

BERKELEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



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For Immediate Release

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BERKELEY SYMPHONY NAMES EMERGING COMPOSERS-IN-RESIDENCE FOR UNDER CONSTRUCTION NEW MUSIC SERIES

BERKELEY, CA – July 1, 2008... **Jean Ahn**, **David Graves**, **Patrício da Silva**, and **Clark Supryniewicz** have been named Emerging Composers in Residence for Berkeley Symphony's expanded *Under Construction* series of new music readings. Each composer will develop short works to be read and performed by Berkeley Symphony Sundays at 7 P.M. on **October 26**, **November 16**, and **December 14** at St. John's Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. These performances will be led by William Eddins, Paul Haas, and Joana Carneiro, the final three guest conductors in Berkeley Symphony's Music Director search.

The 2008-09 season of *Under Construction* marks the second year that a group of composers have been selected to be presented over the course of three evenings. Each composer is a resident of the greater San Francisco Bay Area and has not previously had a symphonic work performed by a local professional orchestra other than a reading. Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* new music series was initiated in 1993.

Orinda resident **Jean Ahn** is a Ph.D. candidate at UC Berkeley. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees at Seoul National University in South Korea. Her work has been performed by numerous ensembles, including the Korean National Chamber Music Players, UC Berkeley Orchestra, Berkeley Contemporary Chamber Players, and Beijing Contemporary Players. She was awarded a fellowship to attend the Aspen Music Festival and has studied at the Center for New Music and Audio Technologies (CNMAT) at UC Berkeley. Her interest is in combining traditional Asian instruments and musical elements with electronics. Her winning entry is entitled *SALT for Orchestra*.

Selected to participate in Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* series for a second year, San Francisco resident **David Graves** is a composer in multiple genres, including ambient, jazz, and rock. As a recipient of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Fellowship, his large-scale ambient piece *tree/sigh* was installed in a redwood canyon during the Djerassi Resident Artist Program's 2003 Open House. His large-scale multimedia work *Deciduous* was presented in San Francisco's SURROUND>SOUND series in 2006, and he has scored works performed by the San Francisco Composers Chamber Orchestra. He has studied composition at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and the City College of San Francisco. Graves's selections performed during his 2007-08 Berkeley Symphony residency were entitled *Insecurity (and Other Agencies of Government)*, *The Spectator*, and *Deep Green Dreams*.

Danville resident **Patrício da Silva** studied piano and composition at the Escola Superior de Musica de Lisboa in his native Portugal. He completed his Master's of Fine Arts at the California Institute of the Arts and his Ph.D. at UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz, and he has conducted post-doctoral research in the United Kingdom and at IRCAM in Paris. Since 2004 he has been a composition fellow with the Tanglewood Music Center, Fundacao Ciencia e Tecnologia, Atlantic Center for the Arts, and later this year at the Aspen Music Festival and the MacDowell Colony. His music has been performed at many international venues including the Ojai Music Festival, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Cistermusica, LASO, and is scheduled to be performed at the Aspen, Portugal's Orquestra do Algarve, and on several European festivals with pianist Tzimon Barto. His winning entry is entitled *The Fact of the Matter as a Matter of Fact*.

Berkeley resident **Clark Suprynowicz** is a jazz musician as well as a composer. He was a student of bassist Dave Holland in New York, and has worked with Tom Waits, John Zorn, and Bill Frisell. He has penned theme music and incidental music for National Public Radio, as well as a body of songs and chamber music. His work as a composer for the last two decades has focused on the stage: Mr. Suprynowicz was a founding member of the New Music Theatre Project at Z Space Studios in San Francisco. In 2006, his opera *Chrysalis* (libretto by John O'Keefe) was premiered by Berkeley Opera. Other music theater works include *Ariadne*, premiered at Diego Rivera Theater in San Francisco, and *Caliban Dreams* (with Amanda Moody), an adaptation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, commissioned by the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. Mr. Suprynowicz teaches musicianship and composition at both the Crowden School in Berkeley and at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

Andy Tan, a master's candidate in composition at UC Davis, was selected as alternate for the 2008-09 series. The selection panel included UC Davis Assistant Professor of Composition and *Under Construction* alumnus **Kurt Rohde**, UC Davis Associate Professor of Composition **Laurie San Martin**, and Berkeley Symphony Education Director & Conductor **Ming Luke**.

Guidelines for composer applications for the 2009-10 *Under Construction* series will be posted at www.berkeleysymphony.org by April 1, with a June 1 deadline for receipt of materials. An announcement of the next class of Emerging Composers in Residence is expected around July 1, 2009.

Funding for Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* series and Music Director search activities is provided by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the James C. Irvine Foundation, and the Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation. Additional support for *Under Construction* is provided by the Aaron Copland Foundation.

CALENDAR and PSA EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

BERKELEY SYMPHONY'S UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Sunday, October 26, 2008, 7 PM – William Eddins, conductor

Works by Ahn, Graves, da Silva, and Suprynowicz

Sunday, November 16, 2008, 7 PM – Paul Haas, conductor

Works by Ahn, Graves, da Silva, and Suprynowicz

Sunday, December 14, 2008, 7 PM – Joana Carneiro, conductor

Works by Ahn, Graves, da Silva, and Suprynowicz

Concert Venue: 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.

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