

A Fine Vintage: RNO Summer Series

The Russian National Orchestra, with the support provided by members of the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION, will visit the western US for a special concert series this August. The tour's principal sponsor is Grove Street Winery (see box) and its president, Peter T. Paul.

The tour includes performances, special events, family concerts and world premieres, led by five acclaimed conductors: Dmitry Liss, Kent Nagano, Carlo Ponti, Jr., Russell Gloyd and Alexander Vedernikov.

One of the highlights takes place August 11 at the Stern Grove Festival, when the Russian National Orchestra will debut *The Wolf and Peter*, a new musical piece commissioned by the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION. Composed by Jean-Pascal Beintus, *The Wolf and Peter* is a modern tale of a boy and a wolf, this time told from the perspective of the wolf. The wolf is no longer the fearsome creature of Prokofiev's creation, but a reflection of the balance that must exist between human and wildlife populations, voicing the imperative to cherish and protect natural resources. Along with its environmental perspective, *The Wolf and Peter* highlights the value of recognizing the point of view of others — a message that lies at the core of understanding different people and cultures.

Developed under the artistic direction of Kent Nagano, *The Wolf and Peter* combines Jean-Pascal Beintus' melodic score with an original text by Walt Kraemer and Martha Bredon. Contributors also include Hélène Grimaud, co-founder of the Wolf Conservation Center, and Linda Whitaker. For the debut performance,



For the second consecutive year, Grove Street Winery is the principal sponsor of the Russian National Orchestra's US summer residency. Grove Street Winery is located in Healdsburg, California and produces award winning, ultra-premium Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot.

The owner of Grove Street Winery, Peter T. Paul, is a recognized leader in mortgage banking and financial services, and equally well-known as a philanthropist. He founded the Larkspur, CA based Headlands Mortgage Company in 1986 and built it into one of the premier wholesale mortgage lending institutions in the United States. He managed the company's successful 1998 IPO and subsequent merger with GreenPoint Financial Corp., the latter being the largest business transaction in Marin County history.

Paul currently divides his time between Grove Street Winery and The Headlands Foundation, a visionary charitable organization that supports worthy causes throughout Marin, Napa and Sonoma counties.

the narrator will be Debbie Allen.

The Stern Grove Festival program will also include performances of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Paul Dukas, and *Short Ride In A Fast Machine* by John Adams. Members of California's Berkeley Symphony Orchestra will join the RNO for this performance.

The program will be repeated on August 18, at the Christopher Cohan Center in San Luis Obispo, presented by Cal Poly Arts.

Other tour events include three performances with jazz legend Dave Brubeck, and two performances at the Hollywood Bowl. For a full concert listing, see page 4. **RAF**

Nota bene: As a special offer to RAF members, a limited number of complimentary tickets are available for several of the concerts. See the event listing on page four and call 802.223.4955 before August 2 to reserve your tickets.

2002 RNO-Grove Street Winery Summer Concert Series

Grove Street Winery, *title sponsor*
Peter T. Paul, *benefactor*

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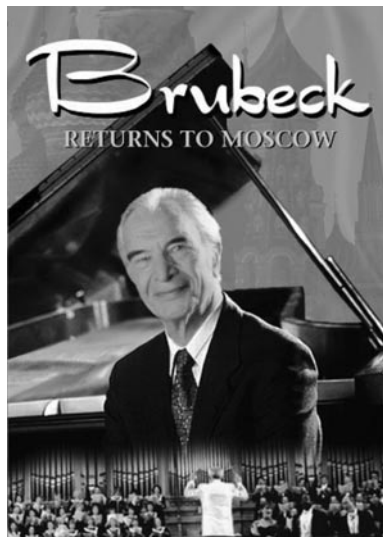
(Partial list)

Master of Jazz Continues Collaboration with RNO

In 1987, legendary jazz pianist and composer Dave Brubeck made his first trip to Russia, then the Soviet Union, performing at the monumental Reagan-Gorbachev summit. Ten years later, in 1997, Brubeck made a return trip, under the auspices of the

RUSSIAN ARTS

FOUNDATION'S "Cultural Allies" program. While there, he performed with the Russian National Orchestra. The occasion was the European premiere of Brubeck's mass "To Hope! A Celebration," a composition for symphony orchestra, choir, vocal soloists, and jazz quartet. "Wait until you hear the Russian choir," Brubeck said on his return. "You've never heard basses like that in your life."



A new DVD and video release of the 1997 Moscow concert is now available under the title "Brubeck Returns to Moscow." In addition to the complete Brubeck mass, the digital release includes Brubeck's "Blue Rondo a la Turk" performed by the RNO and the Dave Brubeck Quartet. Both selections were conducted by Russell Gloyd.

Brubeck, who celebrated his 80th birthday last December, was born in Concord, California and today heads up the Brubeck Institute at the University of the Pacific, which,

together with the RNO, has launched a multi-year collaboration exploring the cultural and musical alliances of America and Russia, and of jazz and classical music.

