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***Sharon Isbin: Troubadour* Documentary Wins ASCAP Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Television Broadcast Award Sharon Isbin to Receive Honor November 17**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (October 12, 2015): The winners of the 47th annual ASCAP Foundation Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Awards for outstanding print, broadcast and new media coverage of music were announced October 7 by ASCAP Foundation President, Paul Williams. The Television Broadcast Award celebrates *Sharon Isbin: Troubadour*, an American Public Television-presented documentary that provides an in-depth look at the career and musical impact of classical guitarist Isbin. Isbin, producer Susan Dangel and producer/editor Dick Bartlett are the recipients of the honor to be presented in a special ceremony on November 17 in New York City.

Troubadour (www.sharonisbintroubadour.com) is a portrait of a trailblazing performer and teacher who over the course of her career has broken through numerous barriers to rise to the top of a traditionally male-dominated field. This profile of the world's premier classical guitarist has been seen by millions on nearly 200 public television stations throughout the U.S. and has been featured on NPR and Tavis Smiley, in *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, and in over a dozen national magazines.

Troubadour follows Isbin's life and career, showcasing performances on international concert stages and jazz venues, and from the White House to the GRAMMY Awards. She is seen collaborating with composers John Corigliano, Christopher Rouse, Tan Dun, Joan Tower, Mark O'Connor, Stanley Jordan, and Steve Vai, all of whom have written new works for her. Martina Navratilova, First Lady Michelle Obama, Joan Baez, Janis Ian, Lesley Gore, Garrison Keillor, and David Hyde Pierce are among Isbin's friends and associates who make appearances in the film, providing colorful commentary. The documentary showcases her teaching at the Aspen Music Festival, and at The Juilliard School where she is the guitar department's founding director.

Multiple GRAMMY Award winner Sharon Isbin has been described by the *New York Times* as a "trailblazer both for female musicians and for the guitar's place in the classical music world." Susan Dangel is an award-winning television and film producer with over 30 years of experience in music and cultural programming for PBS. Dick Bartlett has been a Director and editor of PBS national programs for 45 years, and received a national Emmy for his work for NOVA. Both the DVD and Blu-ray editions released by Video Artists International feature bonus full-length performances in addition to the film.

The Awards were established in 1967 to honor the memory of composer, critic and commentator Deems Taylor, who died in 1966 after a distinguished career that included six years as President of ASCAP. Last year the Awards were renamed to also honor the memory of Virgil Thomson, one of the leading American composers and critics of the 20th Century, and a former member of the ASCAP Board of Directors.

*For more information visit www.sharonisbin.com
and www.sharonisbintroubadour.com*

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