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Photos Attached

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**RIVERSIDE SYMPHONIA CONDUCTOR MARIUSZ SMOLIJ – NAMED  
ARTIST OF THE WEEK BY THE LARGEST PRODUCERS OF THE CLASSICAL  
MUSIC RECORDINGS, NAXOS INTERNATIONAL !**

For the final week of 2008, Naxos International, the largest producer of classical recordings in the world, named Riverside Symphonia conductor, Mariusz Smolij the “Artist of the Week”. Naxos records and produces CDs and DVDs of some of the greatest singers, instrumentalist, chamber ensembles and orchestras of the world. It has the largest catalog of classical music recordings in the world. Mariusz Smolij has just released his third CD for Naxos with music of Miklas Rozsa. This followed previous releases of recordings of Polish composers, Andrzej Panufnik and Tadeusz Szeligowski.

“I feel honored to be noticed and I am grateful to all the artists I worked with on the last three CD projects for Naxos; the Polish Chamber Orchestra, Poznan Philharmonic in Poland and the Budapest Concert Orchestra. It is a privilege to present the music of some of the forgotten composers that nevertheless carry so much beauty and needs to be shared. The Naxos company does the best job in the industry in building a true world library of recorded music. They deserve great praise and I am delighted to be able to work with them.” Said Smolij of his nomination.

Smolij was appointed Music Director and Conductor of the Riverside Symphonia in 1996. Considered one of the most exciting conductors of his generation he is also the Music Director of the Acadiana Symphony in Lafayette, Louisiana. Praised by the *New York Times* for “*compelling performances*” he has led over 80 orchestras on four continents appearing in some of the most prestigious concert halls of the world. In North America, among many others, he conducted Atlanta Symphony, Houston Symphony, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Orchestra of the Chicago Lyric Opera, St. Louis Philharmonic, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony, Symphony Nova Scotia, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra or Omaha Symphony. Internationally, he enjoys notable reputation appearing with important symphonic ensembles of Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, Holland, Israel, South Africa, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and Poland. His most recent engagements include a collaboration with the *Sinfonieorchester* Basel, Switzerland (CD recording and series of concerts including the Tönehalle in Zürich); a residency with Johannesburg Philharmonic, South Africa; performances with Florence Chamber Orchestra in Italy and Israel Symphony Orchestra in Tel Aviv as well as numerous orchestras in Germany, Italy and Poland. Since the 2002-2003 season, Maestro Smolij has been closely associated with the Wroclaw (Breslau) Philharmonic in Poland and has presided over the International Festival Wratistlavia Cantans.

The Riverside Symphonia is a professional orchestra serving the Greater Delaware Valley surrounding the neighboring river towns of Lambertville, NJ and New Hope, PA. The Symphonia premiered in 1990 and from the beginning, has successfully provided first-class music at prices within the reach of all. Through the years, the orchestra has received critical acclaim, performing to consistently sold-out audiences.

For more information about Riverside Symphonia please visit the website [www.riversidesymphonia.org](http://www.riversidesymphonia.org).