The Dave Brubeck Quartet will join the RNO for three concerts: August 9 at Ironstone Vineyards, August 16 at Villa Montalvo, and August 19 at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. **RAF**

RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION

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The RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION is a non-profit, US 501(c)(3) organization. Founded in 1990, the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION supports Russian arts and culture through exchanges and education, building lasting bridges between East and West.

MEMBERSHIP in the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION is \$60 per year and includes a subscription to *Russian Life* magazine, special discounts and offers for events sponsored by the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION, and the *RAF NEWS*, a complimentary newsletter describing the work of the RUSSIAN ARTS FOUNDATION and reviewing and listing important Russian-related arts events.

FIREBIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP is \$150 per year and includes all of the above, plus invitations to private receptions and events, special limited edition gifts, and recognition in the *RAF NEWS*.

Other sponsorship options exist at higher giving levels. For information, contact:

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Montpelier, VT 05601-0248

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or rwalk1@pacbell.net

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A Special Welcome to New Firebird Club Members This Year

Molly Aasten	Seattle WA
Frances Atkinson	Birmingham AL
Sally A. Burchfield	Dallas TX
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Pauline Galbraue	Lynwood CA
Christian Gries	Greenfield IN
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Greg Netys	Luck WI
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Alan B. Teasley	Durham NC
Robert L. Tuck	Chapel Hill NC

Tour to Feature Quintet of Conductors

An esteemed group of conductors will lead the Russian National Orchestra in its summer concert series (see schedule, page 4). Below we offer biographies of these artists.

California-born **Kent Nagano** is Principal Conductor of the Los Angeles Opera and Music Director of Berlin's Deutsches Symphony-Orchestra and the Berkeley Symphony. He has been a member of the Russian National Orchestra's Collegium of Conductors since 2000, and Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra since 1990. He

recently been released as a video/DVD. D.C. and San Francisco. He has also worked with the Gregg Smith Singers, the Pacific Mozart Ensemble, Musica Sacra and the Baltimore Choral Arts Society. Internationally, he has conducted and recorded with orchestras in Germany, the U.K., the Netherlands, Italy, Switzerland, Brazil, South Africa and Poland.

In 1997 he conducted "To Hope! A Celebration" with the Russian National Orchestra and the Yurlovsky Choir at the Moscow Conservatory of Music. That performance was recorded for television and has

Carlo Ponti, Jr. is Music Director and Principal Conductor of the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra in California, and Associate Conductor of the Russian National Orchestra. Born in 1968, he began his musical studies in Paris at the age of eight. He was a prizewinner in several piano competitions. He studied piano in Switzerland and the United States, and earned a degree in piano performance from the University of Southern California.

Ponti's 1998 debut with the Russian National Orchestra met with critical praise and



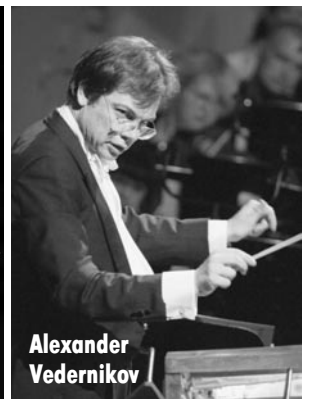
Kent Nagano



Dmitri Liss



Carlo Ponti, Jr.



Alexander Vedernikov

was Music Director of England's venerable Hallé Orchestra from 1991 to 2000, and of the Lyon Opera from 1989 to 1998. In both former positions he was credited with bringing his ensembles to the forefront of the international scene through innovative programming and acclaimed concerts, tours and recordings.

Among the world's most recorded conductors, Nagano has been recognized with three Grammy Awards and several nominations, the Edison Award, several *Gramophone Magazine* Awards and, on three occasions, the Grand Prix du Disque. He is an Officer in France's Order of Arts and Letters and has been honored as Conductor of the Year in England, Personality of the Year in France and Musical America's 2001 Conductor of the Year.

Russell Glyod has established a diverse career as a conductor, producer and arranger. Since 1976 he has been associated with Dave Brubeck and has conducted the many symphonic and choral appearances of the Dave Brubeck Quartet in the United States and around the world.

As a guest conductor, he has appeared with orchestras across North America, including those of Atlanta, Dallas, Montreal, Washington,

recently been released as a video/DVD.

As a producer, he has been involved in all aspects of electronic media. In addition to his recording work, he has produced the soundtrack for many feature films and television productions.

Associate Conductor of the Russian National Orchestra and Principal Conductor of the Ural Philharmonic Orchestra, **Dmitri Liss** has won rave reviews for his interpretations of the Russian masterworks as well as of contemporary music and jazz. Born in the former Soviet Union in 1960, Liss graduated with honors from the Moscow Conservatory. He won the First International Competition of Young Conductors (Zagreb, Yugoslavia) in 1995. As guest conductor, he has led such orchestras as the Moscow Philharmonic, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Dutch Radio Symphony, the Pacific Symphony of California, and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis. He began to tour internationally with the RNO in November 1998 and was appointed Associate Conductor soon thereafter. He received accolades for leading the RNO's 1999 concert series at the Hollywood Bowl.

he was invited back on the spot. Since then, he has appeared as guest conductor with the Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra in Venezuela, the Orquesta Sinfonica de Galicia in Spain, Vienna's Pro Arte Orchestra, the Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestra of Valencia, the Ural Philharmonic, and the Moscow Chamber Orchestra.

