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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Riverside Symphonia Presents *Lara St. John & Friends***

**LAMBERTVILLE, N.J. — Feb. 16, 2011** — On Sunday, Feb. 27, the Riverside Symphonia will present an afternoon with *Lara St. John & Friends* at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church in Lambertville, N.J.

The Canadian-born violinist, who has been described as “something of a phenomenon” by *The Strad* and a “high powered soloist” by *The New York Times*, has seen her recently released CD, *Mozart*, top Billboard’s Classical Chart for more than 12 weeks. St. John’s brilliance, irresistible vitality and passionate musical imagination have gained her a loyal following around the world and across the Delaware Valley. She has provided highly memorable performances each time she has graced the Symphonia’s stage and this time promises to be no exception.

Joining her will be three of the classical world’s most compelling young stars, including Sharon Wei on viola, Shai Wosner on piano and Eric Jacobsen, founder and conductor of The Knights (New York City’s most talked about young chamber orchestra), on cello.

The *New York Times* has described Jacobsen as an “interpretive dynamo.” In 2010, The Knights released their second CD, “New Worlds.” Jacobsen has recorded with Yo Yo Ma and Bono, among others, and appears with St. John on her new CD.

Wei also has a following in the Philadelphia area, having completed her studies at the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music. She has received awards from Washington to Toronto to London for her performances and was the recipient of the 2006 Rising Star Galaxie Award.

Wosner continues to attract international recognition for his exceptional artistry, musical integrity and creative insight. His recently released CD, “Brahms & Schoenberg,” received an enthusiastic review from *The New York Times* where he was praised for an “inventively conceived and impressive recording.”

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These four internationally acclaimed musicians will perform a delightfully rich repertoire with music from Brahms and Dvorak, as well as a world premiere of Sicilian songs by Lambertville composer Robert Maggio, in the unique, intimate venue that is St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church.

The concert starts at 4 p.m. and will be followed by a post-concert reception for ticket holders. Tickets range from \$20 to \$55 and may be purchased by visiting [www.riversidesymphonia.org](http://www.riversidesymphonia.org) or calling (609) 397-7300. St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church is located at 44 Bridge St. in Lambertville.

### **About Riverside Symphonia**

The Riverside Symphonia is a professional orchestra serving the Greater Delaware Valley and the neighboring river towns of Lambertville, N.J., and New Hope, Pa. The Symphonia premiered in 1990 and has provided first class music at affordable prices. Through the years, the orchestra has received critical acclaim, performing to consistently sold out audiences. For more information, please visit [www.riversidesymphonia.org](http://www.riversidesymphonia.org).

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