



BREVARD MUSIC CENTER
SUMMER INSTITUTE AND FESTIVAL

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Season Finale at BMC

(*Brevard, NC*) – The Brevard Music Center is proud to present its last performance of the 2010 season, “**Season Finale: Effron and Shaham.**” This sensational concert will take place on Sunday, August 8 at 3:00 pm, and it features Artistic Director Laureate and conductor David Effron leading the Brevard Music Center Orchestra in an all-Brahms program: Violin Concerto in D major and Symphony No. 3 in F major. Maestro Effron will be joined by celebrated violinist Gil Shaham. This event is exclusively sponsored by the Audrey Love Charitable Foundation.

David Effron was the BMC’s Artistic Director from 1997 to 2007, the third to hold this position. He is an alumnus of BMC and spent his first summer here studying piano when he was fourteen years old.

A highly sought after guest conductor with a repertoire of all the standard symphonic works as well as 105 operas, Mr. Effron's 50 year career has included appearances with major symphony orchestras and opera companies in the United States, Canada, Europe, Mexico, and the Far East. The summer of 2007 marked his eleventh and final season as artistic director and principal conductor of the Brevard Music Center in North Carolina, during which time the Board of this organization established an Artistic Director/Conductor Chair in his honor. Mr. Effron was also honored with the title of Conductor Laureate. Over the course of his career, Mr. Effron has served as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Central City Opera, the Merola program of the San Francisco opera, the Youngstown (Ohio) Symphony Orchestra, and the Heidelberg (Germany) Castle Festival. His discography includes a Grammy award winning recording of Copland's Lincoln Portrait, Benita Valente in recital which won the German Critics Prize (Pantheon label), and the RCA recording of Corigliano's Pied Piper Fantasy (with James Galway) which won a top prize from Ovation Magazine.

After earning Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in piano at the University of Michigan and Indiana University respectively, Mr. Effron received a Fulbright grant for study in Germany and began his professional career as an assistant to General Music Director Wolfgang Sawallisch at the Cologne Opera. Returning to the United States, he joined the conducting staff of the New York City opera, a position he held for 18 years. In his early career as a pianist, he accompanied such artists as George London, Placido Domingo, and Sherrill Milnes in recital and collaborated with soprano Benita Valente as her accompanist for more than a decade.

As a prominent educator, Mr. Effron taught at the Curtis Institute of Music from 1970 to 1977. As the head of the orchestral program at the Eastman School of Music from 1977 to 1998, he trained hundreds of instrumentalists who are now in professional orchestras worldwide. His conducting students presently hold music director positions in the United States, Canada, Europe, Japan, and South America. Since 1998, he has been active as professor of music at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music where he holds the position of chief conductor of the orchestral program and chairman of the conducting department.

Violinist Gil Shaham is internationally recognized as one of today’s most virtuosic and engaging artists. He is sought after throughout the world for concerto appearances with celebrated orchestras and conductors, as

well as for recital and ensemble appearances on the great concert stages and at the most prestigious festivals. Mr. Shaham has recently appeared in concert with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, New World Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, Saint Louis Symphony, Milwaukee Symphony, New Jersey Symphony and Dallas Symphony orchestras, and outside the U.S. with the leading orchestras of Rome, Florence, Birmingham, Prague, Paris and London. In addition, he will join The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields as leader and soloist on the orchestra's US tour.

In addition to his many orchestral engagements, Mr. Shaham regularly tours in recital with pianist Akira Eguchi. He has the good fortune to enjoy musical collaboration with his family as well, including his wife, violinist Adele Anthony, his sister pianist Orli Shaham and his brother-in-law, conductor David Robertson. Among his more than two dozen concerto and solo CDs are a number of best-sellers, appearing on record charts in the U.S. and abroad. These recordings have earned prestigious awards including multiple Grammys, a Grand Prix du Disque, Diapason d'or and Gramophone Editor's Choice.

Mr. Shaham was born in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, in 1971. He moved with his parents to Israel, where at the age of 7, he began violin studies with Samuel Bernstein of the Rubin Academy of Music and was granted annual scholarships by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. In 1981, while studying with Haim Taub in Jerusalem, he made debuts with the Jerusalem Symphony and the Israel Philharmonic. That same year he began his studies with Dorothy DeLay and Jens Ellerman at Aspen. In 1982, after taking first prize in Israel's Claremont Competition, he became a scholarship student at Juilliard, where he worked with Ms. DeLay and Hyo Kang. He has also studied at Columbia University.

Mr. Shaham was awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1990. He plays the 1699 "Countess Polignac" Stradivarius, and lives in New York City with his wife, violinist Adele Anthony, and their two children.

Auditorium tickets for "**Season Finale: Efron and Shaham**" are \$45, \$40, and \$35. Lawn tickets are \$15. Audience members can enjoy dining through Picnics, *Presto!* Pre-orders are suggested. For more information, please visit brevardmusic.org or call (828) 862-2105.

The Brevard Music Center was founded by James Christian Pfohl in 1936. His vision to establish a music program for talented young people has since matured into one of this country's finest summer institutes and festivals for aspiring musicians. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, BMC welcomes to its 180-acre campus each year 400 students, representing over 40 states and eight foreign countries. It has, as well, 65 distinguished faculty artists drawn from America's most prestigious conservatories, universities and orchestras. Each summer, the Center invites an array of celebrated guest artists to appear in performance with the students of BMC. BMC's unique learning environment—students living and working alongside faculty and guest artists—creates an unparalleled sense of community.

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