**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

An Exhilarating New Musical Experience - Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra

*Inaugural U.S. Tour - The Perfect Harmony of East and West*

ONE OF A KIND. The Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra masterfully blends ancient Chinese instruments , such as the 4,000-year-old erhu and 2,000-year-old pipa, with a full Western symphony orchestra in what critics are calling a breakthrough in classical music.

Drawing upon the profound culture of China’s 5,000-year history, Shen Yun offers a musical experience that truly touches the heart. The program also features masterpieces—like Beethoven’s *Egmont* Overture and Tchaikovsky’s *Eugene Onegin—*performed by a traditional Western symphony orchestra, as well as vocal soloists and more.

**Who:** The Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra is part of the internationally acclaimed Shen Yun Performing Arts, a New York-based classical Chinese music and dance company. The orchestra features 100 elite musicians from around the world led by four top conductors.

**What:** Its first-ever U.S. tour, playing in seven of the United States’ top concert halls.

**When:** From now through Oct. 22. An astoundingly successful premier took place at Washington, D.C.’s Kennedy Center Friday, Sept. 27.

**Where:** Carnegie Hall, New York, Oct. 5

Boston Symphony Hall, Oct. 8

 Jones Hall, Houston, Oct. 13

Meyerson Symphony Center, Dallas, Oct. 15

 Segerstrom Concert Hall, Costa Mesa, Oct. 18-19

 Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco, Oct. 22

**World's 1st Orchestra to Successfully Combine Eastern & Western Musical Traditions**

Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra has achieved what many thought impossible: creating a perfect harmony of Chinese and Western musical styles.Ancient instruments like the soul-stirring *erhu* and the heavenly *pipa* lead the melody on top of a full Western orchestra, creating a dynamic and inspiring new sound.

“It combines the best qualities of both musical cultures.” *- Shen Yun conductor Keng-wei Kuo*

**Original Music from the World-Renowned Shen Yun Production**

***Sewing the Flowers of Heaven***: Tells the story of celestial maidens preparing a tapestry of brilliant flowers to give to humankind. This composition by Susan Liu revels in the textures of the *erhu* and the *pipa*, two Chinese string instruments thousands of years old.

***The Emperor Journeys to the Moon***: A story from the great Tang Dynasty (618–906), telling of the vivid dream of Emperor Xuanzong, composed by Gao Yuan.

***Dancing for the Divine***: An energetic and uplifting piece of music inspired by the pious culture of Tibet, composed by Jing Xian.

And many more, including the majestic *Creation* and jubilant *Snowflakes Welcoming Spring*.

**Western Masterpieces**

Showing its great versatility, the Shen Yun Symphony Orchestra will also perform purely Western classical masterpieces (without Chinese instruments): Tchaikovsky’s Polonaise from *Eugene Onegin*, Beethoven's *Egmont* Overture, pieces for orchestra and three trumpets by American composer Leroy Anderson, and a riveting piece for orchestra and flutes by Anton Bernhard Fürstenau.

**Vocal Soloists**

And the concert is further heightened by several moving pieces performed by the orchestra and Shen Yun’s acclaimed tenor and sopranos. Singing in *bel canto*, their impassioned songs give voice to the virtues that have shaped Chinese culture for centuries.

**Praise for the Music of Shen Yun:**

“The orchestra is top-notch. The music has substance in it. You could feel the message is actually in the music. The energy level of the music is strong, powerful, and full of energy. ”

*- Gary Daverne, New Zealand composer and conductor*

“A pleasure to the ear.”

*- Opera Online*

“Compliments to the composers that are able to integrate the two kinds of

instruments. Delightful. ”

*- Per Brevig, conductor and professor at The Juilliard School*

**“**Beautiful sound ... strikingly intricate melodies.

*- NYTheatre.com*

“A distinct sound—so expressive. ”

*- Kerry Stratton, conductor of Toronto Concert Orchestra*

“Lilting, meditative music.

*- Denver Post*

“The quality of the sound is beautiful. The rhythmic structure is wonderful. It’s so precise.”

*- David Dworkin, conductor*

“Lovely traditional Chinese music and fantastic singers.

*- DC Theatre Scene*

“It captivated all of my senses."

 *- Alessandra Marc, world-renowned soprano*