

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**WHAT:** The Virginia Chamber Orchestra, David Grandis, Music Director, presents  
“Romantics with a French Twist”

**WHEN:** Sunday, October 20th, 2013 at 4:00 P.M.

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

**FEATURES:** Music by Schubert, Wagner, Poulenc  
Join in welcoming the VCO’s new Music Director, David Grandis

**TICKETS:** Available at door: adults, \$25; seniors, \$20  
On-line discount: adults/seniors \$20  
Students admitted free. Group rates available.  
Telephone 703-758-0179

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

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**Virginia Chamber Orchestra Lands International Maestro**

***Maestro David Grandis to Conduct Fall Concert: “Romantics with a French Twist”***

The Virginia Chamber Orchestra (VCO) is honored to announce that Maestro David Grandis will take the podium as the orchestra’s new Music Director on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 in the afternoon at the Ernst Community Cultural Center on the Annandale campus of the Northern Virginia Community College. The program, “Romantics with a French Twist,” will include music by Schubert, Wagner, and the French composer Poulenc.

Highly recommended by departing Music Director Emil de Cou, Grandis is one of the most accomplished young conductors now appearing on both sides of the Atlantic. When in Europe, he regularly serves as Assistant Conductor of the historic Lyon National Opera. In the U.S., he is currently assuming his new position as conductor of the College of William and Mary Symphony Orchestra in addition to his new role with the VCO.

Grandis’ guest conducting appearances include the Bordeaux National Symphony and Nice

Philharmonic in France, the Minsk Philharmonic Orchestra (Belarus), and the New Symphony Orchestra of Sofia (Bulgaria). He has also worked with the Baltimore Symphony, Baltimore Opera, and National Philharmonic Orchestra.

David Grandis first appeared as guest conductor with the Virginia Chamber Orchestra in 2011 at the National Presbyterian Church in Washington, D.C. He follows a distinguished line of VCO conductors with the unique ability to lead and inspire an ensemble of outstanding professional musicians, as well as to bring classical music to new audiences.

VCO President Douglas Lovejoy echoes this sentiment: “We are grateful to Emil de Cou for introducing us to David. He is an exciting young talent who immediately delighted our audiences and our musicians.” Grandis responded: “I am thrilled at the opportunity to lead the gifted musicians of the Virginia Chamber Orchestra, so that we may bring joy and inspiration to Northern Virginia and D.C. audiences. My past collaborations with this talented group of artists have brought me tremendous musical satisfaction, and I look forward to the upcoming season.”

In the words of Marco Guidarni, Director of the Nice Philharmonic, David Grandis is “a refined musician of profound artistic sensitivity and a rare intellectual and musical integrity.”

For the opening concert of the VCO’s 43rd Season David Grandis has selected Schubert’s joyful Symphony No. 5 in B flat major, Wagner’s *Siegfried Idyll*—a symphonic poem for chamber orchestra—and Poulenc’s *Deux marches et un intermède*. Tickets will be available at the door or at discounted advance purchase prices online at [www.virginiachamberorchestra.org](http://www.virginiachamberorchestra.org). Parking is free and a complimentary reception follows. Art works by a renowned artist will be on display in the adjoining art gallery.

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### **About David Grandis**

Maestro Grandis studied in several national conservatories in France and began his conducting apprenticeship with Klaus Weise. After receiving a B.M. in Musicology in France, he completed a M.M. in orchestral conducting at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with Donald Schleicher and a G.P.D. at the Peabody Conservatory with Gustav Meier and Markand Thakar.

### **About the Virginia Chamber Orchestra**

The quality and vitality of the Virginia Chamber Orchestra’s performances attract enthusiastic concert attendees from all Virginia suburbs, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Listeners appreciate the transparent, intimate sound of a chamber ensemble as well as its power, richness, and remarkable dynamic range. In the words of a Washington Post critic, the maestro evokes “energetic excitement” from his players. The repertoire spans the centuries, ranging from Bach to Bartók and beyond.

Celebrating its 43<sup>rd</sup> season, the Virginia Chamber Orchestra is also committed to community outreach and education. Previous concerts have included partnerships with Wounded Warriors, Our Military Kids, and their families. The VCO has also made concerts available to educational

viewers via the Internet to further enhance the integration of musical heritage into current curriculum.

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.

**About the Artist**

Photographic works by George McLennan of the Lake Barcroft Art League will be on view for sale before, during, and after the concert.

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