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## **Pianist Roberto Poli Selected As Classical Archives Artist of the Month for September**

**Boston-based Pianist Performs Regularly as Soloist and Chamber Musician;**

**Faculty Member of the Rivers Music School and the New England Conservatory**

Palo Alto, CA September 6, 2005 – Venetian-born pianist Roberto Poli, currently based in Boston, has been selected as the Artist of the Month for September 2005 by the Classical Archives (<http://www.classicalarchives.com/artists/aotm.html>), in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the art of classical piano performance.

Roberto Poli, a resident of Boston since 1998, has been a Classical Archives Featured Artist since 2002 and has recently contributed a new series of outstanding recordings of works by Chopin, Liszt, and Schumann. Along with his work as a soloist, on both the piano and the harpsichord, Maestro Poli is an active chamber musician, appearing regularly with the Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston. His broad repertory extends from English virginal composers such as Byrd and Gibbons to contemporary masters such as Debussy, Berg, Kirchner, and Schnittke; his greatest fame, perhaps, surrounds his excellent interpretations of Romantic composers, especially Liszt and Chopin.

Maestro Poli is a laureate of several international piano and chamber competitions, particularly in his native Italy, and has toured extensively. He currently records for the Americus label, and is on faculty at the Rivers Music School in Weston, Mass; he is also a regular lecturer at the New England Conservatory in Boston, in their Preparatory School.

Commenting on his presence on the Classical Archives, Mr. Poli says, "This is a wonderful honor, and I'm delighted that the Classical Archives site is doing so well! I consistently receive emails from people who have heard my recordings on the site. It's a pleasure to be a part of this very comprehensive collection!"

According to Dr. Nolan Gasser, Artistic Director of the Classical Archives, "Roberto Poli is a very talented and versatile musician - a wonderful solo pianist, as well as chamber musician and conductor. He has been long active in the Boston area and deserves recognition among a wider audience; his recordings of Liszt and Chopin are particularly dazzling!" Dr. Gasser is himself a critically acclaimed composer, pianist, conductor and arranger, as well as a published musicologist. He received his Ph.D. in Musicology in 2001 from Stanford University, where he is an Adjunct Professor in Medieval and Renaissance Music History.

The Classical Music Archives is a subscription-based online music service offering the largest collection of classical music files on the Internet. Close to 3,000,000 unique users visit the site each month and enjoy intelligent access to classical music works that are otherwise hidden or absent on other Internet music sites. (See [www.classicalarchives.com](http://www.classicalarchives.com)). Now in its 11<sup>th</sup> year, the website features a user interface that is designed with the classical music enthusiast in mind. Subscribers pay a small annual fee of \$25 and can stream/download up to 1,000 files per month. The site also welcomes free users although they are limited to accessing only five files per day.

The Classical Music Archives also features a superior browsing environment with in-depth corollary content such as biographies, timelines, and a Learning Center for musicians and conductors. Live recordings are delivered in Hi-Fi MP3 or streamed in the WMA format. A very large collection of MIDI files enables listeners to download large works quickly and, with the appropriate software, to actually see and follow the scores.

**About The Classical Archives:** The Classical Music Archives mission is to focus on, and serve, the niche classical music audience which is largely ignored by online music services. Whereas a search for “Beethoven” on other sites may return three files – one of which is a movie about a dog and the other two are pop/rock titles, the Classical Archives empowers users to make in-depth searches returning meaningful and accurate results. The Classical Music Archives now offers over 35,000 tracks (increasing daily) which are carefully cataloged and presented for a superior user experience.

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The Classical Archives was created in 1994 by CEO Pierre R. Schwob to offer classical music in well organized and clearly cataloged MIDI files. The Internet was at the beginning of its exponential growth and the site quickly gathered a faithful and enthusiastic following. By the end of the last century, the site had developed into the largest classical music site on the web. Live recordings, biographies and historical context were then added in 2000 and the site has continued to expand. The Company is headquartered in Palo Alto, CA (with several offices around the world) and over 35,000 music files from over 1,900 composers are available at [www.classicalarchives.com](http://www.classicalarchives.com)

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