

All Classical

P O R T L A N D

presents

Mark O'Connor & Friends - *An Appalachian Christmas*

Monday, December 22nd at 7:30pm
The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

The Grammy Winner's "Dazzling" and "Elegant" Holiday Reinvention

PORTLAND, Ore., November 13, 2014 — All Classical Portland presents Grammy-winning violinist Mark O'Connor at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on December 22nd as part of his third annual *An Appalachian Christmas* tour. The performance features "elegant" (*New York Times*) interpretations of Christmas classics found on O'Connor's celebrated album of the same name, which *American Songwriter* called "an absolute delight."

This will be the second year in a row that All Classical has partnered with Mark O'Connor to bring his incredibly popular holiday tour to Portland. Following last year's high demand for tickets and sold-out performance, which *The Oregonian* praised as an "infectious mix of roots music," this year's concert will take place in Portland's beloved Broadway theater, the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Tickets are available through the Portland's website, at portland5.com. Donors to All Classical Portland receive a \$5 discount off all tickets purchased.

O'Connor's "dazzling skill" (*Spartanburg Herald-Journal*) as both a musician and composer will be further enhanced in this program by several renowned instrumentalists and singers: Cia Cherryholmes from the bluegrass band "Cherryholmes;" fiddler and vocalist Carrie Rodriguez; guitarist Joe Smart; bassist Michael Rinne; and O'Connor's son Forrest on mandolin and vocals. The ensemble infuses Americana in all that they play, and brings a "warm blend of country, folk and classical to Christmas songs" (*Willamette Week*) including "Winter Wonderland," "O Christmas Tree," "Carol of the Bells," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." Watch last year's performance of "Carol of the Bells" here: <http://bit.ly/1twqRCj>

O'Connor's 'An Appalachian Christmas' CD (released in 2011) reached the top 20 on three Billboard charts: Bluegrass Albums, Crossover Albums, and Classical Albums. The album features guest appearances by Alison Krauss, Renee Fleming, Yo-Yo Ma, James Taylor, and more on a variety of beloved holiday staples.

All Classical Portland is Portland, Oregon's classical radio station. Established in 1983, our mission is to advance knowledge of and appreciation for classical music; to build and sustain culturally vibrant local and global communities around this art form; to reflect the spirit of the Pacific Northwest; and to foster integrity, quality, and innovation in all that we do. For more information, visit www.allclassical.org.

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