

# Palm Beach Today *International*

**LOLA ASTANOVA**

**Virtuoso Russian Pianist**



**PALM BEACH SYMPHONY**  
**Gala & Concert:**  
**Redefining the Romantics**



**BYRON JANIS**  
Legendary Pianist





# PALM BEACH SYMPHONY GALA & CONCERT

Redefining the Romantics a Marvelous Success with  
 Superstar Pianist, LOLA ASTANOVA & Renowned Guest  
 Conductor, JAHJA LING



Jahja Ling and Lola Astanova

**Palm Beach Symphony delivers "heroic" concert of Tchaikovsky, Dvorák .**

*The Palm Beach Symphony Orchestra gave a heroic performance. The string sound was quite lovely; the woodwinds were flexible and agile; and the brass was accurate. Wouldn't it be lovely if an angel were to donate about two dozen additional string players?*

**Palm Beach Daily News**  
 The Shiny Sheet, April 11, 2012

*The Palm Beach Symphony closed its season Tuesday night at the Kravis Center with a concert that revived memories of the late, lamented Florida Philharmonic, and of a time when South Florida had its own full-size symphonic.*

**The Palm Beach Post**  
 April 13, 2012



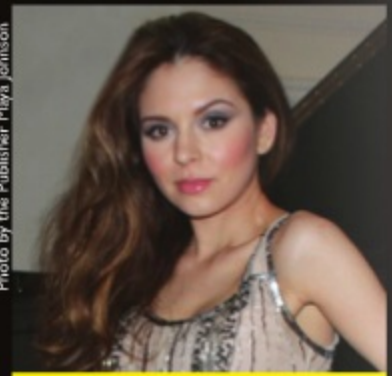
**MARIA COOPER JANIS, and BYRON JANIS**

**Byron Janis** is internationally renowned as one of the world's greatest pianists. He made his orchestral debut at age 15 with **Toscanini's NBC Symphony Orchestra** and the following year was chosen by **Vladimir Horowitz** as his first student. At 18, he became the youngest artist ever signed to a contract by **RCA Victor Records**. Two years later, in 1948, he made his **Carnegie Hall** debut which was hailed as an unparalleled success. He has played with every major symphony orchestra in both the U.S and abroad.

Among his honors are: Commander of the **French Legion d'Honneur** for Arts and Letters, the **Grand Prix du Disque**, the **Stanford Fellowship** (the highest honor of Yale University) and the **Distinguished Pennsylvania Artist Award**. He received an honorary doctorate at Trinity College and the gold medal from the French Society for the Encouragement of Progress, the first musician to receive this honor since its inception in 1906. **Mr. Janis** also has had the great honor of being invited six times by four sitting President's to perform at the White House and was recently written into the Congressional Record of both the Senate and the House of Representatives, honoring him as, "a musician, a diplomat and an inspiration."

**Maria Cooper Janis** is the daughter of legendary actor and three time **Academy award** winner, **Gary Cooper** and wife of pre-eminent pianist, **Byron Janis**. **Maria Cooper Janis** is involved with the **American Arthritis Foundation** of which her husband, **Byron Janis** is the National Spokesperson and she sits on the board of Pro Musicis. She also works with the **Neuropathy Foundation** and is an active board member of the **ASPR** (American Society for Psychical Research). She has written a book **Gary Cooper off Camera: A Daughter Remembers** which gives an inside look into the persona of one of the greatest movie stars of all time.

Photo by the Publisher Miya Johnson



**LOLA ASTANOVA**

**T**ake a sparkling musical talent, infuse it with unyielding spirit, then add beauty, elegance and passion and the result can be called **Lola Astanova**. Born in Tashkent in the former USSR, Lola's music career began at the age of six when her mother gave Lola her first music lesson. She continued her studies with **Tamara Popovich**, **Mark Rusak** and **Lev Naumov**, whose pianistic lineage traced back to **Felix Blumenfeld** and **Franz Liszt** himself. By the age of twelve Lola achieved international acclaim and was featured in the UNESCO documentary *Prodigies of the 20th Century*. But her young career took a dramatic turn when, confronted with bureaucratic hurdles in the aftermath of the Soviet collapse, **Lola** was precluded from traveling and performing. Fighting to break free, Lola made a decision to move to the United States and start everything anew.

From her first days in America, **Lola** began to re-define what it means to be a modern-day virtuoso by foregoing the artistically stifling piano competitions and focusing instead on perfecting her craft and directly communicating with her fans via new media. Her American break came in 2007, when Lola garnered unprecedented attention as the star of a \$1.6 million **Neiman Marcus Classical Superstars Fantasy Concert** alongside **Valery Gergiev**, the **Kirov Orchestra**, and **Regis Philbin**. Today, with millions of online views, Lola is among the most watched virtuoso performers in the world, and her original piano arrangements are attempted by countless of pianists. On January 19, 2012, Ms. Astanova made her **Carnegie Hall** debut in a sold out **"Tribute to Horowitz"** concert, chaired by **Donald J. Trump** and hosted by **Julie Andrews**.



**JAHJA LING**

Bernstein Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood. Subsequently, he was selected by **Mr. Bernstein**, who became one of his most influential mentors, to be a Conducting Fellow under his tutelage at the **Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute**.

**Mr. Ling** is the first and only conductor of Chinese descent who has conducted all of the major orchestras in the North America as well as most of the prominent orchestras in Asia and Europe.

**Jahja Ling's** distinguished career has earned him world-wide acclaim for his musical integrity and depth of expression. Now in his eighth season as **Music Director of the San Diego Symphony**, **Mr. Ling** has received the highest praise for his live performances, local and national broadcasts and recordings and recently the Orchestra has offered him an ever-green contract. Under his leadership, the **San Diego Symphony** has been designated as a Tier One major orchestra by the **League of American Symphony Orchestras** and reached a new level of unprecedented artistic excellence with its audience record attendance and balanced budget for the last eight years.

Born in Jakarta, **Indonesia**, of Chinese descent, **Mr. Ling** began to play the piano at age 4. Subsequently **Mr. Ling** earned a master's degree from Juilliard and a doctor of musical arts degree from **Yale University School of Music**. He received Seaver/National Endowment for the Arts Conductor's Award and the Leonard