



CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY'S CENTER FOR THE ART PRESENTS
THE GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING
ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
FEATURING VIOLINIST JANINE JANSEN

BACKED BY THE CONDUCTOR-LESS ORPHEUS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, DUTCH VIRTUOSO JANINE JANSEN PERFORMS THE MENDELSSOHN VIOLIN CONCERTO AT WESLEYAN'S CROWELL CONCERT SERIES.

Middletown, Conn., April 18, 2007—Recognized internationally as one of the world's great orchestras, the Grammy Award-winning Orpheus Chamber Orchestra has been thrilling music lovers on four continents for 34 years. Founded by group musicians who aspired to present musician-led performances of standard and contemporary orchestral repertoire, Orpheus is a self-governing organization. Central to its distinctive personality is its practice of sharing and rotating leadership roles. For this tour, Orpheus will present a compelling program of well-loved masterpieces—including Mendelssohn's great Violin Concerto featuring Dutch violinist Janine Jansen and Schumann's Second Symphony—as well as Danish composer Poul Ruders' *Credo* and *Trapeze*. The performance takes place Friday, May 4 at 8pm in Crowell Concert Hall at Wesleyan University. Tickets are \$22 for the general public and \$17 for seniors and for students. For more information and tickets, call 860-685-3355 or visit www.wesleyan.edu/cfa.

"It is worth paying attention to almost anything these conductorless players put their collective hand mind and heart to."—*New York Times* on Orpheus Chamber Ensemble

"...interpretations seem to flow as naturally from the heart of the music as water from a spring." —*New York Times* on Janine Jansen

The Grammy Award-winning **Orpheus Chamber Ensemble** is internationally renowned for its fine artistry and distinctive approach to music-making, with a performing and recording legacy spanning 34 years. Performing with many of today's most dynamic and esteemed soloists, Orpheus presents an annual concert series at Carnegie Hall that illuminates both classic orchestral repertoire and new works by contemporary composers. Noted by critics and audiences alike for its unsurpassed energy, sensitivity, and connection to listeners, Orpheus is considered one of New York's cultural treasures.

The Orpheus recording legacy consists of more than 70 albums. Its numerous distinctions and awards include a 2001 Grammy Award for *Shadow Dances: Stravinsky Miniatures* and a 1998 Grammy nomination for a recording of Mozart piano concerti with Richard Goode. The ensemble has collaborated with many of the great artists of our time including Isaac Stern, Gidon Kremer, Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Anne Sophie von Otter, Dawn Upshaw, and Renée Fleming. Reflecting its commitment to expanding the chamber orchestra repertoire, Orpheus has premiered works by Elliott Carter, Jacob Druckman, Mario Davidovsky and Gunther Schuller among others.

(Continued)

For more information on the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, visit <http://www.orpheusnyc.com>

Violinist **Janine Jansen**'s debut at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw in 1997 resulted in invitations from all over Europe. Her London debut in November 2002, accompanied by the Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy, attracted immediate worldwide attention, and since she has appeared with many of the world's most prestigious orchestras, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, NHK Symphony Orchestra Tokyo and Sydney Symphony.

The instrument being used by Janine Jansen is the violin by Antonio Stradivari, Cremona, 1727, "Barrere" on extended loan from the Elise Mathilde Fund through intermediation of The Stradivari Society® of Chicago.

For more information about Janine Jansen, visit <http://www.janinejansen.com/>

The Center for the Arts (<http://www.wesleyan.edu/cfa>) is an 11-building complex on the Wesleyan campus that houses the departments of art and art history, music, theater and dance as well as film studies events and classes. It serves as a cultural center for the region, the state and New England. The CFA includes the 400-seat Theater, the 260-seat Cinema, the World Music Hall (a non-Western performance space), the 414-seat Crowell Concert Hall and the Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery.

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