



Edward Gardner



Johannes Moser

Elgar Cello Concerto at SRS

Guest conductor Edward Gardner comes to Santa Rosa fresh from his appointment as music director of the English National Opera to lead the Santa Rosa Symphony on March 17, 18 and 19 at the Wells Fargo Center. Centerpiece of the concert is the lyrical, heart-wrenching Elgar cello concerto, performed by the gifted Munich-born cellist Johannes Moser. Also on the program is Beethoven's operatic "Leonore" overture and English composer William Walton's poignant Symphony No. 1.

Twenty-eight-year-old cellist Johannes Moser came to international attention in June 2002 when he won the 12th Tchaikovsky Competition and was awarded the Special Prize for his interpretation of the "Rococo Variations". He also won first prize in the Davidoff Competition in Riga (2000) and the Mendelssohn competition in Berlin (2001). After making his U.S. debut in 2005 with the Chicago Symphony under Pierre Boulez, he was described by the *Chicago Tribune* as "greatly gifted" and "heroic". Moser has played with the Radio Symphony Orchestra of Saarbrücken, the SWR Stuttgart, and the Deutsche Symphony Orchestra in Berlin. He has also performed at Schleswig-Holstein Festival, the Bad Kissingen Summer Festival, the Menuhin Festival Gstaad, and the Rheingau Music Festival. He has toured in Singapore, Taipei and Viet-

nam and has played with the Munich and Bavarian Radio orchestras.

Called "a man of exceptional talent" by the *Manchester Evening News*, British-born conductor Edward Gardner takes up his new position as music director of the British National Opera in May 2007. He has been the music director of Glyndebourne on Tour and made his debut with the BBC Symphony Orchestra in 2005.

Concert times are Saturday and Monday at 8 PM and Sunday at 3 PM. Conversations with the Conductor begin in the main concert hall one hour prior to each concert.

The Discovery Series open rehearsals will be held at 2 PM on March 17. These events offer a sneak peek into the final rehearsal process before each concert set.

Call 707.546.8742 for tickets or purchase tickets online at santarosasympphony.com. Tickets are also available in person at the Symphony Box Office on the first floor of the North Coast Bank building at 50 Santa Rosa Avenue in Santa Rosa. Tickets may also be purchased at the door 90 minutes before each performance based on availability. Single tickets are \$27 to \$50, with student and senior discounts available. \$10 Student Rush tickets (valid student I.D. required) can be purchased a half hour prior to curtain.

MUSIC



PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION FAVORITES TO APPEAR

For three decades, Robin and Linda Williams have made it their mission to perform the music they love -- a robust blend of bluegrass, folk, old-time and acoustic country with wry lyrics and skilled musicianship. Their concerts have earned them a large following -- including, for almost three decades, de-

voted fans of Garrison Keillor's *A Prairie Home Companion*. They've also appeared on The Grand Old Opry, Austin City Limits, and Music City Tonight.

Touring with Their Fine Group (including Jim Watson on bass, mandolin and vocals and Jimmy Gaudreau on mandolin and mandola), Robin and Linda Williams

will appear March 17 at 8 PM at Spreckels Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$24 -- or \$21 for young people and seniors -- and can be reserved by calling 707.588.3400 or by visiting the Spreckels Box Office, 5409 Snyder Lane in Rohnert Park, Tuesday through Saturday between noon and 5 PM.

Choral Project to Appear at Wells Fargo Center

The Santa Rosa Concert Association's Choral Project will celebrate its 11th season with a special afternoon Great Artist Series performance at 3 PM, March 25, at the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road in Santa Rosa.

The series, hailed by *The San Jose Mercury* as "a Bay Area jewel", has developed an outstanding reputation for performing high-level choral literature and bridging the gap between text and music, singer and spectator.

The 45-voice ensemble, founded by Artistic Director Daniel Hughes in 1996, has performed across the country,

including performances for the American Choral Directors Association, the California Music Educators Association, and at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

This concert is the fourth of five this season. The final concert will feature world

class pianist Garrick Ohlsson at 7:30 PM on April 25.

To purchase tickets, call the Wells Fargo Center Box Office at 707.546.3600. For more information, call 707.539.6556 or visit srconcert.org or choralproject.org.

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