FROM E.B. WHITE'S Here is New York, 1949

Another hot night I stop off at the band concert in the Mall in Central Park. The people seated on the benches fanned out in front of the band shell are attentive, appreciative. In the trees the night wind sings, bringing leaves to life, endowing them with speech; the electric lights illuminate the green branches from the under side, translating them into a new language. On a bench directly in front of me, a boy sits with his arm around his girl; they are proud of each other and are swathed in music. The cornetist steps forward for a solo, begins, "Drink to me only with thine eyes. . ." In the wide, warm night the horn is startlingly pure and magical. Then from the North River another horn solo begins-the "Queen

Mary" announcing her intentions. She is not on key; she is a half tone off. The trumpeter in the bandstand never flinches. The horns quarrel savagely, but no one minds having the intimation of travel injected into the pledge of love. "I leave," sobs Mary. "And I will pledge with mine," sighs the trumpeter. Along the asphalt paths strollers pass to and fro; they behave considerately, respecting the musical atmosphere. Popsicles are moving well. In the warm grass beyond the fence, forms wriggle in the shadows, and the skirts of girls approaching on the Mall are ballooned by the breeze, and their bare shoulders catch the lamplight. "Drink to me only with thine eyes." It is a magical occasion, and it's all free.

The Naumburg Orchestral Concerts, named after their founder Elkan Naumburg, have been heard continuously each summer since 1905. Mr. Naumburg saw the need to encourage and stimulate the public's interest in symphonic and semi-classical music. The Oratorio Society of New York was founded in the family parlor, where Leopold Damrosch, Theodore Thomas and Marcella Sembrich, among others, played weekly in the later 19th century. Mr. Naumburg's wife, Bertha, gave the group its name. The family tradition of supporting classical music was further reinforced by Elkan's son, Walter, who began the Walter W. Naumburg Prize in 1926, and his grand-niece, Eleanor Naumburg Sanger, who co-founded WQXR, New York's classical music radio station. The Concert Ground's earlier Central Park Bandstand was deemed inadequate in 1912, so Elkan donated the Naumburg Bandshell to the City of New York in 1923. A nephew, William G. Tachau designed the building in 1916. In 1992, a lawsuit filed against the Central Park Conservancy and the Parks Department rescued the Bandshell from imminent demolition. A decision on July 6, 1993 by New York's highest court ended both the litigation and its planned elimination. This precluded the building's removal and confounded the biased historic perspective of the Central Park Conservancy's 'vision' for this area. After Elkan Naumburg's death in 1924, the concerts were continued by his sons, Walter W. Naumburg and George W. Naumburg. When Walter Naumburg died in 1959, his will provided for the perpetuation of these concerts. It is now the oldest continuous free outdoor concert series in the United States.

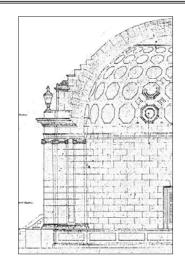
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Music Director-Stephen Lugosi

Funding derives principally from the Walter W. Naumburg Memorial Fund. We also receive generous contributions from the Donors and a grant from the Music Performance Fund of AFM Local 802. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE AUSTRIAN CULTURAL FOUNDATION, NEW YORK, MARC STAGER–STAGER SOUND SYSTEMS & HEIDI RIEGLER–PUBLIC RELATIONS

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100TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON OF FREE CONCERTS For the people of New York

NAUMBURG

------- PRESENTS -------

CHRISTOPH CAMPESTRINI

CHARLES NEIDICH

VADIM GLUZMAN

7:30 PM SUNDAY JUNE 19, 2005

THE NAUMBURG BANDSHELL ON THE CONCERT GROUND OF CENTRAL PARK OUR FOUR CONCERTS THIS SUMMER ARE DEDICATED TO SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE NAUMBURG FAMILY, IN RECOGNITION OF AND GRATITUDE FOR THEIR VERY GENEROUS AND THOUGHTFUL SUPPORT OF THE SERIES:

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AARON COPLAND (1900-1990) CHARLES NEIDICH clarinet soloist CONCERTO FOR CLARINET (1948)

INTERMISSION

IGOR STRAVINSKY (1881-1971) RAGTIME (1918)

LEONARD BERNSTEIN (1918-1990) VADIM GLUZMAN violin soloist SERENADE—AFTER PLATO'S SYMPOSIUM— FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA (1954)

I. Phaedrus; Pausanias

(Lento; Allegro)

IV. Agathon (Adagio) V. Socrates; Alcibiades

II. Aristophanes (Allegretto)

III. Erixymathus (Presto)

(Molto tenuto; Allegro molto vivace)

NAUMBURG ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS

DEAR FRIENDS:

We hope you enjoy tonight's musical performance presented by the Naumburg Orchestral Concerts.

