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For Immediate Release

Chattanooga Symphony & Opera presents Bob's Bootcamps

Bob Bernhardt, Chattanooga Symphony & Opera Principal Pops Conductor hosts an entertaining lecture series, Bob's Bootcamps. The series takes a behind the scenes look at the lives and works of musicians, composers, music theory, and other musical topics. The first Bootcamp of the 2016/17 season will be held at the Chattanooga Brewing Company on Thursday, October 13th beginning at 7:00pm and will explore John Williams's music from *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. Cost is \$20 and includes a free drink and hors d'oeuvres.

Bernhardt has presented these introductory lectures for several seasons on topics ranging from Jazz and Classical Music to Conducting 101 to The Life and Times of Mozart. As he considers him a mentor, Bernhardt is particularly well suited to offer an inside look at Williams' music and has presented several Bootcamps on the composer's life and works. October's *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* Bootcamp will focus on the music from the most recent film in the *Star Wars* saga and explore the various musical themes and pieces from the movie.

"There is so much to explore in the world of music and I believe the symphony experience is made more enjoyable and even better when we have a chance to look at some of these topics more closely. It goes so much farther – music is an integral part of our everyday lives and *that* opens up a huge range of topics for exploration. These Bootcamps let me pick some of my favorite subjects to share: from how classical music stylings found their way into the music of Queen and popular music in general to how film composers are writing brilliantly for symphony orchestras, to the life and times of a specific composer. There really is a musical topic for everyone to dig into" said Bernhardt.

Other Bootcamps in the 16/17 series include an in-depth look at the works of composer Giacomo Puccini and *Madame Butterfly*, in conjunction with the CSO's March performance of the opera, a primer on Austrian composer Gustav Mahler, and an informational class on the many forms music can take.

Tickets can be purchased individually or a season package for \$145 by calling the CSO Box Office at 423.267.8583 or online at www.chattanoogasympphony.org/community/bobs-bootcamps.

The Force Awakens: Music from the Movie

Thursday October 13, 2016 • 7:00pm • Chattanooga Brewing Company • \$20 includes a free drink and hors d'oeuvres

John William's masterful [Star Wars: The Force Awakens](#) score is the topic as Bob explores the music of Rey, Finn, and Poe Dameron. Smarter you will leave. Laugh you will. Fun this will be.

Puccini's Greatest Hits

Saturday January 28, 2017 • 11:00am • Tivoli Theatre • \$35 includes lunch

With more than two decades of opera conducting, Bob knows his way around this Italian opera master. This lunchtime Bootcamp will highlight Puccini's greatest works including *La Boheme*, *Tosca*, and [Madame Butterfly](#). A sing-along or two may even be on the day's agenda.

***Madame Butterfly* 101**

Thursday February 23, 2017 • 7:00pm • Tivoli Center • \$35 includes sushi and Asian inspired dinner

As the CSO prepares to present its first opera in nine years, Bob introduces audiences to Puccini's timeless [Madame Butterfly](#). This class is for opera newbies – we'll introduce opera terms – and for long-time opera lovers alike.

More About Mahler

Saturday March 4, 2017 • 11:00am • Tivoli Center • \$35 includes lunch

Are you afraid of Gustav Mahler? This Bootcamp explores the Austrian composer's life and dives into his 10 symphonies, focusing in particular on his [4th Symphony](#) and the song found within, "Das himmlische Leben" which presents a child's vision of Heaven.

For Your InFORMATION

Saturday May 6, 2017 • 11:00am • Tivoli Center • \$35 includes lunch

Do you have difficulties telling your symphonies apart from your concertos? Your tone poems from your overtures? This class is for you! Bob showcases the many forms that music can be composed in during this highly inFORMational class.

About Us

The Chattanooga Symphony and Opera continues to inspire, engage, and enrich the greater Chattanooga community as it enters its 84th season. In addition to Masterworks, Pops, Chamber, and special event concerts, the CSO will produce their first fully-staged opera in 7 years with Puccini's Madame Butterfly. Conducted by Music Director Kayoko Dan, the CSO consists of top players from the Chattanooga area as well as from across the southern region. Well known for its education and engagement events, the musicians of the CSO perform to more than 20,000 students each year throughout the greater Chattanooga Community.

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