



## **The NCPA-promoted Symphony Orchestra of India makes its international debut at the Hall of Columns in Moscow**

**A matter of pride for India as the SOI is invited to perform in the Festival of World's Symphony Orchestras in Russia on Russia Day — June 11, 2010**

**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**Mumbai, (date), 2010:** The host is one of the best western music destinations in the world. The invitee: India's first fully professional orchestra — The Symphony Orchestra of India (SOI). On June 11, 2010, the SOI will make history as it will play at the Fourth Festival of the World's Symphony Orchestras in Moscow on the concluding night, as part of the Grand Finale in the presence of the highest echelons of Russian society.

The SOI is slated perform Beethoven's masterpiece, the 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony, as it did on September 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> last year at the NCPA, with Maestro Alexander Anissimov conducting. Only this time it's with along with a first rate Russian choir and soloists at the historical Hall of Columns in Moscow.

It's a great honour for two very special reasons. The first because the event takes place to celebrate Russia Day, whose importance is akin to our Republic Day. And secondly because, according to a Russian authority, this "unique cultural event has acquainted the public with the world's most popular orchestras".

The SOI, which was founded four years ago, is rapidly improving and has received great recognition for commendable performances year after year. In fact, it was the SOI's last performance of the Beethoven 9th in September 2009 that some Russian officials had heard and had been very impressed.

Taking great pride, **Mr. Khushroo Suntook, Chairman, NCPA**, says, "Talking about carrying colds to New Castle, the SOI's extremely proud of being invited to perform the great 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony of Beethoven in one of the music capital's of the world — Moscow. It's a matter of pride for the NCPA that it's very own Symphony Orchestra of India is making waves over such short time and is fast gaining recognition for its quality of music making. It is also an honour for an Indian orchestra for having been invited to perform in a country known all over the world for its contribution to Western Classical Music scene."

**SOI Music Director Marat Bisengaliev** who has provided a solid foundation for these young musicians is very proud of this achievement. "It's a Breakthrough for the SOI and a comment on the mentoring capabilities of the NCPA. Russia is a highly competitive market for any musician or orchestra. Moscow is a popular music destination known for its high standard of concerts and the Hall of Columns is one of the jewels of this music destination. This is the perfect international beginning that the Orchestra needed and the perfect inroad into the world of opportunities for international touring and recording," says Marat.

India-Russia relations in the field of culture are legendary. From the days of Rajkumar to the Indian sounds of Beethoven—we have certainly come a full circle. As the leave for Moscow on June 8<sup>th</sup>, one hopes that one has created a wider circle of opportunity for Indian musicians in the western classical genre.



The Symphony Orchestra of India

## **About Russia Day**

*Igor B. Karyakovtseff, from the Association of Chief Executives of Symphonic and Chamber Orchestras in Russia writes:*

Russian Declaration of Sovereignty Day or Russia Day is one of the “youngest” state holidays in the country. On 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1990, in the situation of the sovereignty of Union Republics in the USSR, the first Congress of the People’s Deputies of the RSFSR adopted the State Sovereignty Declaration of Russia.

In 1994, this day was declared a state holiday. Officially, this is the most important of the country’s modern state holidays. From this date, it is possible to perceive the beginning of the formation of the new Russian state, based on the principles of constitutional federalism, equal rights and partnership. The declaration, adopted on 12th June, 1990, became the symbol of the rebirth of a renewed Russia.

## **About Symphony Orchestra of India:**

The Symphony Orchestra of India is the country’s first fully professional symphony orchestra, offering a series of concerts at the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Mumbai over the course of two seasons, in September and February each year. The orchestra has also begun to tour nationally and to take music into communities in order to reach out to new and young audiences around India.

The SOI was formed in 2006 as the result of an on-going collaboration between the NCPA and the internationally acclaimed violinist, Marat Bisengaliev, who serves as the orchestra’s Music Director. Players are recruited from an international field, but the orchestra places a great emphasis on developing musical potential within India itself. To date, there are **18 Indian** players representing the finest local talent and providing a solid foundation for the future of orchestral playing in this country.

Besides presenting orchestral and chamber music concerts, the SOI will be available as a prestigious accompanying ensemble for soloists as well as for ballets, operas and musicals. It will also offer its services internationally as a resource for making recordings.

## **About the NCPA:**

Inaugurated in 1969, the National Centre for the Performing Arts, Mumbai, exists to provide leadership on a national level as India’s premier performing arts, research and training centre through the presentation of Indian and international art forms, the promotion of excellence and the preservation of Indian & International cultural heritage.

For further information please log on to [www.ncpamumbai.com](http://www.ncpamumbai.com)

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