



HIDDEN VALLEY MUSIC SEMINARS

An Institute of the Arts

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Carmel Valley, California

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Hidden Valley Music Seminars Announces Retirement Of Conductor, Stewart Robertson

The Hidden Valley Music Seminars announced today that Stewart Robertson will conclude his long and storied conducting career with two performances of the Hidden Valley String Orchestra in early May. At the end of January, Robertson tendered his resignation as Artistic Director and Conductor of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra of Florida. He is discontinuing his worldwide conducting activities because of complications associated with Parkinson's Disease.

"Stewart is a close personal friend and for many years has been an active champion and artistic contributor to the work of Hidden Valley. His leadership will be deeply missed. We look forward to continuing our reliance on Stewart for artistic advice and counsel," said Peter Meckel, General Director of Hidden Valley. The Hidden Valley String Orchestra that Robertson helped to found will continue and a conductor search announcement will be forthcoming soon.

A native of Glasgow, Scotland, Robertson was selected in October of 1979 to lead the Hidden Valley Chamber Orchestra. During the 36 years that followed, in addition to his periodic work at Hidden Valley, he served in artistic leadership and conducting roles for several American opera companies and symphony orchestras. Robertson was Music Director and Conductor of New York's Glimmerglass opera for twenty years and of the Florida Grand Opera in Miami. His career included conducting in many of the great opera houses in North and South America, Europe, and Asia. He is a fervent advocate of contemporary music and was instrumental in commissioning countless new works...especially by American composers. Under his baton several recorded works were Grammy nominees.

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Robertson's conducting work will conclude with the May 8th and 9th performances of the Hidden Valley String Orchestra. The May 8th performance is 7:30 p.m. at Hidden Valley Theatre in Carmel Valley. The May 9th performance is 2:30 p.m. at St. Johns Episcopal Church in Aptos. Receptions immediately following each concert will honor this artist's extraordinary contributions.

About Hidden Valley Music Seminars

Founded in 1963, the Hidden Valley Music Seminars is an arts institution providing education and performance programming, primarily in the areas of music, theatre, and dance. A year round institution, Hidden Valley's curriculum includes master classes, workshops, camps, and additional education opportunities through long-term collaborations with other organizations including Road Scholar, Orff Schulwerk, Young People's Symphony Orchestra, and the Golden Gate Chamber Players. Many public performances are presented in the 300 seat Hidden Valley Theatre including productions by Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble, the Hidden Valley String Orchestra, and the summer Masters' Festival Concert. Hidden Valley Music Seminars is an independent non-profit 501(c) (3) organization located in Carmel Valley, California.

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