

A CHAMBER CONCERT like no other

By **Sabrina Thompson**
and **Lisa Lester Kelly**
EO Media Group

LA GRANDE — Violinist Viet Block was eager to perform again for the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra, even if COVID-19 restrictions prevented playing in front of a live audience.

“It is a special experience to be able to share one’s expression and art with another, and that has fueled and driven me most my life,” Block said. “It feels good to be of service to others, plus I love the challenge of learning a new repertoire for new people each concert.”

With in-person concerts not allowed for performers or audiences, the symphony’s chamber series has turned to a new concert format — prerecording the music, which is then presented as “A Night In with the Symphony,” a virtual event with live commentary from symphony president Alice Trindle and music director Zach Banks.

The virtual chamber concert begins at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, on EOActive’s Facebook page and the symphony’s Facebook page.

“After such a long hiatus, having an opportunity to perform again (is) massively rewarding,” Banks said. “When music performance has been such an important part

of your life for so long, it becomes a form of communication that effectively contributes to your overall well-being.”

Streaming the performances, Block said, allows the symphony to reach a larger audience and

new listeners. That matters, she noted, because reaching more people and sharing music and performance during the pandemic helps us feel connected despite the required social distancing.

“In 2020 it is even more important that no one feels alone in the human condition, and to have the option to refuge within a musical escape,” she said.

In addition to Block on violin and Banks on cello, “A Night In” will feature Matt Cooper on piano.

Cooper noted that although the performances are prerecorded, the virtual event will have the feel of a live concert.

“You have to imagine an audience that is listening or watching but who is not in the room with you,” Cooper said. “The audience is still ‘there’ though, and you are still communicating with them.”

Trindle in a press release about the show said the Grande Ronde Symphony Orchestra

wanted to “create an evening where people can tune in, perhaps having gathered family members, along with refreshments, to make for a special and unique musical event.”

Tune in Saturday at 7 p.m.



Viet Block



Matt Cooper



Zach Banks

A Night In

presented by Viet Block on violin, Zach Banks on cello & Matt Cooper on piano

“Méditation” from Thaïs (arr. for violin & piano) by Jules Massenet

“Andante” from Piano Trio No. 1 in D minor, Op. 49 by Felix Mendelssohn

“Allegro con brio” from Piano Trio No. 1 in B major, Op. 8 by Johannes Brahms

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CASA OF EASTERN OREGON

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- Attend all court proceedings
- Be willing to commit to the CASA program for at least two years.
- Have 5-15 hours per month of time to give while working your case

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to receive
much-
needed
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more likely
to succeed
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to re-enter
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care system



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CASA VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Responsibilities of a CASA



Establish
relationship
with child and
others
involved



Observe
parent/child
interactions



Meet with
the child
regularly (at
least 2 times
a month)



Maintain
documentation
required by
CASA staff



Submit
required
reports and
case updates



Maintain
contact with
Case Manager



Attend ALL
court
proceedings &
monitor court
orders to
ensure
compliance



Complete 12
hours of in-
service
training
yearly



Assess the
child's
physical,
mental,
behavioral, &
educational
needs.
Advocate for
services