

10-16-2007 16:35

   PRINT

Seoul Philharmonic to Present 'Ars Nova'

By Sa Eun-young
Staff Reporter

The Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra, with noted composer-in-residence Chin Un-suk, 46, will hold two concerts under a contemporary music project titled "Ars Nova," Nov.2 and Nov.6. French conductor Francois-Xavier Roth, 36, who has built a huge reputation despite his young age, will conduct the concerts, subtitled "Viola, Viola." The performances will be a stage for many firsts, as the repertoire includes many pieces making their Asian premiere.

The first performance, Ars Nova III, will feature two pieces played for the first time in Asia, "Moonlight on Jupiter" op.24 by Vaino Raito and "Uta" for viola and orchestra by Chris Paul Harman. Audiences can also look forward to hearing Brett Dean's "Viola Concerto" and Alexander Scriabin's "Poeme De L'Extase."



Composer in-residence Chin Un-suk

Korean-American violist Richard Yong-jae O'Neill will be performing as soloist. The rising star is currently in Korea on a nationwide tour.

The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the KBS Hall, Nov.2

The next concert, Ars Nova IV, will feature the world premiere of Choi Uzong's "Love Song" for violoncello and strings, commissioned by the Seoul Philharmonic. Also staged will be the Asian Premiere of Chris Paul Harman's "From the Cradle to the Grave" for 16 strings and the Korean premiere of George Benjamin's "Viola, Viola" for two violas.

The concert will take place 8 p.m., Nov. 6 at the Hoam Art Hall.

On the sidelines, Chin will present a 40-minute commentary ahead of the concert. A winner of the prestigious Arnold Schoenberg Prize in 2005, the composer received international acclaim for her premiere of "Alice in Wonderland" at the Bavarian State Opera House in Munich, Germany, last June.

She will also lead a master class for composition majors, starting from elementary up to university students, in order to continuously find and bring up talented composers. The free classes will run from Oct.25 to Nov.5.

Harman, whose pieces will be performed during the concert, will hold an open session for the public with the theme "Music of Childhood," at 1 p.m on Nov.3.

For more information on the classes and concerts visit www.seoulphil.co.kr.

eysa@koreatimes.co.kr