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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: November 30, 2011**

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**THE CORPUS CHRISTI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS  
“HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS”  
FEATURING RENOWNED VOCAL TRIO POPERAZZI,  
VIOLINIST WILLIAM CURT THOMPSON, THE CORPUS CHRISTI  
CHORALE AND THE DEL MAR MASTER CHORUS  
FOR ITS THIRD SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT  
OF THE 2011-2012 CONCERT SEASON**

**Who:** The Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra (CCSO), Maestro John Giordano (CCSO Music Director and Conductor), Poperazzi, William Curt Thompson, The Corpus Christi Chorale and The Del Mar Master Chorus.

**What:** The CCSO presents the third subscription concert of its 66<sup>th</sup> consecutive season with its annual event that has become a popular holiday traditional in the Coastal Bend.

**When: Saturday, December 10, 2011 at 8:00 pm.**

**Where:** The Performing Arts Center at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive

**Why:** Make a memory this holiday season with the CCSO and featured vocal trio Poperazzi at the 2011 Home for the Holidays concert--a Coastal Bend tradition. The Corpus Christi Chorale, directed by Dr. Ross Bernhardt, and the Del Mar Master Chorus, directed by Dennis Richardson, will join the CCSO in a special collaboration of holiday favorites, symphonic classics, and the ever-popular audience sing-a-long. CCSO Concertmaster William Curt Thompson will be featured in Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Portenas*.

Ticket packages may be purchased by calling the Symphony office at 883-NOTE (6683) or toll-free at 877-286-6683. Mini-Season tickets (a package of any three-to-five concerts) start at \$80 per seat and are offered at a substantial discount over the purchase of single tickets. Single concert tickets start at \$20 per seat. For more information, visit [www.ccsymphony.org](http://www.ccsymphony.org).

**-Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra-**

## About the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra

The Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra, now in its sixty-sixth consecutive season, is the premiere symphonic orchestra along the Texas Gulf Coast. Grammy®-nominated Music Director and Conductor John Giordano, formerly Music Director and Conductor with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra for 28 seasons, is in his eighth full season with the orchestra.

Giordano's and the CCSO's reputations for high-quality performances have resulted in appearances with some of the best known artists of our day. Over the last six seasons, guest artists have included Van Cliburn, Itzhak Perlman, Andre Watts, Sarah Chang, Yefim Bronfman, Marvin Hamlisch, Joshua Bell, the Romeros, Evelyn Glennie, Elizabeth Roe, Frederica von Stade and Nobuyuki Tsujii. The 2011-2012 season includes six subscription concerts.

In addition to its regular season concerts, the orchestra performs educational concerts for area school children each year. The CCSO also manages and supports the Corpus Christi Area Youth Orchestra.

The CCSO's principal performance venue is the acclaimed 1,400 seat Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Celebrating its seventh anniversary in 2012, the PAC was constructed at a cost of \$18 million and features superb acoustics for live performances. The orchestra is also supported by the Symphony Guild of Corpus Christi.

For more information, please visit [www.ccsymphony.org](http://www.ccsymphony.org).

### 2011-2012 Concert Schedule:

#### **Subscription Concert #1**

October 8, 2011  
*"Russian Spectacular"*  
Sirena Huang, violin

#### **Subscription Concert #3**

December 10, 2011  
*"Home for the Holidays"*  
Poperazzi, vocal trio

#### **Subscription Concert #5**

March 10, 2012  
*"Magnificent Mozart"*  
José Feghali, piano

#### **Non-Subscription Community Concert**

March 31, 2012  
*"CBCF Community Concert"*  
CCSO

#### **Subscription Concert #2**

November 12, 2011  
*"Pepe and Beethoven"*  
Pepe Romero, guitar

#### **Subscription Concert #4**

February 18, 2012  
*"Best of Broadway"*

#### **Subscription Concert #6**

April 14, 2012  
Season Finale  
Stephen Hough, piano

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## Biographies:



### **John Giordano, Music Director and Conductor Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra**

Internationally-acclaimed and Grammy-nominated conductor John Giordano is a composer, educator, performer and former Music Director of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. During his 28 seasons with the Fort Worth Symphony, Giordano founded the Fort Worth Chamber Orchestra and conducted the ensemble in several successful tours across the world. The Fort Worth Symphony named him "Music Director Emeritus" in 2001. Since 1973, Giordano has served as Jury Chairman for the prestigious Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. He is also a "Distinguished Fellow in Music" at Texas Christian University, where he serves as Ambassador at Large for the School of Music and the College of Fine Arts.

Music Director of the Youth Orchestra of Greater Fort Worth from 1968 to 1976, Giordano has served on the music faculties of Tarleton State University, the University of North Texas and Texas Christian University. He founded the Colorado College Summer Music Festival for Young Artists in Colorado Springs. In 1995, the trustees of Texas Christian University recognized Giordano's lifelong contribution to the University and the community of Fort Worth by naming the piano wing of the University's new Mary D. and F. Howard Walsh Performing Arts Center in his honor.

The 2011-2012 season marks John Giordano's eighth full season as Conductor and Music Director of the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra.



### **DECEMBER 10, 2011 POPERAZZI, vocal trio**

Blurring the boundaries between classical and popular music, *Poperazzi* was created in 2009 by founder and tenor, George DeMott. A classically-trained Italian vocalist with performance degrees from the Eastman School of Music and the University of California - Santa Barbara. *Poperazzi* is committed to maintaining and preserving the core traditions of the classical music style, while infusing each show with rock and pop-inspired energy. The result is pure aural adrenaline.

Joined by fellow tenor Cody Shawn Gay and soprano Janien Valentine, the three members of *Poperazzi* have performed in premiere opera houses in the U.S. and Europe, aboard the award-winning Crystal Cruise luxury ships, and in the top shows on the Las Vegas Strip. Mr. Gay is a graduate of Mesa State College with degrees in vocal performance and musical theater and additionally, attended Università Degli Studi Di Urbino. He's performed at venues from Tokyo Disney to the Las Vegas strip with his band Fuse and from Operafest at Tanglewood to Deutsche Oper, Berlin. Ms. Valentine starred in three world premiere musicals *Notre Dame De Paris*, *Men Are From Mars*, *Woman Are From Venus* and in the title role of *Carmen* with Cirque du Soleil founder Franco Dragone as director. Ms. Valentine was voted Best Female Singer and Thespian by the Las Vegas Review Journal and the Las Vegas Sun, and is currently headlining in Las Vegas in *Nunsense*, and in *PeepShow* at Planet Hollywood.

*Poperazzi*'s symphonic pops production, entitled "Viva Italia", is conducted and co-produced by Michael

Krajewski, Principal Pops Conductor of the Houston and Atlanta Symphony Orchestras. With a nod to their Italian roots, *Popera*'s "Viva Italia" explores the music of Italy through art song, opera, symphonic literature, and songs popularized by Italian-Americans. Elegant, versatile, and entertaining, their performances are delighting audiences in Atlanta (New Year's Eve 2010), Houston, Phoenix, Detroit, Naples, and Edmonton (Canada). *Popera* was featured in a live PBS broadcast from Madison, Wisconsin in July 2010.

From rock to opera, classic Sinatra to The Rolling Stones, and Pavarotti to choreographed scenes from *The Jersey Boys*, *Popera* performances present hundreds of years of musical tradition in a fresh and contemporary format.

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