

## Bolshoi Symphony performs

BY JAMES KIM  
STAFF REPORTER

The world-renowned Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra performed at the Artemus Ham Concert Hall last Wednesday as part of the UNLV Performing Arts Center's Charles Vanda Master Series 20th season.

The music of Russian composer and pianist Sergei Rachmaninoff was one of the evening's highlights. Joining the Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra for this piece were Peter Feranec, musical director and conductor, and pianist Boris Berezovsky, winner of the 1990 International Tchaikovsky Competition.

The evening opened with Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in "D" Minor and showcased Berezovsky's extraordinary musical talents. This piece, especially its third movement, was well-suited to exhibit the tremendous skill and energy of both the orchestra and the pianist.

The selection was, at first, slow and reflective, but was later seized by a growing undercurrent of elaborate and frenzied rhythms. The musical program closed with Symphony No. 2 in "E" Minor, a haunting piece which consisted of romantically expressive melodies.

The Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra has a rich musical tradition, and its roots can be traced back to 1776 to the Orchestra of the Bolshoi Theater. Since then, this body of musicians has constantly evolved and now consists of about 300 musicians, many of whom are highly regarded in their own right.



Peter Feranec

The orchestra's first tour of the United States began in 1993 and included performances at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.; Carnegie Hall; the Academy of Music in Philadelphia; and Symphony Hall in Boston.

Feranec became the first foreign music director and conductor of the Bolshoi Symphony Orchestra in 1995, having taken over the position from Maestro Lazarev. Feranec's talents were quite evident early on when he was selected as conductor of the Slovak National Opera House at the age of 25. Since then, he has continued to distinguish himself in his field.

Artists scheduled to perform in the next few months include the Juilliard String Quartet, Isaac Stern, and Teresa Ling. For more information, call 895-3801.

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