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Eunae Koh appointed as violinist with the SPCO

SAINT PAUL, MN, JULY 31, 2019 — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) announces today that Eunae Koh has been appointed as the newest member of the orchestra's violin section. Koh will join the orchestra for her first concerts as a member at the beginning of the 2019.20 season.

A native of South Korea, Eunae Koh made her concert debut at the age of nine with the Seoul Symphony Orchestra. Soon after coming to the United States in 2013, she made her U.S. debut performing the Brahms Concerto with the New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra as the school's competition winner, where she also received her master's degree.

Koh is an active soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader and teacher. She has appeared internationally as a soloist with many orchestras including the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Colby Symphony Orchestra, Hwaum Chamber Orchestra and New England Symphony Orchestra. As a chamber musician, she has collaborated with many renowned musicians including Donald Weilerstein, Steven Mackey and Anthony Marwood, among others.

As an orchestral leader, Koh has served as concertmaster at the Haffner Sinfonietta for three years. She has also served as guest concertmaster at the Symphony in C, New York Classical Players, New England Symphony and Camerata Virtuosi. An active teacher, Koh served as a teaching assistant to Donald Weilerstein from 2015 to 2017 and Young Uck Kim from 2012 to 2013, where she taught undergraduate and graduate students at the New

England Conservatory and Seoul National University. In 2018, Koh joined the faculty at Yellow Barn Music Festival's Young Artists Program and New York Music School.

Koh was unanimously chosen for this violin position by the SPCO's musician-comprised audition committee.

"We are happy to welcome to our orchestra the wonderful violinist Eunae Koh," said SPCO Coconcertmaster Ruggero Allifranchini. "She will add virtuosity, musical energy and depth to our violin section."

Regarding her appointment, Eunae Koh said, "During every Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra concert cycle that I joined as a guest, I have been inspired by the musicians who were striving for the highest artistic excellence and who were willing to take risks. I feel very fortunate to have the chance to play with them every week and grow my musicianship!"

PHOTOS

Attached

ABOUT EUNAE KOH

Second Prize and Chamber Music Prize winner of the 2015 Michael Hill International Competition, violinist Eunae Koh enjoys a rapidly blossoming career as a soloist, chamber musician, and concertmaster. Koh made her concerto debut at the age of nine with the Seoul Symphony Orchestra and won numerous national competitions in her native South Korea. In 2010, she was awarded the Seong-Yawng Park Special Prize at the Isang Yun International Competition. Soon after coming to the United States in 2013, she made her U.S. debut performing the Brahms Concerto in Jordan Hall with the New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra as the school's competition winner.

Koh has appeared internationally as a soloist with many orchestras such as the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra, Colby Symphony Orchestra, Hwaum Chamber Orchestra, New England Symphony Orchestra, Korean Chamber Orchestra and Sungjung Philharmonic Orchestra. Her live performances have been broadcasted on the ArteTV, KBS Classic FM in Korea and WCRB in Boston. She gave her first public recital at the age of 13 in Kumho Art Hall and was invited to return for another recital several years later.

A serious chamber musician, Koh has collaborated with many renowned musicians including Donald Weilerstein, Steven Mackey, Anthony Marwood, Ayano Ninomiya, Natasha Brofsky, Michael Kannen and Victor Rosenbaum. She has toured with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. Also, she has performed with A Far Cry, Symphony in C and European Salon Orchestra. She regularly appears with the Chameleon Arts Ensemble, New York Classical Players, Jupiter Symphony Chamber Players and Wellesley Chamber Players. Her festival appearances include Yellow Barn Music Festival, Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Olympic Music Festival and Kneisel Chamber Music Festival. The venues she has appeared at include Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium and Weill recital hall, Lincoln Center, Jordan Hall and Seoul Arts Center.

As an orchestral leader, Koh has served as concertmaster at the Haffner Sinfonietta for three years. She has also served as guest concertmaster at the Symphony in C, New York Classical Players, New England Symphony, Camerata Virtuosi, New England Conservatory's self-

conducted Chamber Orchestra, New England Conservatory Philharmonic Orchestra and both orchestras of Seoul National University.