The Naumburg Orchestral Concerts has a 100-year tradition of providing free outdoor classical music concerts to New Yorkers. This was the vision of my great-grandfather, who founded the series in 1905, and of my great-uncle, who endowed it in 1959.

Rising costs and a stagnant endowment, however, had forced us to reduce the number of concerts from its original four to two or three each year. We hope that, with the help of our friends and devoted followers, we can remain with our four concert season.

We invite you to become a patron of the Naumburg Orchestral Concerts, a non-profit 501{c}3 located in Manhattan and managed by a board of trustees. All contributions are fully taxdeductible and will be used towards the direct costs of presenting the concerts- musicians' honoraria, park fees, chair rentals, printing and promotion.

Your gift will help to ensure that we can continue what has become a delightful musical tradition in the beautiful setting of Central Park. Please contribute what you can- all gifts, great or small, will be enormously appreciated and help us raise money from other funders.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely Yours,

Chargen R. Endo

NAUMBURG ORCHESTRAL CONCERTS c/o C.W. London 300 Central Park West, 18 H New York, N.Y. 10024-1513

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Please make checks payable to 'Naumburg Orchestral Concerts, Inc.' AND MAIL TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE.

The Naumburg Orchestral Concerts is a non-profit corporation. To obtain a copy of its most recent financial report, please write to: N.Y. State Dept. of Law, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, 3rd Floor, N.Y. N.Y. 10271.

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Christoph Campestrini—Conductor—is distinguished as one of the foremost young

European conductors and he has appeared with many of the world's finest orchestras. As a guest conductor, he has appeared with more than 70 orchestras on five continents to great critical acclaim. Born in Linz, Upper Austria, Campestrini moved to New York in 1985 where he graduated from Julliard. In addition to German he is fluent in English, Italian, French, Russian, and Spanish. He records for the Berlin-based SIGNUM label and the Munich-based label ORFEO

Charles Neidich-Clarinet soloist-is a native New Yorker of Russian & Greek descent. He began clarinet studies age eight with his father, Irving Neidich. He continued them with the renowned teacher Leon Russianoff, and later, in Moscow, with Boris Dikov. His reputation has steadily grown since a 1974 New York recital debut while still at Yale. Several prizes helped launch his early career, and in 1985 he won the first major clarinet competition in the U.S., the Walter W. Naumburg Foundation International Clarinet Competition, which catapulted him into prominence as a soloist. Recent recordings for Sony Classical on modern clarinet include the Brahms Clarinet Quintet (with the Juilliard Quartet, S2K 66285), and, with period instruments on the

TRUMPET Neil Balm, *Principal* Arthur Murray

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VIVARTE label: clarinet sonatas by Weber, Danzi and Mendelssohn (with fortepianist Robert Levin, SK 64302); wind ensemble music by Beethoven (Mozzafiato, SK 53367) and Mozart and Pleyel (Mozzafiato, SK 64306); as well as chamber music with clarinet by Weber, Hummel and Reicha (with L'Archibudelli, SK 57968).

Vadim Gluzman-Violin soloist-is one of the most inspiring and dynamic artists of his generation, a performer of great depth, virtuosity and technical brilliance. Lauded by both critics and audiences, he has performed throughout the U.S., Europe, Russia, Japan, Australia, and Canada as a soloist and in a duo setting with his wife, pianist Angela Yoffe. Born in 1973 at Zhitomir, Ukraine, into a family of professional musicians, he began violin lessons age seven. Since then he has studied with Zakhar Bron & Yair Kless at the Rubin Academy of Music in Tel-Aviv, Arkady Fomin, and at Juilliard with the late Dorothy DeLay & Masao Kawasaki. He also formed an early and lasting friendship with Isaac Stern. He now plays the extraordinary 1690 ex-Leopold Auer Stradivarius on extended loan to him through the generosity of Chicago's Stradivari Society. Gluzman, his wife and baby daughter make their home in the Chicago area.

FOR MORE COMPLETE INFORMATION ON CONDUCTOR & SOLOISTS PLEASE CONSULT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.NAUMBURGCONCERTS.ORG

MUSIC PAVILION



In 1859 Jacob Wrey Mould, an amateur musician and the architect who designed many of the original structures in Central Park, persuaded his wealthy friends to pay for free band concerts at a temporary bandstand in the Ramble, and he arranged their musical programs. The first concert, on July 13, included the Festival March from *Tannhäuser*, Mendelssohn's song, "I would that my Love," selections from *La Traviata* and Strauss's *Sorgenbrecher Waltz*. In the summer of 1860 concerts were transferred to the Mall, and *The New York Herald* reported that the September 22 concert attracted "at least five thousand persons gathered around the performers, while outside of these were stationed an immense number of carriages... filled with the beauty and fashion of New York." The overwhelming popularity of the concerts prompted Central Park's board to finance them and to build a permanent Music Pavilion on the west side of the Mall near the Terrace. Mould designed the elaborately painted and brightly gilded Moorish-style wooden structure, completed in 1862. The Parks Department razed the Music Pavilion in 1923.

