

The Cleveland Orchestra performs “The Firebird” at Family Concerts on November 12

Program features the theatrical artistry, puppetry and masks of Philadelphia-based Enchantment Theatre Company

CLEVELAND, October 26, 2005 – The Cleveland Orchestra will perform its **first Family Concert of the season** at Severance Hall on Saturday, November 12, at 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The program, entitled “**The Firebird,**” will be led by Cleveland Orchestra Assistant Conductor **James Gaffigan** and features guest artists **Enchantment Theatre Company**.

This original production of “The Firebird” pairs the Enchantment Theatre Company’s unique blend of masked actors, sophisticated puppetry, and magic with the gripping and exciting music of Igor Stravinsky performed by The Cleveland Orchestra. “**The Firebird**” was inspired by a charming and captivating Russian folktale about young Prince Ivan and his journey in search of the mysterious and magical firebird . His exciting adventure includes an evil wizard, a beautiful imprisoned princess, and, of course, the magical firebird. In addition to Igor Stravinsky’s *The Firebird*, the Family Concert includes Aram Khachaturian’s Sabre Dance from *Gayne* and Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Vocalise.

One-hour Family Concerts are designed for children ages 7 and older and their families. The concerts provide an entertaining opportunity for families to spend quality time together while enjoying popular classical music performed by The Cleveland Orchestra in Severance Hall. Each program is preceded by fun, free, concert-related activities throughout Severance Hall, beginning one hour prior to the performances. Pre-concert activities for “The Firebird” Concerts include:

- Instrument Discovery – Children have the opportunity to try out string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments.
- Jonathan Graham, Theatre Artist – Mr. Graham will present *The Firebird* folktale in a theatrical storytelling format.
- Firebird Artwork Activity – Children can color their own special line drawing of *The Firebird to take home* as a memento of the concert.
- Visual Arts Display – View artwork by grade school students inspired by their school fieldtrips to hear The Cleveland Orchestra at Severance Hall during Education Concerts weeks.
- **Csárdás Dance Company – Enjoy traditional Hungarian folk dances performed by this northeast Ohio-based professional dance company. They will perform several dances, including the celebratory Bottle Dance where dancers balance bottles on their heads.**

The Cleveland Orchestra’s **Family Concerts** are part of a broad array of educational programs designed to foster a love of music and a lifetime of participation in the musical arts. Other programs include the “Musical Rainbow” concert series for children aged 3 to 6, Cleveland Orchestra Education Concerts (which bring more

than 30,000 school children to Severance Hall each year), the *Learning Through Music* school partnership program, Concert Previews, Music Study Groups for adults, and several programs to nurture aspiring young musicians (Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, Youth Chorus, and Children's Chorus). For more information about any of these educational programs, call the Orchestra's Educational Programs Office at (216) 231-7355.

TICKETS are \$10, \$14, \$16, and \$21. Three-concert season subscriptions are also available, with subscription prices ranging from \$25 to \$48.

To charge tickets by telephone on American Express, Discover Card, MasterCard and Visa, call Cleveland Orchestra Ticket Services at (216) 231-1111 or 1-800-686-1141 during regular ticket office hours (Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.). Tickets are also available through The Cleveland Orchestra's website at clevelandorchestra.com. The website offers secure ticket transactions with any major credit card and provides complete concert listings.

Please note: There are no added service charges or handling fees for concert tickets purchased through the Severance Hall Ticket Office – in person, by telephone or fax, or on the website.

CALENDAR LISTING:

Saturday, November 12, 2005, at 11:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.
(Pre-concert activities 10:00-10:45 a.m. & 12:30-1:15 p.m.)

Severance Hall

The Firebird

The Cleveland Orchestra
James Gaffigan, *conductor*
Enchantment Theatre Company

Weaving together elements of theatre and puppetry with music, masks, and a magical story, The Cleveland Orchestra and Enchantment Theatre Company present *The Firebird*, a charming and captivating Russian folktale about a young boy named Ivan and his journey in search of the mysterious and magical Firebird. His exciting adventure includes an evil wizard, a scary witch, a beautiful imprisoned princess and, of course, the magical firebird.

KHACHATURIAN	Sabre Dance from <i>Gayne</i>
RACHMANINOFF	Vocalise
STRAVINSKY	<i>The Firebird</i>

Family Concerts are sponsored by Giant Eagle. Enchantment Theatre Company's performances are supported by a grant from Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour

TICKETS: \$10-\$21

Call (216) 231-1111 or 1-800-686-1141, or order online at clevelandorchestra.com

Press Contact: Julie Clark, Tel: (216) 231-7476 / Email: jclark@clevelandorchestra.com