In addition, Koh is an active teacher, maintaining a private studio since 2008. As teaching assistant of Donald Weilerstein from 2015 to 2017 and Young Uck Kim from 2012 to 2013, she taught undergraduate and graduate students at the New England Conservatory and Seoul National University. In 2018, Koh joined the faculty at Yellow Barn Music Festival's Young Artists Program and New York Music School. She was also a teaching artist at Frank Sinatra School of the Arts in Queens, New York.

Koh received a master's degree and a Graduate Diploma with the Abraham Skernick Memorial Presidential Scholarship at the New England Conservatory after completing bachelor's degree at Seoul National University. A recipient of the Robert Mann Endowed Scholarship, she is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at the Manhattan School of Music where she studies with Brentano Quartet violinist Mark Steinberg. Her primarily mentors are Mark Steinberg, Donald Weilerstein and Young Uck Kim.

ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Renowned for its artistic excellence, remarkable versatility of musical styles and adventurous programming, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. Entering its 61st season in September, the SPCO has recently undergone transformational change with the opening of its new home, the Ordway Concert Hall, the addition of a new generation of players, and significant changes in its artistic vision. The SPCO is primarily an unconducted ensemble that performs a broad range of repertoire from Baroque to new music and works in close collaboration with a diverse series of Artistic Partners, currently including British Baroque specialists Jonathan Cohen and Richard Egarr, American pianist Jeremy Denk, American composer and musical commentator Rob Kapilow, and Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto. Past Artistic Partners include Roberto Abbado, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Joshua Bell, Douglas Boyd, Martin Fröst, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Nicholas McGegan, Stephen Prutsman, Dawn Upshaw, Christian Zacharias and Thomas Zehetmair.

The virtuoso musicians of the SPCO present more than 130 concerts and educational programs in the Twin Cities each year. The orchestra's free online Concert Library receives more than 80,000 visits annually and offers both live and on-demand videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere, completely free of charge. Through its partnership with Classical Minnesota Public Radio, the SPCO is regularly heard on public radio programs that reach nearly 1 million listeners each week on over 250 stations. Additionally, the SPCO has released 67 recordings, including the 2017 Grammy® Award-winning recording of Schubert's Death and the Maiden with violinist and Artistic Partner Patricia Kopatchinskaja. The SPCO has commissioned 150 new works and tours nationally and internationally, including recent engagements in Europe and New York City, and a prestigious residency with Cal Performances at the University of California, Berkeley.

The SPCO is nationally recognized for its commitment to broad community accessibility, its innovative audience outreach efforts, and its <u>educational and family programming</u>. Regular subscription series are performed in a <u>variety of different venues</u> across the Twin Cities metropolitan area each season, a unique commitment to geographic accessibility for a major orchestra. The SPCO offers the most affordable tickets of any major orchestra in the United States, with over 50 percent of tickets available for \$15 or less, and has expanded accessibility even further by offering free tickets for children and students starting in the 2016.17 season as a part of the New Generation Initiative. The orchestra also offers an innovative ticket membership

model in which members pay \$9 per month to attend unlimited concerts. The SPCO's award-winning CONNECT education program reaches over 5,000 students and teachers annually in 13 Minneapolis and Saint Paul public schools, and its Target Free Family Music program provides engaging and educational experiences for thousands of Twin Cities children and families each year. The SPCO's Liquid Music Series (named "Best of Classical" by The New York Times) develops innovative new projects with iconoclastic artists in unique presentation formats and invites adventurous audiences to discover the new and the fascinating within the flourishing landscape of contemporary chamber music.

MISSION OF THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Our mission is to sustain a world-class chamber orchestra at the highest standards of artistic excellence that enriches the Twin Cities community by sharing dynamic, distinctive and engaging performances. We are actively committed to accessibility and intentional inclusivity in all aspects of our work and continually strive to provide all people in our community with opportunities to connect with the music we perform.

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