



PRESS RELEASE – For immediate release
Johannesburg, South Africa, 3 November 2020

JPO LAUNCHES SOUTH AFRICA’S FIRST ONLINE SYMPHONY SEASON

The Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra is pleased to announce the Virtual Spring Symphony Season, taking place exclusively online! To continue to bring great music to music lovers, and in light of global health concerns regarding COVID-19, the JPO has been hard at work to create South Africa’s first online Symphony Season.

The Virtual Spring Symphony Season comprises a four-week programme, filled with exciting repertoire. Performances were recorded at The Linder Auditorium in Johannesburg, whilst observing strict COVID regulations. Although there was no live audience, the musicians performed with the audience in mind – donning their typical concert wear! Their passion to make the performances as immersive and entertaining as possible can be seen, and the energy and enthusiasm of the orchestra is palpable. The JPO Virtual Spring Symphony Season was designed to reflect the vibrancy and creativity of our artists.

“Despite the current challenges, we are strongly committed to finding new and exciting ways to continue to deliver good music and to keep us all connected in the process. While we know that the live concert experience can never be replaced by virtual concerts, we are pleased that you will still be able to enjoy great music in the comfort of your home.” said Bongani Tembe, Chief Executive and Artistic Director of the JPO.

The Season opens on Wednesday 11 November, streaming online from 19h30, and will be available to music lovers for 48 hours thereafter. A concert will be streamed every Wednesday evening from 19h30 for the following three weeks, with each concert being available for a 48 hour period.

Details of the programme are available on www.jpo.co.za as well as on the Computicket website – www.computicket.com Tickets are available online at R250 (including VAT) per concert and can be purchased online or through all Computicket outlets. Patrons can enjoy a 25% discount on Season Ticket purchases when purchasing tickets for all four concerts. Once you have purchased your ticket online, an access code/link will be sent to you each week to view the concert at your leisure.

JPO VIRTUAL SPRING SYMPHONY SEASON PROGRAMME

| CONCERT | DATE | CONDUCTOR | SOLOIST | REPERTOIRE |
|---------|---------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Wed 11 – Fri 13 Nov | Brandon Phillips | Zanta Hofmeyr – Violin | Gluck: Dance of the blessed spirits Beethoven: Romance no2 Mozart: Symphony n40 |
| 2 | Wed 18 – Fri 20 Nov | Brandon Phillips | Megan-Geoffrey Prins - Piano | Debussy: Petit Suite Mozart: Concerto for piano no23 Prokofiev: Classical symphony |
| 3 | Wed 25 – Fri 27 Nov | Lyk Temming | Francois du Toit – Piano | Beethoven: Concerto for piano no3 Beethoven: Symphony no7 |
| 4 | Wed 2 – Fri 4 Dec | Schalk van der Merwe | Khanyi Mthethwa - Flute Gaylen Sales - Harp | Mozart: Concerto for Flute and Harp Mendelssohn: Symphony no3 (Scottish) |

About the JPO: The Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra (JPO) is a not-for-profit and a public benefit organisation which was originally formed in May 2000 following the demise of the National Symphony Orchestra. The JPO went into business rescue in 2012, however, it was relaunched in August 2017 with a revitalised vision, a new brand identity and a diverse board of directors which is comprised of captains of industry and credible community leaders. The board is chaired by former Deputy Chief Justice, Dikgang Moseneke, with arts manager and Juilliard School trained singer, Bongani Tembe, as the Chief Executive and Artistic Director. The relaunch of the JPO affirmed the organisation's aspiration to be internationally recognised for artistic excellence, innovation, education initiatives and community engagement programmes.

Enquiries:

Rosie Katz – rosie@jpo.co.za – 083 266 2367

Patricia Mampani – patricia@jpo.co.za - 082 860 0595