

NEWS RELEASE Wichita Symphony Orchestra

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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THE WICHITA SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES A CHANGE IN PIANISTS FOR ITS NEXT CONCERT

Stewart Goodyear Steps In for Stephen Hough

(Wichita, KS) It's a phone call that symphony managers and conductors never want to receive. Chief Executive Officer Don Reinhold took the call, informing him that pianist Stephen Hough must regretfully withdraw from his appearance with the Wichita Symphony on Sunday, January 21, due to personal reasons requiring him to return to London.

When a replacement artist is needed, time is of the essence. Replacing an artist of the international stature of Stephen Hough is not easy. After discussing options, Music Director Daniel Hege and Reinhold decided to try and keep the originally programmed concerto, Johannes Brahms' Second Piano Concerto, an epic work and one of the most difficult concertos in the piano repertoire.

An e-mail went out, and within an hour, Reinhold obtained the services of Stewart Goodyear, who is no stranger to the Wichita Symphony audience. Goodyear performed the rare undertaking of playing all five Beethoven piano concertos in a single weekend with the Wichita Symphony in February 2020. His international career takes Goodyear to South Korea for a performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue before returning home to Toronto and quickly repacking his bags to arrive in Wichita in time for rehearsals.

In addition to Brahms' Second Piano Concerto, Maestro Hege conducts the Wichita Symphony in Beethoven's Seventh Symphony.

Tickets starting at \$25 are available at the Symphony's website, www.wichitasymphony.org, by calling the Symphony's Box Office at (316) 267-7658, or to walk-ins at the Symphony's second-floor office in the Century II Concert Hall between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Student tickets are \$10.

Concertgoers and others contemplating a ticket purchase can learn more about the music by reading the program notes in advance posted on the Wichita Symphony's website.