Chamber Music and Strings at the New England Conservatory. They reside in Massachusetts.

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**NOT FOR PUBLICATION:**

For additional information, interview access, or photographs, please contact Nancy Shear Arts Services, National Press Representatives for Richard Stoltzman, T: 212/496-9418, [sheararts@aol.com](mailto:sheararts@aol.com), [www.nancyshear.com](http://www.nancyshear.com)

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