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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Alexandria, VA

Classical Movements & Musical Movements for Change Announce

A Conversation with Musicians & Journalists from Afghanistan

Panel Discussion & Fundraiser • Wednesday, September 29 | 6pm

The Rectory on Princess Street | Alexandria, VA

Following 87 concerts presented to date in the innovative “Sounds of Hope & Harmony” series and the opening of its 2021 Autumn Season, Classical Movements is pleased to announce the addition of a fascinating panel discussion on **Wednesday, September 29 at 6pm** in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, VA: **“Afghanistan: A Conversation with Musicians and Journalists.”**

Featuring **four men and women who recently arrived to the USA from Afghanistan**, the conversation will explore their experiences before and following the return of the Taliban. To protect participants’ families, friends, and colleagues still in Afghanistan, Classical Movements will not publish names or identifying biographical details. Attendees are likewise requested not to take videos, photos, or other recordings during the event and not to publish identifying details about the participants online.

Many musicians and their families remain in hiding in Afghanistan and require assistance to cover application costs for humanitarian visas. Those that have been given refuge in the United States are in need of support not only for housing and basic expenses, but also for **music lessons, instruments, rehearsal spaces**, and much more to **continue their musical pursuits and education**.

This event is presented with the nonprofit organization **Musical Movements for Change**.

This event will be presented at the historic Rectory on Princess Street in Old Town Alexandria – the site of the “Sounds of Hope & Harmony” concert series.

Concerts in the Secret Garden

Three months into the Covid-19 pandemic that silenced performances across the world, **Classical Movements** became the first to bring back live classical music in June 2020 in outdoor, socially-distanced concerts at the **company’s historic home in Old Town Alexandria, The Rectory on Princess Street**. Since then, Classical Movements has presented a total of **87 concerts** for over **3,000 delighted audience members**, through the **groundbreaking series “Sounds of Hope & Harmony.”** The series continues with 28 concerts announced between September 2021 and June 2022, in addition to special events.

“Sounds of Hope & Harmony” concerts follow the innovative format that Classical Movements introduced in June 2020 to allow for safe concert experiences during COVID-19: featuring hour-long programs presented without an intermission for limited, socially-distanced, masked audiences.



For program updates, donations and ticket details, visit:

<https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/>

About Classical Movements

The premier concert tour company for the world's great **orchestras** and **choirs**, **Classical Movements** creates meaningful cultural experiences through music in **145 countries**. An industry leader for over a **quarter-century**, **Classical Movements** organizes more than 60 tours every year, producing some 200 concerts every season. Producer of two international choral festivals—**Ihlombe!** in South Africa and **Serenade!** in Washington, D.C.—and the **Prague Summer Nights: Young Artists Music Festival**, in addition, **Classical Movements'** **Eric Daniel Helms New Music Program** has commissioned 97 works from Grammy, Oscar and Pulitzer Prize-winning composers. Winner of Americans for the Arts' BCA10: Best Businesses Partnering with the Arts Award, since its founding in 1992, as a truly global company, **Classical Movements** remains committed to facilitating **cultural diplomacy** across the world—promoting peace through the medium of music. During Covid-19, Classical Movements has continued to lead the way with innovative projects representing a pivot towards domestic touring and international tours for individuals and small groups, as well as presenting the first live chamber concerts in the United States since the pandemic.

About the Rectory

Built in 1785 and the home of Classical Movements' offices since 2014, the building formerly served as the rectory of the nearby historic Christ Church, once the church of George Washington. Since then, it has been owned by several distinguished Virginians and has been a commercial space since the 1960's.

Located in the heart of beautiful Old Town Alexandria at 711 Princess Street, the Rectory is minutes away from the shops and restaurants of bustling King Street and is easily accessible by bus and metro.

Press Contacts

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