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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

***Phenomenal pianist, Timothy Stephenson, performs with the Philharmonic***

**January 16, 2019 (Columbus, Ind.)** – The opening of the Grieg Piano Concerto is spectacular. Flashy cascading octaves and arpeggios draw the listener into one of the most appealing and melodically beautiful of all piano concertos as the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic presents brilliant young pianist, Timothy Stephenson, on February 2.

The concert will open with A Vagrom Ballad, the fourth of Chadwick's charming Symphonic Sketches. The piece is a tongue-in-cheek evocation of the life of a vaudevillian tramp, a train-hopping hobo, living his life riding the rails – think Charlie Chaplin's "little tramp!"

Rounding out the evening, the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic will present Johannes Brahms' sunny Second Symphony. The power and warmth of this symphony along with its exhilarating conclusion have made it a favorite of many music-lovers since the cheering reception at its first performance.

The performance will take place at Columbus North Erne Auditorium, 1400 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Columbus, IN 47201 on Saturday, February 2. Lobby doors open at 6:30 p.m. for the 7:30 p.m. concert.

**ABOUT TIMOTHY STEPHENSON**

A native of the Boston area, pianist Timothy Stephenson began his piano career at the age of eight and has since received multiple honors and awards.

Relocating to Jacksonville, Florida in 2004, Stephenson won two Florida State Music Teachers Association competitions. He also received the Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society Certificate of Honor in recognition of outstanding achievement in the field of music as a member of the sophomore class at Florida State University where he earned his undergraduate and master's degrees in piano.

Since then, Stephenson has been named winner of the 2017 Indiana University Concerto Competition, winner of the 2017 Chapman-Neeson Competition for Florida State University (FSU) graduate students, finalist at the 2015 Chautauqua Institution Piano Competition, and prize-winner at the 2014 FSU Concerto Competition. Most recently he was selected as the first prizewinner of the 2018 Indianapolis Matinee Musicale Collegiate Scholarship Competition.

Currently he is studying with the world-famous pianist, Norman Krieger, at IU where he also has worked with piano legend, André Watts, whose wife, Joan Brand, is from Columbus, IN.

In addition to his studies in classical piano, Stephenson is an accomplished jazz pianist and is trained as a horn player. He also enjoys making music with his wife Jia-Rong Gan as the Stephenson|Gan Duo, a violin-piano duo that recently made their Carnegie Hall debut.

"Tim Stephenson is a phenomenal pianist who brings a spontaneity and passion to his performance that seems almost improvisational in the moment," said David Bowden, Music Director of the Philharmonic. "Plus he is a visual treat to watch as he shapes each melody with compelling emotion and drama. You won't want to miss this young rising star as he makes his debut with The Phil!"



## **TICKET PURCHASING INFORMATION**

Single tickets are available online at [www.thecip.org](http://www.thecip.org), or they may be purchased by phone at 812-376-2638, x1 or in person at 315 Franklin Street in downtown Columbus. Single tickets are priced from \$5 - \$25 for students; from \$15 to \$50 for adults; and from \$10 to \$45 for seniors.

The lead sponsor for this concert is Enkei America. This season is sponsored by Columbus Regional Health and The Republic with additional support provided by the Allen Whitehill Clowes Foundation.

## **ABOUT COLUMBUS INDIANA PHILHARMONIC**

Founded in 1987 under the auspices of Columbus Pro Musica, Inc., the Columbus Indiana Philharmonic and David Bowden have received local, state, national and international recognition, winning five ASCAP awards for Creative Programming and consistently receiving rave reviews for their performances. With a full complement of concerts and music education programs, the Philharmonic is proud to be one of the arts organizations that contribute to the rich quality of life enjoyed by residents of Columbus and South-Central Indiana.

*The Columbus Indiana Philharmonic is a public, not-for-profit organization supported by private donations and the Columbus Area Arts Council. This project is made possible by the support of the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.*