Alexander Vedernikov was recently named chief conductor of Moscow's Bolshoi Theater. He studied at the Moscow Conservatory and, in 1988, joined the Moscow Stanislavsky Theater. Since 1995 he has been Music Director of the Russian Philharmonia. He has conducted the St. Petersburg Philharmonic, the Russian State Symphony, the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra of the Bolshoi Theatre. He has appeared at international opera houses including the Metropolitan Opera, Covent Garden, La Scala, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, and La Fenice in Venice, and has guest conducted the Philharmonia Orchestra, Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Resjdentie Orkest Den Haag, and Budapest Festival Orchestra. **RAF**

2002 RNO-Grove Street Winery Summer Concert Series

As a special thank you to RAF members, a limited number of complimentary tickets are available to those concerts marked with a * symbol. To reserve your free tickets, call 802.223.4955 before August 2.

*** August 5, 2002 • Vancouver
Chan Centre**

www.festivalvancouver.bc.ca
Stravinsky, *Orchestral Suite No.2*
Tchaikovsky, *Violin Concerto*
Alexei Bruni, soloist
Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

*** August 6, 2002 • Seattle
The Paramount Theatre**

www.theparamount.com
Tchaikovsky, *Capriccio Italien*
Gershwin, *Rhapsody in Blue* arranged for
trumpet (*Vlad Lavrik, soloist*)
Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

**August 9, 2002 • Murphys, CA
Ironstone Vineyards**

www.ironstonevineyards.com
Dave Brubeck Quartet and the RNO
Three to Get Ready, Salute to the Count,
Blue Rondo a la Turk, Take Five
Russell Gloyd, conductor

Tchaikovsky, *Capriccio Italien*
Gershwin, *Rhapsody in Blue*
Vlad Lavrik, soloist
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

*** August 11, 2002 • San Francisco
Stern Grove Festival (Free to the public)**

sterngrove.jivacreative.com
Dukas, *Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Prokofiev, *Peter and the Wolf*
Beintus, *Wolf and Peter* (world premiere)
John Adams, *Short Ride In A Fast Machine*
Kent Nagano, conductor

**August 14, 2002 • Napa
St. John's Church
Presented by Napa Valley Symphony**

www.napavalleysymphony.org
Tchaikovsky, *Capriccio Italien*
Gershwin, *Rhapsody in Blue*
Vlad Lavrik, soloist
Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

*** August 16, 2002 • Villa Montalvo**

www.villamontalvo.org
Dave Brubeck Quartet and the RNO
Three to Get Ready, Salute to the Count,
Blue Rondo a la Turk, Take Five
Russell Gloyd, conductor
Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

*** August 17, 2002 • San Luis Obispo
Christopher Cohan Center**

Presented by Cal Poly Arts
www.calpolyarts.org
Tchaikovsky, *Capriccio Italien*
Gershwin, *Rhapsody in Blue*
Vlad Lavrik, soloist
Mussorgsky, *Pictures at an Exhibition*
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor

*** August 18, 2002 • San Luis Obispo
Christopher Cohan Center**

Presented by Cal Poly Arts
www.calpolyarts.org
Dukas, *Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Prokofiev, *Peter and the Wolf*
Beintus, *Wolf and Peter*
Stravinsky, *Firebird Suite* (selections)
Kent Nagano, conductor

**August 19, 2002 • Cerritos
Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts**

www.cerritoscenter.com
Tchaikovsky, *Capriccio Italien*
Gershwin, *Rhapsody in Blue* arranged for
trumpet (*Vlad Lavrik, soloist*)
Carlo Ponti, Jr., conductor
Dave Brubeck Quartet and the RNO
Three to Get Ready, Salute to the Count,
Blue Rondo a la Turk, Take Five
Russell Gloyd, conductor

*** August 20, 2002 • Los Angeles
Hollywood Bowl**

www.hollywoodbowl.org
Tchaikovsky, *Swan Lake Suite*
Stravinsky, *Divertimento* from "The Fairy's
Kiss"
Stravinsky, *Firebird Suite*
Dmitri Liss, conductor

*** August 22, 2002 • Los Angeles
Hollywood Bowl**

www.hollywoodbowl.org
A Russian Opera Evening
Arias, duets, and orchestral music from
operas by Verdi, Puccini, Cilea, Rimsky-
Korsakov, Rachmaninoff, Mussorgsky, and
Tchaikovsky
Alexander Vedemikov, conductor
Galina Gorchakova, soprano
Sergei Leiferkus, baritone

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