

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WHAT:** Music Director Emil de Cou Opens VCO Season

**WHEN:** Sunday, September 20th, 2009 at 4:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** Ernst Community Cultural Center  
Northern Virginia Community College - Annandale Campus  
8333 Little River Turnpike  
Annandale, VA 22003

**FEATURE:** Brian Ganz, soloist, in “Emperor” and Bach Piano Concerti

**TICKETS:** Free and open to the public — no passes required

Parking is free. Complimentary reception will follow. Additional information is available at [www.virginiachamberorchestra.org](http://www.virginiachamberorchestra.org)

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**EMIL DE COU, NEW VCO MUSIC DIRECTOR, TO OPEN 2009–10 SEASON**

Pianist Brian Ganz to Solo in “Emperor” and Bach Concerti

Emil de Cou will mark his first appearance as Virginia Chamber Orchestra Music Director on Sunday, September 20th, at 4 P.M. when he opens the orchestra’s thirty-ninth Season. Maestro de Cou is well known to area audiences as Associate Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra and NSO@Wolf Trap Festival Conductor. The venue for the free concert will be the Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, on the Annandale Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College.

Brian Ganz will appear as piano soloist in Beethoven’s Concerto No. 5 (*Emperor*) and J. S. Bach’s Concerto No. 5 in F minor. Ganz’s international awards, concert credits and solo appearances with major orchestras establish him as one of the leading pianists of his generation.

His recent concert highlights include performances of Mozart Piano Concerti K. 466, with the Memphis Symphony, and K. 467, with the National Philharmonic Orchestra at Strathmore Hall in Rockville, Maryland. In the summer of 2006 Brian Ganz returned to the Kennedy Center concert hall in a critically acclaimed performance with the Taipei Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Yoel Levi.

Brian Ganz has also performed with such conductors as Leonard Slatkin, Marin Alsop, Mstislav Rostropovich, Philippe Entremont, and Pinchas Zukerman. Following his recording debut in Belgium in 1992, he has recorded for European labels of Accord, Gailly, and REM.

Another highlight of the Fall Concert program will be Copland's "Appalachian Spring," in the original version for thirteen instruments.

The concert will be funded by the Music Performance Fund and the Virginia Chamber Orchestra, in cooperation with Local 161-710, American Federation of Musicians

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The Virginia Chamber orchestra's mission is to perform fine music with the highest artistic integrity for the broadest possible audience, within the limits of fiscal responsibility.

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