

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Shawn Farley or Carolyn Kilmer at 545-3671



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 30, 2005

**WHAT: Center Series presents: Zurich Chamber Orchestra
with Sharon Isbin**

WHEN: Thursday, October 27

WHERE: Concert Hall

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Call 1-800-999-UMAS or 545-2511 for tickets or

go online to www.fineartscenter.com/tickets

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(Zurich Chamber Orchestra with Sharon Isbin to perform at Fine Arts Center)

Under the direction of its innovative Conductor and Artistic Director Howard Griffiths, along with Grammy award winning guitarist, Sharon Isbin, the Zurich Chamber Orchestra will perform its widely varied repertoire at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Thursday, October 27. The program will include Elgar's Introduction & Allegro, Vivaldi's Concertos in A Major RV82 and D Major RV93, Albinoni's Adagio, Muller's Labyrinth, and Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings op. 48.

In addition to its core ensemble of 23 string players, the orchestra can also call upon 20 other members. It is thanks to this flexible concept, which also ensures ongoing stability in each section, that the Zurich Chamber Orchestra masters such a wide variation of work.

Hailed as the "pre-eminent guitarist of our time," by Boston Magazine, Sharon Isbin's extraordinary lyricism, technique, and versatility have made her one of the finest guitarists in the world. Previous collaborations between the Zurich Chamber Orchestra and Isbin have been highly successful; most recently they produced an album together

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“Baroque Favorites for Guitar” which spent over 13 weeks on Billboard’s top 10 classical list. Atlanta Journal calls her “the Monet of the classical guitar...a master colorist.”

Sharon Isbin’s world premiere recording of concertos written for her by Christopher Rouse and Tan Dun (composer of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) received a 2002 GRAMMY Award for *Concert de Gaudi for Guitar & Orchestra* by Rouse in the category ‘**Best Classical Contemporary Composition**’, and earned Isbin her third GRAMMY nomination (‘**Best Instrumental Soloist Performance with Orchestra**’).

The Zurich Chamber Orchestra with Sharon Isbin will perform at the Fine Arts Center Concert Hall on Thursday, October 27 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30, \$30, and \$15; Youth 17 and Under are \$10 and Five College Students are \$15, \$10, and \$7. For tickets and information, call the Fine Arts Center Box Office at 413-545-2511 or 1-800-999-UMAS, or go online to www.fineartscenter.com/centerseries. This performance is sponsored by TIAA CREF.

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