

**NEWS
RELEASE**

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**VLADIMIR FELTSMAN OPENS AMERICAN CLASSICAL
ORCHESTRA'S 25TH SEASON**

FELTSMAN'S FORTEPIANO MEETS PERIOD INSTRUMENT ORCHESTRA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: The American Classical Orchestra, directed by Thomas Crawford, celebrates the orchestra's 25th Anniversary during the 2009 – 2010 season. Joining the orchestra on opening night is pianist Vladimir Feltsman, playing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 27 on the fortepiano. The ACO will also perform Beethoven's Symphony No. 7. The concert takes place at the new Alice Tully Hall on Thursday, September 17th at 8:00 p.m., with a pre-concert lecture given by Mr. Crawford at 7:00 p.m.

Vladimir Feltsman's appearance with the American Classical Orchestra will be a new adventure, as it is his first with a period-instrument orchestra. Mr. Feltsman will perform on his own fortepiano that he commissioned to be built replicating Mozart's instrument. The first time he performed on the fortepiano was in 2006, when he played all 18 of Mozart's Piano Sonatas over a period of five concerts. An imaginative artist who enjoys an international career, Mr. Feltsman commented, "This is going to change how I play Mozart on a modern piano. Beethoven is cast in iron and steel; Mozart is more airy, constantly moving and taking new shapes. It's simple, but this simplicity is of the highest order."

Founded by Mr. Crawford in 1985, the ACO performs classical music on authentic period instruments, specializing in repertoire from the 17th to 19th centuries. The orchestra works to render music faithful to the Baroque, Classical, and early Romantic eras. Other season performances include: "**Stephanie Chase: AS THE MASTERS HEARD IT**" (Wednesday, November 18 at the New York Society for Ethical Culture): Stephanie Chase is the soloist in Beethoven's Romanze in F for Violin and Orchestra. Also on the program are Mozart's Symphony No. 41 "Jupiter", and Haydn's Symphony No. 101 "The Clock"; "**All Bach: CAFÉ L'AMOUR**" (Wednesday, February 24, 2010 at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament): All-Bach program with the Coffee Cantata, Concerto for Three Harpsichords, and Concerto for Two Violins; and "**BEETHOVEN'S NINTH**" (Saturday, April 24, 2010 at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine): A concert of huge proportions with the Cathedral Choir and the Choirs of Trinity New Haven & Trinity Princeton. The program also includes Handel's Coronation Anthems.

All tickets can be purchased through the ACO's website at www.aconyc.org.

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