

Santa Barbara Symphony:

THE GRANDEST OPENING

By Erin J. Smith / CASA

MAKING HISTORY AT THE GRANADA, the Santa Barbara Symphony opened their 56th season in style as they celebrated their new residency in the newly restored theatre. The two-tiered celebration began Friday, October 24th with an opening night event in the Historic Mural Room at the Santa Barbara Courthouse. Attendees were treated to entertainment, an auction, and wine and champagne, as well as hors d'oeuvres presented by Master Chef Norbert Schulz and Chef Humberto Perez. Harpist Emily Bean of the Santa Barbara Youth Symphony provided music for the event. The decadent opening was organized by the Symphony League, currently headed by President Lois Duncan, who along



Maestro Nir Kabaretti with Giora Schmidt, Navah Perlman, and Zuill Bailey

with Diane Calvert co-chaired the event. Among those on hand to welcome guests were Association Board President Gillian Launie, Executive Director John Robinson, Maestro Nir Kabaretti and his wife Gaja Hubbard Kabaretti, Marilynn Sullivan, and Patricia Gregory. The Symphony League is a group of volunteers who for 48 years have partnered with the Santa Barbara Symphony in support of music education programs for youth. The season's opening performance, under the

direction of Maestro Nir Kabaretti, celebrated the symphony's first concert in the newly renovated Granada Theatre with a world premiere of *Fanfares*, commissioned for the occasion by Emmy Award-winner Bruce Broughton, who was present. The Perlman Schmidt Bailey Trio performed Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* and the concert concluded with Mahler's



Patricia Gregory, Artist Sponsor for the Bker Foundation, and Bruce Rickborn



Gillian Launie, Santa Barbara Symphony Association Board President, and Lois Duncan, and Symphony League President and Event Co-chair

Symphony Number 1, Titan. An elegant reception followed the concert where guests mingled with fellow concert-goers and musicians.



A.C. Moore, Board Treasurer, Mayor Marty Blum, and Gün Malmstrom Dukes

Upcoming Santa Barbara Symphony performances include *In the New World*, featuring violist Gilad Karni on November 22nd and 23rd and *Festa Italiana!* on January 17th and 18th.

For more information visit www.thesymphony.org.



John Robinson, Executive Director, with Maestro Nir Kabaretti and Gaja Hubbard Kabaretti



Liz Conyers, Cary Conyers, and Desmond O'Neill

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