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For Immediate Release

**TIME FOR LYME AND C. BECHSTEIN PIANOS  
PROUDLY PRESENT "BARRY ALEXANDER AND FRIENDS" AT CARNEGIE HALL  
in a CONCERT TO BENEFIT "TIME FOR LYME" on March 22, 2008**

**Greenwich, CT, February 2008** – Time For Lyme and C. Bechstein Pianos proudly present "**Barry Alexander and Friends**" at Carnegie Hall, a concert to benefit Lyme disease research and education -- Saturday, March 22 at 8:30 p.m. at Carnegie Hall in the Weill Recital Hall (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), located at 57<sup>th</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in New York City. The Concert will feature internationally renowned baritone Barry Alexander and pianist Cosmo Buono, along with other acclaimed artists. The program will present music from Bellini, Cardillo, Giordani, Liszt, Puccini, Rossini, Schubert, Scarlatti and Verdi.

"This is Time for Lyme's inaugural musical event at Carnegie Hall, which we hope will become an annual tradition. Once again, acclaimed performing artists have come forward to support and help families who are in need," said Cathy Rubin, Event Chairperson with Time for Lyme. "Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses are alarmingly on the rise, with 49 of the 50 states reporting numerous new cases every year. Unfortunately, many of these cases are children. The Northeast is considered a high-risk location for Lyme as determined by the Center for Disease Control."

Barry Alexander, the internationally acclaimed baritone, is Chair of the Vocal Department of the *Musica e Arte* Festival held in Tolentino, Italy. He is also the Co-Founder of the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition (BAIVC). He has given many prominent new artists an entrée into the world of international opera and lieder music, several of whom will perform with him in this concert.

Pianist Cosmo Buono first received international prominence with the Bradshaw & Buono piano team, specializing in pieces written for one piano four hands and two pianos. Buono has performed in concert halls throughout the world, including Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall, and as a soloist with major orchestras such as The Munich Philharmonic. He is a Co-Founder of the Barry Alexander International Vocal Competition (BAIVC). Both Alexander and Buono have recently established a formal alliance with C. Bechstein Pianos, as Affiliated Artists.

Some of Barry's friends who will be performing for the Time for Lyme concert include:

Ukrainian born Soprano Oxana Arkaeva, a principal singer with the State Theatre of Saarbrücken, Germany, and winner of the BAIVC as well as Plácido Domingo's "Operalia"; Soprano Teresa Dody, also a first prize winner of the BAIVC, who will perform at the Rome Festival this summer; Tenor Simon Oliver, a member of the Philharmonia Orchestra, making his Carnegie Hall debut; and Soprano Denise Young, making both her Carnegie Hall and operatic debut. Pianists during the evening will include Assuntina Giorgio, a Liszt specialist, and Gohei Nishizawa, a piano professor at the Greenwich International Conservatory of Music.

#### About Time for Lyme

Time for Lyme, an affiliate for the Lyme Disease Association, is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to finding a cure and eliminating the devastating effects of, Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses, by supporting research, education and information outreach. The organization's goals include: preventing the spread of the disease, advocating for legislation that will provide additional research, improving surveillance, and increasing education for Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. Approximately 18,000 children and adults officially get these illnesses annually in the United States, but experts agree that the actual number of people struggling with Lyme and other tick-borne illnesses may be much higher. In part, this is because there is a lack of a good diagnostic test to identify these diseases. For more information please go to [www.timeforlyme.org](http://www.timeforlyme.org)

#### About C. Bechstein

Founded in 1853, C. Bechstein of Berlin has continued to raise the benchmark for the tradition, and the expertise, of German piano-making. Throughout its history, the legendary voice of the Bechstein piano has been coveted by some of the world's most beloved artists including Claude Debussy, Richard Wagner, Frank Liszt, Sergei

Rachmaninoff and Camille Saint-Saens; André Watts, and Leonard Bernstein. Considered to be one of the finest pianos in the world, Bechstein continues to be a favorite among today's musicians for its distinctive transparency, lyrical voice and perfect touch. Largely popular in Europe, C. Bechstein has recently established a major presence on this continent with the launch of its North American subsidiary, Bechstein America, LLC, and the opening of the new Bechstein Piano Center in New York City. For more information, call 877-NYPIANO or email [info@bechstein-america.com](mailto:info@bechstein-america.com).

Ticket prices for the Concert to Benefit Time For Lyme are \$50 each

To purchase tickets:

Call CarnegieCharge at (212) 247-7800

Or Go to Calendar of Events at [www.carnegiehall.org](http://www.carnegiehall.org)

Or visit the Carnegie Hall Box Office (corner of 57th Street and 7th Avenue in Manhattan)