

Pianist Cecil Lytle to Present Liszt Concert Benefit Jan. 31

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Pat Jacoby

Foreshadowing the bicentennial of Hungarian composer Franz Liszt, pianist Cecil Lytle will present a "Liszt-O-Mania" concert Jan. 31, 2010 at the Conrad Prebys Concert Hall, UC San Diego, in his 14th annual benefit for the Lytle Scholarships at Thurgood Marshall College.

The concert is part of a documentary to be filmed during 2010 on the life and music of the famed composer, pianist and conductor, 1811- 1886. Lytle and UCTV are joining in the three-part documentary series, to be shot on locations in Hungary, Germany, Austria, New York and the UC San Diego campus.

"Of all the musicians, painters and authors of the 19th century, Franz Liszt, over the course of his long and productive life, had the greatest influence on shaping the Romantic Movement in Europe," Lytle notes. "Almost singlehandedly, Liszt was responsible for promoting, performing and publishing works by then unknown composers such as Robert Schumann, Richard Wagner, Fredric Chopin, Camille Saint-Saens and many others."

Lytle said the documentary is designed to be an accessible film presentation on the significance of the greatest musical prodigy and "phenom" since Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, adding "Franz Liszt was a creature of his age and temperament; he was the archetypical Byronic hero in the romantic gothic image."

Proceeds from the 3 p.m. performance in UC San Diego's new concert hall go to the Endowed Lytle Scholarship which supports outstanding graduates from the Preuss School who are attending Thurgood Marshall College, one of six undergraduate colleges at UC San Diego.

Lytle is professor emeritus of music at UC San Diego and former provost, Thurgood Marshall College. He successfully led an initiative to establish the Preuss School, a model charter school on the UCSD campus that provides a college preparatory education to motivated low income youngsters from the San Diego community.

Tickets are \$50 (of which \$35 is tax deductible) and can be purchased online at <http://rels.ucsd.edu>. Further information may be obtained at 858 534-1507 or a8anderson@ucsd.edu.

Media Contact: Jade Griffin, 858-822-8309 or jadegriffin@ucsd.edu

