## MAESTRO'S TEMPI

## STILIAN KIROV'S THOUGHTS ON MUSIC, IPO AND LIFE AS A GLOBE TROTTING CONDUCTOR

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Greetings, dear friends of IPO. I am still reliving our wonderful performance on November 18. This was such a special night, and I couldn't be more happy, excited and inspired by our orchestra.



The past few weeks have been quite busy as I traveled at few times throughout the United States. First I opened the 17-18 season with my orchestra in New Jersey, Symphony in C. The second concert followed the next weekend and was quite unique, as we performed in Philadelphia with the Wanamaker Organ, which is the largest fully functional organ in the world. A fun fact about this concert is that it took place in Macy's where the organ is located, and the pipes go 5-6 floors up. It was quite an unforgettable event!

I also opened the season at Bakersfield, CA, and the orchestra performed with one of the winners at the Van Cliburn Piano competition. The second concert with the BSO

took place in November, and we welcomed a very talented young cellist, Maja Bogdanovic. She played a brilliant Dvořák Concerto.

As you all know, we had our opening night with IPO as well, and I feel that, even in the few months I have been with the IPO, we are already a family. I love working with the musicians who are truly outstanding. We have a fantastic

administrative team, and Christina has been absolutely awesome to work with. I think the best part is that we get a lot accomplished together, but we are also really enjoying our work, which I feel is very important for any organization.

Speaking of having fun, very generous IPO donors and good friends gave me their BMW Z3 to drive when I am in the area. It's a fantastic little convertible car. It's also a stick shift, so driving it has been VERY enjoyable!

At the end of November, I was finally home for about ten days before leaving for Symphony in C's next concert. My son Sebastian has been waiting for me, and now we have time to play, go to the park and to the beach. He of course loves playing with trains, so we have a planned trip to go to a train museum,



too. He also loved the movie "Finding Dory," so we now have a membership to the Sarasota aquarium and will visit there, as well.

I can't wait to see you all very soon, and I hope you had a Happy Thanksgiving! I am blessed to have so much to be thankful for!

Yours,



