

THE NEW YORK POPS

A DIFFERENT KIND OF ORCHESTRA

Notes on the Program

by Steven Reineke, Music Director
Friday, October 15, 2010, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall

This evening I'm proud to present to you an amazingly talented vocal sextet from Helsinki, Finland, my dear friends *Rajaton*. I've worked with them in both the US and Canada over the past few years and am thrilled to finally invite them to New York City for their Carnegie Hall debut with The New York Pops. The name *Rajaton* is a Finnish word meaning "boundless". It captures both the broad styles of repertoire they perform around the world, from sacred a cappella music to Europop, as well as their boundless energy and enthusiasm on the stage.

Tonight's program celebrates the music of Swedish pop sensation ABBA. Consistent chart toppers from 1972 to 1983, ABBA's catchy and infectious melodies are still wildly successful with audiences young and old. With the recent success of the Broadway smash hit *Mamma Mia!*, as well as the 2008 feature film starring Meryl Streep, they continue to sell some two to three million albums each year, making them the fourth best-selling popular music artists in recording history! This helped to propel the group into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in March of this year. *Rajaton's* own album of ABBA hits with the Lahti Symphony has even gone Platinum.

I remember listening to ABBA as a child growing up in the '70's and now, just as it was then, the music makes me smile and want to get up and dance. With that in mind, I hope you let your toes tap and a smile cross your face as we present to you the joyous music of... ABBA.



- Steven Reineke