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News Release

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WRR to bring 12th International Cliburn Piano Competition into listeners' homes

It's the most prestigious classical music competition in the world--and it happens once every four years--in Fort Worth, Texas! The world is listening and WRR is your trusted source for complete coverage of the 12th Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, May 20 through June 5.

The Cliburn competition is a public audition for international concert tours showcasing 30 of the world's most promising young pianists over two and a half weeks of extraordinary music-making. The emerging six finalists are provided with a unique opportunity to share hundreds of concert engagements throughout the United States and Europe.

"The Van Cliburn International Piano Competition is one of the premier classical music events in the world." WRR general manager Greg Davis said. "North Texas is fortunate to have the competition right in our backyard. WRR is committed to provide the very best in Cliburn updates and special programming."

WRR's Cliburn coverage begins prior to the competition with special programming that will provide insight into the legendary Van Cliburn, the competition named in his honor, and all the behind-the-scene efforts that go into this magical event. WRR's coverage will include daily updates live from the competition and will conclude with a retrospect on June 12 that will feature interviews and commentary on the 12th international competition.

Following is an overview of WRR's Cliburn coverage:

- § **Wednesday, May 11, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.**
Theme and Variations presents part 1 of 3 shows focusing on the 2005 Van Cliburn Piano Competition. The first half of the program will focus on Van Cliburn and the competition. The second hour will

feature performances by Fort Worth's immortal Van Cliburn.

- § **Saturday, May 14, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m.**
Main Event will highlight new and recent classical music releases by past Cliburn Competition winners and participants. The program includes interviews with representatives of record label participant Harmonia Mundi.
- § **Wednesday, May 18, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.**
Theme and Variations presents part 2 of 3 shows about the competition. The program will focus on the Fort Worth volunteer spirit, history of the contestants, past winners, and schedule of events including the Cliburn Film Festival. The second half of the program will feature performances by 2001 Cliburn gold medalists Olga Kern and Stanislav Loudenitch.
- § **Wednesday, May 25, 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.**
Theme and Variations will focus on the announcement of the chosen semi-finalists, new commissioned compositions, involvement by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra including James Conlon and John Giordano, involvement by the Takacs Quartet and the TCU lecturers. The second half of the program will feature performances by chosen semi-finalists from the preliminaries.
- § **Sunday June 12, 7 p.m.**
WRR's ***Music of the Metroplex*** will wrap-up the competition with reactions and commentary. The future of the competition will be explored.

In addition to the daily updates live from Bass Hall, WRR also will cover the Cliburn with special features on its Web site (wrr101.com).

WRR is your source for the Cliburn!