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BERKELEY SYMPHONY NAMES MARK ACKERLEY AND DAVID COLL AS 2010-11 *UNDER CONSTRUCTION* COMPOSERS

Berkeley, CA – May 24, 2010... Berkeley Symphony is pleased to name San Francisco Conservatory of Music graduate **Mark Ackerley** and UC Berkeley doctoral student **David Coll** as the 2010-11 *Under Construction Composers*. Each composer will work closely with Music Director Joana Carneiro and Creative Advisor Gabriela Lena Frank to develop one or more symphonic works to be read and performed by Berkeley Symphony Sundays **January 16** and **March 13** at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. Fourteen-year-old Taiwanese **Joe (Shuo-Chun) Lin**, who wowed the selection committee with his exceptional talent, will also participate in the program.

"Our selection process was extremely competitive this year," Frank notes. "Not only has *Under Construction* consistently attracted an ever more talented pool of applicants, but we have narrowed our list of selected composers so that we can give each of them more time and attention." Selected composers will have ample opportunities this season to participate in workshops and individual meetings with Berkeley Symphony artistic staff and visiting composers for both artistic development and career guidance.

The *Under Construction* concerts also take on a new format to allow the audience to witness the creation and transformation of the new works. At the first concert on January 16, composers will test-drive excerpts of a work-in-progress, for which they will receive feedback from Carneiro and Frank, as well as Orchestra musicians. Composers will modify and complete the work for the second concert on March 13.

Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* new music series was initiated in 1993, and this upcoming season marks the fourth year of the program's expansion to include a group of composers selected to be presented over the course of multiple evenings. "This will be a full-immersion experience for the newest members of our family," says Frank, "and from time to time, *Under Construction* aficionados will be able to catch a glimpse of our composers in action as we post video clips, blog updates, and sound samples. This is going to be an exciting year, indeed."

ABOUT THE EMERGING COMPOSERS

Mark Ackerley received his undergraduate degree in Piano Performance at Texas State University. While at TSU, He studied composition with Russel Riepe and was the winner of the 3rd Annual Texas State Composition Competition. Ackerley recently earned his Master's Degree in Composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of David Garner and Conrad Susa. He also won the Sumi-E 24 Hour Composition Competition with work, "LOL."

David Coll works in various disciplines, ranging from music for the concert hall, for dance, for theatre and for interactive installations. Through ongoing investigations in directional, visual, and technological matters, his works create situations that investigate physical presence within a space. David has studied at the University of Illinois, IRCAM (Paris), and the University of California-Berkeley. His teachers include Edmund Campion, Erik Ulman, Ken Ueno, and Franck Bedrossian.

Fourteen-year-old **Joe (Shuo-Chun) Lin** was born in Taiwan and moved to California with his family in 2008. He began learning the piano at the age of five and composed his first piano piece when he was seven years old. He currently studies music theory and orchestration with Jerry Gerber, and piano with Boris Solokin. In the past, he has also studied composition with Michael Kaulkin at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Preparatory Division.

more

CALENDAR and PSA EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

BERKELEY SYMPHONY'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Sunday, January 16, 2011, 7 PM

Sunday, March 13, 2011, 7 PM

Place: St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley

Tickets: \$20 priority seating, \$10 general admission.

Call 510-841-2800 or visit www.berkeleysymphony.org.

For PSAs

Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* new music series features *Under Construction Composers* **Mark Ackerley, David Coll, and Joe Lin**. New works will be read and performed on Sundays **January 16** and **March 13** at 7 PM at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. For more information, visit www.berkeleysymphony.org

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