



1942 University Avenue, Suite 207, Berkeley, California, 94704, USA
Phone: 510.841.2800 • Facsimile: 510.841.5422 • www.berkeleysymphony.org

Kent Nagano • *Music Director*
Joana Carneiro • *Music Director Designate*

James A. Kleinmann • *Executive Director*

For Immediate Release

Contact: **Kevin Shuck, Director of Communications**
510.841.2800 ext. 304 / kshuck@berkeleysymphony.org

Berkeley Symphony Announces 2009-10 Season

Music Director Joana Carneiro's Debut Season Spotlights Composers with Berkeley and Other California Connections

BERKELEY, CA – April 6, 2009... Berkeley Symphony today announced plans for the 2009-10 season, the first with Music Director **Joana Carneiro**. Featured prominently are Berkeley composers John Adams, Gabriela Lena Frank, and Paul Dresher, as well as Esa-Pekka Salonen and Steven Stucky, two of Carneiro's mentors whom she came to know during her three years as Assistant Conductor at the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Repertoire to be performed include works by Barber, Bartók, Beethoven, Brahms, Sibelius and Stravinsky, as well as a recent work by Jörg Widmann. Season subscriptions (4-concert introductory packages start at \$40) are available by calling 510-841-2800 or online at www.berkeleysymphony.org.

"To me, the season represents a first reaction of my musical personality to the culture and community of Berkeley," Carneiro stated. "I wish to create a sense of trust with the community, introducing composers that appeal to me but still respecting the references of the past the audience has had."

Opening Carneiro's tenure on **Thursday, October 15, 2009** at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall are works by two Berkeley composers with whom Carneiro is well acquainted: **John Adams** and **Gabriela Lena Frank**. Adams describes *The Chairman Dances* as an "out-take" from his opera *Nixon in China*, depicting a foxtrot between Chairman Mao and his bride. Frank's *Peregrinos* (Pilgrims) consists of five movements, each inspired by stories she gathered from Latino immigrants. Opening night concludes with **Béla Bartók's** Concerto for Orchestra, so named because each section of the orchestra is treated in a soloistic and virtuosic fashion.

The music of **Steven Stucky** and his influences are featured on **Thursday, December 3, 2009**. Stucky has been associated with the LA Philharmonic for over 20 years and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 2005. He was Ernest Bloch Professor at UC Berkeley and currently teaches at Cornell University.

Stucky's *Radical Light* is paired with the Symphony No. 7 of **Jean Sibelius**, a work it was commissioned to accompany. "Lament" is from Stucky's oratorio *August 4, 1964*, the date of two pivotal events in the Presidency of Lyndon B. Johnson: the discovery of three slain civil rights workers which led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act, and the Gulf of Tonkin Incident which led to the escalation of the Vietnam War. Closing the performance will be the suite from the ballet *The Firebird* by **Igor Stravinsky**, who Carneiro notes to be "one of the pillars of what we are doing today with music, a reference for all composers into the 21st century and certainly for Steve."

The program on **Thursday, February 11, 2010** opens with Berkeley composer **Paul Dresher's** *Cornucopia*, which was premiered by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra with John Adams conducting. *Five Images After Sappho* by **Esa-Pekka Salonen**, Carneiro's former mentor who steps down this year

as Music Director of the LA Philharmonic, is a chamber setting with soprano solo of fragmentary texts by the ancient Greek poet. Soprano soloist will be **Jessica Rivera**, who performed the premiere of John Adams's latest opera *The Flowering Tree* and is also known for her performances of the works of Osvaldo Golijov. The Symphony No.3 of **Ludwig van Beethoven** closes the program.

Berkeley Symphony's Zellerbach Hall season closes on **Thursday, April 1, 2010** with *Con brio*, a concert overture by the young German composer Jörg Widmann. Completing the program are **Samuel Barber's** *Knoxville, Summer of 1915* again featuring soprano Jessica Rivera, and the Symphony No. 1 by **Johannes Brahms**.

Composers scheduled to be present at performances include Adams, Frank, Stucky, and Dresher. Carneiro observes that "relationships with living composers—who will be around not only for concerts but for rehearsals—are important as they inspire the orchestra and myself to perform and ultimately to serve the music and our audience better. I think of these relationships in the long term, as we want to find ways for these artists to connect deeply with the community of Berkeley."

In addition, Carneiro and the members of the orchestra will work with four Emerging Composers in Residence as part of Berkeley Symphony's *Under Construction* new music series, Sundays at 7 PM on October 18, December 6, and February 7 at St. John's Presbyterian Church of Berkeley. Applications are now being accepted from Bay Area composers for these positions, with a deadline of May 1.

