

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 3, 2010**SOPRANO DAWN UPSHAW & PIANIST EMANUEL AX PERFORM SONGS OF
SCHUMANN AND CHOPIN MARCH 20 IN DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL****Program features West Coast premiere of Stephen Prutsman's *Piano Lessons***

WHAT: Soprano [Dawn Upshaw](#) and pianist [Emanuel Ax](#) will perform an evening of songs and piano works by Schumann and Chopin at Davies Symphony Hall on Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m. The program includes selected Chopin nocturnes, mazurkas, and vocal music as well as Schumann lieder. Upshaw and Ax will also perform the West Coast premiere of Stephen Prutsman's *Piano Lessons*, co-commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony, which replaces the planned work by Osvaldo Golijov. The concert is one of only three recitals by Upshaw and Ax in the United States this season.

[Dawn Upshaw](#) appeared with the San Francisco Symphony in September 2008 in an all-Bernstein program, which the Orchestra performed to a sold-out opening night gala audience at Carnegie Hall. That performance was broadcast on Thirteen/WNET New York's *GREAT PERFORMANCES* on PBS and recorded and released internationally on the *Carnegie Hall Opening Night 2008: A Celebration of Leonard Bernstein* DVD on the Symphony's [SFS Media](#) label. In 2007, Upshaw was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation, the first vocal artist to be awarded the five-year "genius" prize, and in 2008 she was named a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Internationally lauded for her diverse musicality, Upshaw has premiered more than 25 works in the last decade, many of which were written for her. In addition to her collaboration with Emanuel Ax, Upshaw's 2009-10 season engagements include the world premieres of two new works created for her: a chamber piece by David Bruce to open the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center season and an orchestral work by Alberto Iglesias with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Pianist [Emanuel Ax](#) recently performed with Yo-Yo Ma during the cellist's *Project San Francisco* residency in January, where the artists premiered Peter Lieberman's *Remembering Schumann*, co-

commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony. A long-time collaborator with the Symphony since his debut with the Orchestra in 1979, Ax appeared as a soloist in 2008 in the Orchestra's first performances of Szymanowski's Symphony No. 4 for Piano and Orchestra and Richard Strauss' *Burleske* for Piano and Orchestra. Ax is featured in three special programs this season at Davies Symphony Hall to celebrate the bicentenary of Schumann and Chopin. He performs a solo recital of the works of Chopin and Schumann April 25, including the West Coast premiere of a new SFS co-commissioned piece by Thomas Adès, *Three Mazurkas*.

WHO: [Dawn Upshaw](#), soprano
[Emanuel Ax](#), piano

PROGRAM: Chopin/*From Songs*, Opus 74
Zyczenie (The Wish), No.1
Smutna rzeka (The Sad Stream), No.3
Gdzie lubi (There Where She Loves), No. 5
Piecz z moich oczu! (Out of My Sight!), No. 6
Chopin/ Four Mazurkas, Opus 41
Chopin/*From Songs*, Opus 74
Melodya (Melody), No. 9
Nie ma czego trzeba (Sorrow), No. 13
Moja pieśzcotka (My Darling), No. 12
Stephen Prutsman, text by Billy Collins/ *Piano Lessons* (West Coast premiere, SFS co-commission)
1. *My teacher lies on the floor with a bad back*
2. *He tells me that every scale has shape*
3. *He says the scale is the mother of the chords*
4. *I am doing my scales*
5. *I am learning to play*
6. *Even when I am not playing, I think about the piano*
Chopin/ Two Nocturnes, Opus 27
Schumann/ Selected Songs
In der Fremde, Opus 39, No. 1
Nachtlied, Opus 96, No. 1
Die Lotosblume, Opus 25, No. 7
Heiss' mich nicht redder, Opus 98a, No. 5
Singet nicht in Trauertönen, Opus 98a, No. 7
Die Stille, Opus 39, No. 4
Die Blume der Ergebung, Opus 83, No. 2
Jemand, Opus 25, No. 4
Röselein, Röselein!, Opus 89, No. 6
Mignon (Kennst du das Land), Opus 98, No. 1
Er ist's, Opus 79, No. 23
Widmung, Opus 25, No. 1

WHEN: Saturday, March 20 at 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

TICKETS: \$15-\$86. Tickets are available at sfsymphony.org, by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.

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