

1605 HOWARD STREET | OMAHA, NE 68028 | 402.342.3836 | FAX: 402.342.3819 | OMAHASYMPHONY.ORG

**CONTACT:** Sarah Brownlee, Public Relations  
402.342.3836 x140 [sbrownlee@omahasymphony.org](mailto:sbrownlee@omahasymphony.org)

For Immediate Release: September 17, 2009

**Fiendishly difficult piano concerto, feisty folk music**  
**kick off 2009/10 season**

**WHAT:** **Passport to Russia** *First concert of the 2009/10 Omaha Symphony Season*  
**WHEN:** Friday, September 25 & Saturday, September 26 at 8 PM  
**WHERE:** Holland Performing Arts Center 1200 Douglas Street  
**TICKETS:** **Starting at \$25** for Main Floor seats... 402.342.3560 [www.omahasymphony.org](http://www.omahasymphony.org)

**Omaha, Neb** – The Omaha Symphony is ready to wow audiences with a season opener that is as difficult as it is delightful. **Passport to Russia**, the first program of the 2009/10 season, showcases spirited Russian folk melodies and Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto, commonly known as the most demanding piece ever written for piano. Join the Omaha Symphony September 25 and 26 at 8 p.m. at the Holland Performing Arts Center, as pianist **Kirill Gerstein** performs this true feat of talent.

Famous for his masterful technique and musical interpretations, **Gerstein** is one of classical music's rising stars. Reviewers have praised him as "a player of patrician finesse and the most fastidious intelligence" (Classical Source), who demonstrates "how virtuosity and soulfulness can go hand in hand" (Chicago Sun-Times).

**Maestro Thomas Wilkins** conducts this popular MasterWorks program, sponsored by Omaha Steaks. Main floor tickets are still available, starting as low as \$25. To purchase your tickets, call 402.342.3560, order online at [www.omahasymphony.org](http://www.omahasymphony.org), or visit the Omaha Symphony Box Office at 1605 Howard Street.

*The Omaha Symphony is a non-profit organization that presents more than 200 live orchestral performances from September through June. In addition to MasterWorks, Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, Chamber, Sights and Sounds, and Family series concerts, the orchestra tours both Nebraska and Iowa providing education and community engagement concerts and special events. For tickets or information regarding the Omaha Symphony, call 402.342.3560 or visit [www.omahasymphony.org](http://www.omahasymphony.org)*

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