'An Evening with the Maestro'

Tchivzhel takes the stage for April GSO fundraiser

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Edvard Tchivzhel, conductor of the Greenville Symphony Orchestra, is in a great mood as he details what's in the offing for "An Evening with the Maestro," a never-before angle to fundraising for the GSO.

The event, April 10 at the Gunter Theatre, will be followed by a premiere party with cocktails, hors d' oeuvres and face time with the evening's star performer, according to organizers.

YOU CAN GO

- What: "An Evening with the Maestro," featuring Greenville Symphony Conductor Edvard Tchivzhel
- When: 7:30 p.m. April 10
- Where: Peace Center's Gunter Theatre
- Tickets: $100
- Information: 864-467-3000

The angle that makes the event unique is that Tchivzhel, for the first time in Greenville, will be off the podium and sans his baton. Instead, he'll perform in an intimate setting as a soloist and small-ensemble member in an exclusive concert that will showcase his talent on piano and harpsichord. He'll be joined at the chamber music-style concert by 19 musicians from the orchestra.

"I will have a much closer relationship with the musicians than is usual when I lead a full orchestra," Tchivzhel says.

He'll also solo in several piano pieces, including Rachmaninoff's Prelude in C sharp minor, one of Chopin's etudes, "April" from Tchaikovsky's "The Seasons,"

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Greenville Symphony Conductor Edvard Tchivzhel will trade his baton for the keyboard for an April fundraiser for the orchestra.

GSO

Scriabin's Etude No. 8 in D-sharp minor and other works.

The repertoire will be eclectic, from J.S. Bach to 20th century jazz works.

Along that stretch, the audience will be treated to the first movement of Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G-Major for two flutes, violin and harpsichord; "Air on a G String" from Suite No. 3, arranged by Tchivzhel; and "Badinerie" from Suite No. 2 for flute, strings and harpsichord.

Hop-scotching two centuries, the program moves into the Romantic era with Charles Gounod's Petite Symphonie, written for nine wind instruments; Rachmaninoff's Vocalise, with arrangement for piano, cello and violin; and Johann Strauss' "Emperor Waltz," arranged for strings, clarinet, piano and percussion.

Not willing to disclose everything he has in mind for this special evening, Tchivzhel teases, "We haven't even printed the program yet, but I can tell you it will have many 'aha!' moments."

For that contemporary touch there will be Claude Bolling's "Toot Suite," a jazzy piece for trumpet, double bass and piano. Tchivzhel then goes back to conducting with the closing number, whose identity he won't reveal, only that it rocks and rolls with a bassoon.

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