

THE SAINT PAUL
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

For Immediate Release

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**Violist Hyobi Sim and oboist Barbara Bishop to join the
SPCO as permanent members starting in 2015.16 season**

SAINT PAUL, MN, August 25, 2015 – The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra announces today that violist Hyobi Sim and oboist Barbara Bishop (oboe, English horn and oboe d’amore) have been named the orchestra’s newest permanent members.

Hyobi Sim first came to the attention of the SPCO during a recruiting trip in New York City in the fall of 2013. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Curtis Institute of Music and a Masters of Music degree from the Juilliard School. As an active chamber musician, she was selected as a member of the Curtis on Tour ensemble where she performed Dvořák Piano Quintet No.2, Barber String Quartet Op.11 and premiered a sonata written for viola and piano by composer Daniel Shapiro throughout the United States. Ms. Sim has also had opportunities to perform with a number of highly-respected musicians including Steven Tenenbom, Ida Kavafian, Peter Wiley, Steven Isserlis, Jeremy Denk, Michael Kannen, Daniel Phillips, Pamela Frank, and Roger Tapping among others. Regarding her appointment with the orchestra, Ms. Sim said, "I feel very fortunate to be part of this great musical ensemble and can't wait to have fun making music together."

Barbara Bishop joined the SPCO as a Guest Musician for the 2014.15 season, taking a leave of absence from her positions as Assistant Teaching Professor of Oboe at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory and Associate Principal Oboe with the Kansas City Symphony. She received a Bachelor of Music degree and Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School and a Master of Music degree from the University of Minnesota. Her summers are spent playing orchestral and chamber music in Jackson, Wyoming with the Grand Teton Music Festival. Ms. Bishop has been a soloist with the National Repertory Orchestra and with members of the Summit Brass, recorded on the Sony Classical, Newport Classics and Naxos labels, played in the semi-final round of the Munich International Competition with the Wilson Wind Quintet, and served as Principal Oboist with the Baton Rouge Symphony, Alexander Schneider's New York String Orchestra, and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra. Of her appointment, Ms. Bishop said, "Playing with the SPCO is a thrill and a joy, and the excellence and integrity of my colleagues on stage is unmatched by any other musical experience I've had in my career. On top of that, the Twin Cities is a fabulous community and I am truly amazed by the enthusiasm and support of the SPCO audiences."

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Both musicians were awarded permanent positions by a musician-comprised audition committee, and of the appointments, SPCO Principal Second Violinist and Senior Director of Artistic Planning Kyu-Young Kim said, "Hiring new members is just as exciting and important to the future of the SPCO as our fabulous new hall. Hyobi and Barbara were extremely impressive throughout the intensive audition and trial process. Because of the small intimate nature of our ensemble, it is even more crucial that each and every member can step up with a solo line, blend harmoniously into the section, play chamber music on the highest level, and inspire their colleagues. Both of these wonderful musicians have demonstrated that they can deliver on all of these accounts in spades and we are delighted to welcome them to the SPCO family."

Ms. Sim will be featured as solo violist for Hugo Wolf's *Italian Serenade* (arr. Max Reger) in SPCO performances February 11-14, 2016, and Ms. Bishop, along with Principal Oboist Kathryn Greenbank, will be featured in the many obligato arias featuring oboe, oboe d'amore, and English horn in Bach's *Saint Matthew Passion* October 9-11, 2015.

PHOTOS

[Link to Hi-Res photo of Hyobi Sim \(via dropbox\)](#)

[Link to Hi-Res photo of Barbara Bishop \(via dropbox\)](#)

ABOUT HYOBI SIM

Korean-born violist Hyobi Sim began the study of viola when she was 12 years old. She received the Bachelor of Music degree at the Curtis Institute of Music where she studied under Roberto Diaz and received the Master of Music degree at the Juilliard School with Misha Amory and Hsin-Yun Huang. As an active chamber musician, she was selected as a member of the Curtis on Tour ensemble where she performed in Detroit, California, Maine and Chicago where she performed Dvořák Piano Quintet No.2, Barber String Quartet Op.11 and premiered a sonata written for viola and piano by composer Daniel Shapiro. She was invited to perform 'All in the Family Concert' at 92nd Street Y in New York and also has performed with great musicians including Steven Tenenbom, Ida Kavafian, Peter Wiley, Steven Isserlis, Jeremy Denk, Michael Kannen, Daniel Phillips, Pamela Frank, Roger Tapping and others. She finished her first year of Graduate Performance Diploma at the Peabody Institute of Music with CJ Chang and will be joining the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra starting in the 2015-16 season.

ABOUT BARBARA BISHOP

Acclaimed American oboist Barbara Bishop has had a rich and varied career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral musician and teacher prior to joining The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. She has served as Assistant Teaching Professor of Oboe at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory and Associate Principal Oboe with the Kansas City Symphony, and holds degrees from the Eastman School and the University of Minnesota. Her summers are spent playing orchestral and chamber music in Jackson, Wyoming with the Grand Teton Music Festival. Ms. Bishop played on three recordings released this year: a recording of Naudot Trio Sonatas with Margaret Marco at the University of Kansas, A New Era, celebrating the inaugural season of Donald Runnicles as Music Director of the Grand Teton Music Festival, and the Gordon Chin Double Concerto with Cho-Liang Lin, Felix Fan, Michael Stern and the Kansas City Symphony on the Naxos

label. She also played on a Wyoming Public Television documentary and numerous *Performance Today* broadcasts on *National Public Radio*. An active soloist, she has performed four concerti with the Kansas City Chamber Orchestra this season including a performance of the Strauss Oboe concerto. She has served as Visiting Assistant Professor of Oboe at the University of Kansas and the University of Montana and has given master classes across the country including an orchestral audition class at the Aspen Music Festival. Her students have gone on to attend institutions such as the Eastman School, Cleveland Institute, Northwestern University, the Banff Centre, and Mannes; and have won positions in professional orchestras such as the New Mexico Symphony, the Toledo Symphony, the Virginia Symphony, the Santa Fe Opera, the National Symphony, and the New World Symphony. Ms. Bishop has been a soloist with the National Repertory Orchestra and with members of the Summit Brass, recorded on the Sony Classical and Newport Classics labels, played in the semi-final round of the Munich International Competition with the Wilson Wind Quintet, and served as Principal Oboist with the Baton Rouge Symphony, Alexander Schneider's New York String Orchestra, and the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra.

ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, entering its 57th season in the fall of 2015, is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. In collaboration with its group of artistic partners – Jeremy Denk, Martin Fröst, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Christian Zacharias and Thomas Zehetmair – the virtuoso musicians present more than 130 concerts and educational programs each year, and are regularly heard on public radio's *Performance Today* which reaches 1.2 million listeners each week on 289 stations, and *SymphonyCast* reaching 240,000 listeners each week on 143 stations nationwide. The SPCO has released 67 recordings, commissioned 142 new works, and performed the world premiere of 49 additional compositions. The SPCO has earned the distinction of 17 ASCAP awards for adventurous programming. Renowned for its artistic excellence and remarkable versatility of musical styles, the SPCO tours nationally and internationally, including performances in premier venues in Europe, Asia and South America. Launched in 1994, the SPCO's award-winning CONNECT education program reaches over 5,000 students and teachers annually in 12 Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools. For more information, visit thespco.org.

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