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CHARLES HAMLLEN BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF IMG ARTISTS

NEW YORK – IMG Artists today announced that, effective immediately, **Charles Hamlen** will become Chairman of the company which he co-founded 25 years ago. As Chairman, he will work closely with senior management worldwide in guiding the company and in developing, as well as implementing, new projects. His initial contract is for three years.

Charles Hamlen in accepting this appointment said, “It was over thirty years ago that I had a dream and started Hamlen Management which ultimately became IMG Artists. Many of the wonderful people who helped build this company and were with me at the beginning are still a vital part of IMG Artists. It gives me great pleasure to rejoin them now as Chairman and to help them in supporting their mission which has remained the same as the day we started together.” Mr. Hamlen continues his affiliation as Founding Director of Classical Action: Performing Arts Against AIDS, a not-for-profit organization which he founded 16 years ago and which raises funds for AIDS services through the generosity of the performing arts community. Classical Action is a fund-raising arm of Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

IMG Artists’ President and Chief Operating Officer Jeffrey Fuhrman, who along with the senior management team continues running the daily operation, said, “Charles Hamlen is a beloved and internationally respected member of the music industry whose vision forged the original tenets of IMG Artists. His work as an advocate for artists and the arts has remained steadfast, even as he went on to create and grow Classical Action. We are all so pleased that Charlie will be ‘coming home’ to rejoin his original family.”

Charles Hamlen replaces Barrett Wissman who, while stepping down as Chairman, remains fully committed to IMG Artists. Mr. Wissman continues to be a valued resource for the company, working on special projects on an ongoing basis. Commenting on Hamlen’s appointment, Wissman said, “Few people have done more for the classical music industry and the artists it supports than Charles Hamlen. It’s a pleasure to have him back at IMG Artists.”

Biography of CHARLES HAMLLEN

Charles Hamlen, Founding Director in 1993 of Classical Action: Performing Arts Against AIDS, was previously, with Edna Landau, founding Co-Director of IMG Artists, where he looked after the careers of artists including violinists Joshua Bell and Leila Josefowicz, pianists Evgeny Kissin and Jean-Yves Thibaudet, flutist Sir James Galway, and the Emerson String Quartet, among others.

A 1965 graduate of Harvard College, with graduate studies at the Sorbonne, his professional life as a high school French teacher led him eleven years later to New York City as an artist manager, starting Hamlen Management. In 1979, he founded Hamlen/Landau Management, with his business partner Edna Landau. In 1984, Hamlen/Landau Management was acquired by the International Management Group, becoming IMG Artists. Charles Hamlen was honored in 2004 by the French government as a “Chevalier dans l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres” and was presented with the 2004 “Angel Award” by the International Society for the Performing Arts.

IMG ARTISTS, now in its 25th year, remains true to its original mission: artist representation at the highest level of professional, ethical and artistic commitment. IMG Artists’ 130 employees in nine offices throughout eight countries continue to serve their 400-plus clients worldwide.

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