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TRIO TO EXPLORE WORLD OF MUSIC IN PRE-TOUR CONCERT

Swara Sonora Trio performs on St. Andrew's Bach Society series before Indonesian Peace Tour

The Tucson-based Swara Sonora Trio -- Kathryn Mueller, Nathan Krueger, and Aryo Wicaksono -- will make their debut on the St. Andrew's Bach Society concert with a concert on Sunday, July 19th at 3:00 p.m. The concert is at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 2331 E. Adams Street. The concert program, titled "Love & Peace: the World of Music," features vocal duets and solos from across Europe, Indonesia, and the United States, and includes works by Mozart, Bach, Verdi, Bernstein, and many other composers.

The concert will be Swara Sonora's last public performance before embarking on their musical Peace Tour to Indonesia in August. All proceeds from this 3-week musical Peace Tour will be donated to support programs for the Children of Indonesia through the UNICEF Indonesia Country Office. The goal of the tour is not only to raise funds for the children of Indonesia, but also to use music to foster understanding and cooperation among cultures through concerts, teaching, and artistic collaborations.

The Swara Sonora Trio is based in Tucson and made up of Kathryn Mueller, soprano, Nathan Krueger, baritone, and Aryo Wicaksono, piano. The members of the trio met during graduate school at The University of Arizona. All three members of the trio are accomplished soloists in their own right, with performance careers that span the United States and Europe. For four years they also taught opera and language arts to first graders as a team in the Opening Minds Through the Arts program in the Tucson public schools.

The centerpiece of the July 19th program is "Love and Variations," a set of eight songs in three

languages (English, Spanish, and Indonesian). At the urging of Indonesian-born Wicaksono, the trio commissioned this work for soprano, baritone, and piano from Ananda Sukarlan, a prominent Indonesian composer. The successful world premiere, and the international scope of the commission project, inspired them to bring Sukarlan's music to Indonesia and to interact with audiences and musicians in that country. Says baritone Krueger, "what I enjoy most about performing is sharing music with others. The opportunity to share Ananda Sukarlan's wonderful 'Love & Variations' with people both here in the United States and in Indonesia is very exciting."

"Building a program around 'Love and Variations' allowed us to be creative," says soprano Mueller. "Our trio was formed with a multi-cultural focus, and a mission to explore music from around the world and to bring different art forms together." Swara Sonora's July 19th program thus ties together musical groupings ranging from Baroque duets from Bach and Rameau, to a set of Spanish songs by different composers, to duets from opera and musical theater.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. For further information on the St. Andrew's Bach Society and this concert, visit www.standrewsbach.org. For details on Swara Sonora's Peace Tour and how you can support children's programs in Indonesia, please visit the trio's website, www.swarasonora.com.

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