

**NEWS FROM:
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FREE MARINA DEL REY SUMMER CONCERTS
KICK OFF TENTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON
THURSDAY, JULY 8**

MARINA DEL REY, Calif. – May 27, 2010 - The tenth anniversary season of the Marina del Rey Summer Concerts promises to be one of the most entertaining in its history of widely varied and exciting presentations. As always, concerts are presented free to the public. Classical Thursdays, featuring the 75-member Marina del Rey Summer Symphony conducted by its musical director Frank Fetta, kicks off the season July 8. Pop Saturdays, beginning July 17, will present four of the most popular star attractions in the series' history. Popular KUSC personality Rich Capparella is series host.

Held waterside in beautiful Burton Chace Park, Marina del Rey, all concerts begin at 7 pm to permit audiences to view the sunset while they enjoy the music.

"A Night at the Opera" starts off the season on July 8, presenting finalists and winners of the Loren L. Zachary National Vocal Competition, one of the world's premiere competitions for singers. Featured will be soprano Narine Ojakhyan from Glendale; and soprano Wendy Bryn Harmer, bass-baritone Donovan Singletary, and tenor Matthew Plenk, already appearing with the Metropolitan Opera.

July 22 will feature an unforgettable young American pianist, 19-year-old Claire Huangci, called by critics "one of the century's major talents."

August 5 will present a unique program of symphonic Beatles musical arrangements, featuring The Christopher Brothers, singing and playing Beatles' songs and joining the orchestra in its symphonic tribute. Also on the program are symphonic works by George Gershwin and John Dankworth.

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MdR Summer Concerts -2-2-2

Closing the classical season on August 19th will be a return appearance by 22-year-old violin virtuoso Hahn-Bin, hailed by critics for his “extraordinary, intelligent and beautiful” performances.

The Saturday Pop series will give audiences an opportunity to enjoy four presentations that have been favorites over the past decade. Appearing July 17 will be Florence LaRue and The 5th Dimension, who have performed and recorded, with their distinctive sound, some of the greatest hits in American pop music history.

On July 31, James Darren will revisit the Marina del Rey Summer Concert stage to perform, backed by his orchestra, an evening of pop and jazz standards that he says have always been his favorites.

August 14, one of the founding figures of the Bossa Nova movement in Brazil, Oscar Castro-Neves, returns to these concerts, bringing his genius as guitarist, composer and arranger to an evening with “Oscar Castro-Neves and Friends.”

Closing the season on August 28 will be the return of that great lady of jazz, Dame Cleo Laine who will be joined by her ensemble and her daughter, British jazz favorite Jacqui Dankworth, in an evening of memorable renditions of classics from jazz to Broadway.

Sponsors of the Marina del Rey Summer Concerts are Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Supervisor; The Department of Beaches and Harbors; and The Ritz-Carlton, Marina del Rey. KUSC classical fm 91.5 is Media Sponsor.

For further information call (310) 305-9545 or visit the Beaches and Harbors web site at marinadelrey.lacounty.gov.

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