



# Alexandria Symphony Orchestra

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*The Joy of Music and Motion*

**For Immediate Release**

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## ***Carlos Rodriguez Returns and Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances on ASO Opening Night 2007, "Exhilaration"***

**Who:** Alexandria Symphony Orchestra  
Maestro Kim Allen Kluge, Pianist Carlos Rodriguez

**What:** Liszt *Totentanz*  
Debussy *La Mer*  
Rachmaninoff *Symphonic Dances*

**When:** Saturday, September 29, 2007 at 8:00pm

**Where:** Schlesinger Concert Hall, NOVA Community College, Alexandria Campus, 3001 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria, VA 22311

**Price:** \$20-\$80 – Call 703-548-0885 or visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) for tickets

Alexandria, VA, August 29, 2007 – On September 29, 2007, the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra (ASO) will open its 2007-2008 season with "Exhilaration." Headlining the ASO's opening night concert is acclaimed pianist **Carlos César Rodriguez**, who will join the Orchestra for **Liszt's *Totentanz***. Rodriguez, who is on the staff of Washington, D.C.'s Levine School of Music, has performed at such venues as the White House, Carnegie Hall, and the Kennedy Center. He received a Master of Music degree from the Julliard School, and has accompanied acclaimed opera singers Plácido Domingo and Denyce Graves, among others. He returns to the ASO after a spectacular performance of Chopin's *Piano Concerto No. 1* last November.

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Another major highlight of the “Exhilaration” concert will be **Rachmaninoff’s *Symphonic Dances***. Rachmaninoff’s final composition, *Symphonic Dances* was premiered by the Philadelphia Orchestra in January 1941. As the name suggests, the composition was designed to be danced to, and the piece was choreographed by Peter Martins in 1994 for the New York City Ballet. Rounding out the Opening Night concert will be **Debussy’s *La Mer***, completed in 1905. *La Mer*, or *The Sea*, is regarded as one of the composer’s finest and most vivid compositions.

The ASO has chosen the theme ***The Joy of Music and Motion*** for 2007-2008, and the company has taken great strides to program pieces perfectly representing both music and motion for its opening concert. In addition to “Exhilaration,” the ASO will present four additional programs (eight total performances) this season. November begins with a concert entitled “Exuberance,” featuring **Brahms and Beethoven**, while “Euphoria” in February will feature the vibrant company **BosmaDance**. Renowned **Bowen McCauley Dance** and **The Alexandria Choral Society** join the ASO for “Rapture” in March, and acclaimed cellist **Lynn Harrell** headlines April’s “Bliss”, the season finale. **The Metropolitan Chorus** and **Heritage Signature Chorale** also take the stage with the ASO in April.

Please visit [www.alexsym.org](http://www.alexsym.org) for further information about ASO programs.

*Members of the media, please contact Adrien Finlay - [finlay@alexsym.org](mailto:finlay@alexsym.org) or 703 548 0885 - for further information, pictures, and press tickets.*

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