The Naumburg Bandshell, a gift of Elkan Naumburg to 'the City of New York and it's Music Lovers', replaced in purpose the former structure. Though the Naumburg Bandshell opened on September 29th 1923, the Art Commission of New York had approved of the change in 1912 and the design of the Bandshell in 1916. 'On the Mall', composed by Edwin F. Goldman in 1923, to honor Elkan Naumburg, was premiered that September afternoon, conducted by Franz Kaltenborn. Astonishingly, during that summer, 959 concerts were presented on the Concert Ground, over 400 of which were underwritten by the Parks Department. It was a popular place, providing a well-liked activity.

The Naumburg Bandshell design has historic precedents for its shape in the Pantheon of Rome, or even more closely, in the Imperial Russian pleasure park's pavilion at Gatchina Palace by Vincenzo Brenna—his 'Eagle Pavilion' of the 1790's, and also in the later work of the architect E.G.P. Poccianti, particularly his 'Cisternone' at Livorno of 1829-42. It has historic precedents for its function in the outdoor theatres and pavilions of Versailles, for example, or the temples and 'eye-catchers' found in the park-like gardens of British country houses such as Stourhead and Stowe. The use of European park architecture as a model for what to insert in Central Park was in keeping with Olmsted's design sources and methods of nearly 60 years earlier. The Naumburg Bandshell was set into the Manhattan schist hillside, which nestles it, to prevent views being blocked across the Mall and Concert Ground which caused an earlier proposal of Carrère & Hastings to be found wanting by city and park officials. The design also admirably reflects the architect William G. Tachau's own Ecole des Beaux-Arts classicist and historicist training. The result was Central Park's only Neo-Classical building.

THE MALL, CENTRAL PARK

Saturday, May 23, 1874*

The double rows of American Elms, planted fourteen years earlier, create a green tunnel. Sunlight filters through the canopy of new leaves and throws dappled patterns of light and shade on the gravel walk. It is a beautiful day, the Mall is crowded: ladies in voluminous skirts and colorful hats; Irish nurses in bonnets and white aprons, pushing baby carriages; gentlemen in frock coats and top hats; a few young clerks in stylish broadcloth suits; the children in a variety of dress, miniature versions of their parents. It is a decorous crowd; tomorrow - Sunday - is when working people have a holiday and attendance will be even larger.

At the north end of the Mall, on the west side, is the bandstand. Mould has pulled out all the stops for this design. The raised platform is covered by a Moorish-style cupola, dark blue and covered with gilt stars. It is topped by a sculpture of a lyre. The roof is supported by crimson cast-iron columns. The bandstand is unoccupiedthe Saturday - afternoon concerts start next month. The annual summer series is so popular - **up to forty-five thousand people attend** - that the park board has provided extra seating and has taken the unprecedented step of allowing listeners to sit on the grass. Not everyone admires these free concerts. "The barriers and hedges of society for the time being are let down," sniffs the *Times*, "unfortunately also a few of its decencies are forgotten."

The barriers of society are not altogether absent. Across the Mall from the bandstand is a broad concourse where the wealthy park their carriages and, separated from the lower orders by a long wisteria arbor, listen to the music in comfortable isolation. Beside the concourse stands a large one-story building with a swooping tiled roof and deep overhanging eaves. Originally the Ladies Refreshment Stand, it has recently been converted into a restaurant called the Casino.

An excerpt from Witold Rybczynski - A Clearing in the Distance, pp.317-18 in which a letter of Frederick Law Olmsted - a principal designer of Central Park is quoted.

*Please note how popular and crowded concerts were in 1874 on the Concert Ground. When will this area of the park be made available again, for use as originally intended in the Greensward Plan for Central Park?

The final determination of the landmark legal decision assuring the Naumburg Bandshell's future was made on July 6th 1993. I am most grateful to the people who have aided this effort so far, yet there are still difficulties with the building's physical condition and use of this beautiful site, the Concert Ground, for music performances.

The Parks Department has just completed repairing the roof of the Naumburg Bandshell. No other restoration of the building is planned at present. The structure lacks two graceful pairs of decorative urns at either side of the half-domed structure and a suspended cast bronze light within its ceiling. It also needs the paint removed from the coffered ceiling, its stonework repaired and the losses replaced, the doors restored, the gilded donor inscription returned and the backstage renovated and fitted with working bathrooms once again. I hope the Central Park Conservancy and the Parks Department will restore the Naumburg Bandshell and with it the Concert Ground's role, dating to the 19th century, as a place of great beauty and tranquility in which to enjoy musical concerts in Central Park.

The Naumburg Bandshell is available primarily only on Monday and Tuesday evenings throughout much of the summer due to present NYC Parks Department policies affecting its use.