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PIANIST PETER MARTIN AND VIOLINIST DAVID HALEN COLLABORATE ON “JAZZ MEETS CLASSICAL”

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents “Jazz Meets Classical – In The 20th Century And Beyond” featuring jazz pianist and composer Peter Martin and violinist David Halen, Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Peter Martin, music director for jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves, recently wrote a major jazz/classical work for the 100th Anniversary of The Sheldon, combining top jazz musicians and a string quartet of David Halen and members of the Symphony. We’ll hear excerpts from that exciting composition, as well as pieces by Gershwin and Ravel along with other music combining the best of jazz and classical music.

The evening will also include the performance of a new work by University of Missouri student Benedetto Colagiovanni as part of the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

David Halen served as Assistant Concertmaster with the Houston Symphony Orchestra under Sergiu Comissiona and Christoph Eschenbach until 1991. He then came to St. Louis, where he was permanently named Concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony in September 1995, without audition, and with the endorsement of then Music Directors Leonard Slatkin and Hans Vonk. His numerous accolades include the 2002 St. Louis Arts and Entertainment Award for Excellence, and honorary doctorates from Central Missouri State University and from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Halen plays a 1753 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin, made in Milan.

Raised in St. Louis by parents who are both classical musicians, **Peter Martin** began studying violin and piano at age three. He attended The Juilliard School in New York City on scholarship, studying with Martin Canin, until moving to New Orleans in 1990. While in New Orleans, Martin honed his skills working with key musicians such as Nicholas Payton, Germaine Bazzle, Chris Thomas, Alvin Batiste, Brian Blade and Victor Goines. He also embarked on an active solo career and toured and recorded with Betty Carter, Wynton Marsalis, Dianne Reeves, Chris Botti, Joshua Redman, Christian McBride, Roy Hargrove and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

Tickets are \$30 orchestra/\$25 balcony/\$15 student, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at TheSheldon.org, or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit TheSheldon.org.

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