Berkeley Symphony's current 2008-09 season concludes with two concerts on May 17 and May 31 at First Congregational Church of Berkeley. **Kent Nagano** leads **Berkeley Akademie**, a program of Berkeley Symphony he founded in 2007, in the final performances of his 30th anniversary season as Music Director. Repertoire will include works by Mozart, Ives, Brahms, and Beethoven, as well as a new arrangement of Bach's Italian Concerto and a world premiere by Alexander Muno. Following this season, Nagano will continue his association with Berkeley Symphony as Conductor Laureate, with future dates for Berkeley Akademie to be announced.

ABOUT JOANA CARNEIRO

Joana Carneiro served as Assistant Conductor with the Los Angeles Philharmonic from 2005-2008, working closely with Esa-Pekka Salonen. A native of Lisbon, Portugal, Carneiro is currently official guest conductor of the Gulbenkian Orchestra, working with the orchestra at least four weeks every year. Previously, she was Assistant Conductor with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Principal Guest Conductor of the Metropolitan Orchestra of Lisbon, and Music Director of the Los Angeles Debut Orchestra. Carneiro's other conducting engagements have included the Frankfurt Radio Symphony, the New World Symphony, the Prague Philharmonia, and the Ensemble Orchestral de Paris.

ABOUT BERKELEY SYMPHONY: CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

Founded in 1969 as the Berkeley Promenade Orchestra, **Berkeley Symphony** has established a reputation for presenting major new works for orchestra alongside fresh interpretations of the classic European repertoire. Berkeley Symphony has been recognized in six of the past eight seasons with an Award for Adventurous Programming from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). In addition to its subscription concerts and *Under Construction* new music series, Berkeley Symphony regularly partners with Cal Performances to provide music for visiting artists. Berkeley Symphony's award-winning, year-long Music in the Schools Program reaches every public elementary school student in Berkeley. San Francisco public radio station KALW 91.7 FM is Berkeley Symphony's broadcast partner, airing all Berkeley Symphony subscription concerts.

All programs subject to change.

BERKELEY SYMPHONY

UC Berkeley Zellerbach Hall
Joana Carneiro, Music Director

Joana Carneiro leads four programs in the 2009-2010 season, her first as Music Director:

Thursday, October 15, 2009, 8 PM

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| John Adams | <i>The Chairman Dances</i> |
| Gabriela Lena Frank | <i>Peregrinos</i> (West Coast premiere) |
| Béla Bartók | Concerto for Orchestra |

Thursday, December 3, 2009, 8 PM

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Steven Stucky | <i>Radical Light</i> |
| Jean Sibelius | Symphony No. 7 |
| Steven Stucky | “Lament” from the oratorio <i>August 4, 1964</i> (West Coast premiere) |
| Igor Stravinsky | The <i>Firebird</i> Suite (1919 version) |

Thursday, February 11, 2010, 8 PM

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Paul Dresher | <i>Cornucopia</i> |
| Esa-Pekka Salonen | <i>Five Images After Sappho</i> ; Jessica Rivera, soprano |
| Ludwig van Beethoven | Symphony No. 3, “Eroica” |

Thursday, April 1, 2010, 8 PM

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Jörg Widmann | <i>Con brio</i> (Concert Overture for Orchestra; West Coast premiere) |
| Samuel Barber | <i>Knoxville, Summer of 1915</i> ; Jessica Rivera, soprano |
| Johannes Brahms | Symphony No. 1 |

Tickets: \$20, \$40, and \$60. Introductory 4-concert subscriptions are \$40, \$80, and \$120.
Call 510-841-2800 or visit www.berkeleysymphony.org.

BERKELEY SYMPHONY: UNDER CONSTRUCTION

St. John’s Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley
Joana Carneiro, Music Director

New works by four Emerging Composers-in-Residence will be read and performed:

Sunday, October 18, 2009, 7 PM

Sunday, December 6, 2009, 7 PM

Sunday, February 7, 2010, 7 PM

Tickets: \$10 general admission; \$20 priority seating. Series priority seating pass \$30.
Call 510-841-2800 or visit www.berkeleysymphony.org.

All programs subject to change.

UPCOMING CONCERTS:

BERKELEY AKADEMIE

First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley
Kent Nagano, Artistic Director

Final performances of Nagano's 30th anniversary season, featuring repertoire for small orchestra:

Sunday, May 17, 2009, 7 PM

Wolfgang A. Mozart Divertimento, K. 136
Alexander Muno *Masques & Divertissements* (World premiere)
Johannes Brahms Serenade No. 1 in D Major

Sunday, May 31, 2009, 7 PM

J.S. Bach, Italian Concerto, BWV 971
 arr. Joachim F.W. Schneider
Charles Ives Symphony No. 3, "The Camp Meeting"
Ludwig van Beethoven Septet in E-flat Major, Op. 20

Tickets: \$20, \$40, and \$60. Introductory 2-concert subscriptions also available.
Call 510-841-2800 or visit www.berkeleysymphony.org.