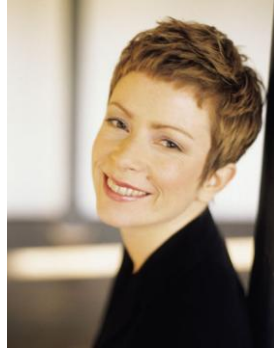
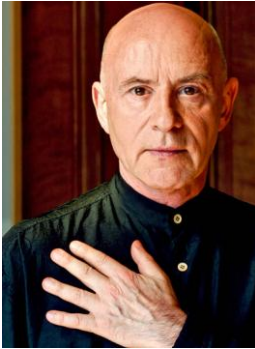


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / March 18, 2010

**CHRISTOPH ESCHENBACH CONDUCTS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
IN TWO WEEKS OF CONCERTS APRIL 29-MAY 8 FEATURING
SOPRANO CHRISTINE SCHÄFER, BARITONE MATTHIAS GOERNE,
AND PIANIST DAVID FRAY AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

**Schäfer and Fray make SFS debuts; Marc-André Dalbavie's *La Source d'un regard*
replaces postponed Thomas Larcher commission**

Conductor [Christoph Eschenbach](#) will lead the San Francisco Symphony in two weeks of concerts April 29-May 8 at Davies Symphony Hall, including the Orchestra's first performances of Zemlinsky's *Lyric Symphony* featuring soprano [Christine Schäfer](#) and baritone [Matthias Goerne](#), and French composer Marc-André Dalbavie's *La Source d'un regard*. Pianist [David Fray](#) joins the Orchestra to perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2. The Orchestra also performs Schumann's Symphony No. 4 and Brahms' Symphony No. 2. The Marc-André Dalbavie work replaces a scheduled Thomas Larcher commission, which will be performed by conductor Osmo Vanska and the Orchestra in April 2011.

As Music Director Designate of both the National Symphony Orchestra and the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington D.C., [Christoph Eschenbach](#) is in demand as a guest conductor all over the world. In the past, he has led the Orchestre de Paris, Houston Symphony, NDR Symphony Orchestra, and Philadelphia Orchestra as music director. His recordings with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Orchestre de Paris have captured numerous awards, including *BBC Magazine* Disc of the Month, *Gramophone* Editors' Choice, the German Record Critics' Award, and the 2009 MIDEM Classical Award in Contemporary Music. In addition to these awards, Eschenbach has been honored with the Légion d'Honneur, Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, the Officer's Cross with Star and Ribbon of the German Order of Merit, and the Leonard Bernstein Award from the Pacific Music Festival.

Known for his warm, fluid voice and thoughtful interpretation, baritone [Matthias Goerne](#) has appeared in concert with some of the world's leading orchestras, including the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestre National de France, the New York Philharmonic, and the Berlin Philharmonic, among others. He has sung the roles of Papageno (*Die Zauberflöte*), Wolfam (*Tannhäuser*) and Orest (*Elektra*), as well as the title roles in Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* and Aribert Reimann's *Lear*. Goerne has recorded several award-winning albums, including Mahler's *Des Knaben Wunderhorn* under Riccardo Chailly, and Schubert's *Schwanengesang* and *Winterreise* with Alfred Brendel. He is a recipient of the 2007 Wigmore Hall Medal. German soprano [Christine Schäfer](#) draws on a diverse range of repertoire and has performed with leading conductors

including Harnoncourt, Boulez, Haitink, Harding, Gatti, and Rattle. Her recording collaboration with the Petersen Quartet was winner of the 2007 ECHO Klassik Award for Best Lied recording. This is not her first time performing with Eschenbach – Schäfer recorded the award-winning Zemlinsky *Lyric* Symphony with him and the Orchestre de Paris. This is her San Francisco Symphony debut.

French composer [Marc-André Dalbavie](#) was voted “Best Young Composer of the Year” by *USA Today* and holds a Chevalier des Arts et Lettres from the French Ministry of Culture. He has been composer-in-residence of the Cleveland Orchestra and Orchestre de Paris, which commissioned and performed Dalbavie’s piece *Color* under Eschenbach’s leadership. He is known for his exploration of spectral music, using space, place and context in his music. Written in honor of Oliver Messiaen’s 100th birthday, *La Source d’un regard* was premiered in the U.S. by the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2008.

Named “Newcomer of the Year 2008” by *BBC Music Magazine*, French pianist [David Fray](#) has been making waves in the classical world. He first garnered attention by winning the Second Grand Prize at the 2004 Montreal International Music Competition. Since then, Fray has received the Banque Populaire, ADAMI “Révélation Classique” award, the Jeune Soliste de L’Année from the French Language Public Radio Coalition, and the Diploma for Outstanding Merit at the Hamamatsu Competition. His collaborations with Eschenbach include performances of the Ravel Concerto with the Orchestra of the Paris Conservatory and the Bach Concertos at the 10th Beethoven Easter Festival in Warsaw. This is his San Francisco Symphony debut.

WHERE & WHEN:

Thursday, April 29 at 2:00 p.m.

Friday, April 30 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 1 at 8:00 p.m.

[Christoph Eschenbach](#), conductor

[Christine Schäfer](#), soprano

[Matthias Goerne](#), baritone

[San Francisco Symphony](#)

Davies Symphony Hall

201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

PROGRAM:

Schumann / Symphony No. 4 in D minor, Opus 120

Zemlinsky / *Lyric* Symphony, Opus 18

BROADCAST: Portions of these concerts will be broadcast on CLASSICAL 102.1 KDFC at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 11.

PRE-CONCERT TALK: James Keller gives the “Inside Music” talks one hour prior to the concerts. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open fifteen minutes prior.

TICKETS: \$15-\$145. 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.

WHERE & WHEN:

Wednesday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. (**Open Rehearsal**)

Wednesday, May 5 at 8:00 p.m.

Friday, May 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 8 at 8:00 p.m.

[Christoph Eschenbach](#), conductor

[David Fray](#), piano

[San Francisco Symphony](#)

Davies Symphony Hall

201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

PROGRAM:

Marc-André Dalbavie / *La Source d’un regard*

Beethoven / Piano Concerto No. 2 in B-flat major, Opus 19

Brahms / Symphony No. 2 in D major, Opus 73

BROADCAST: Portions of these concerts will be broadcast on CLASSICAL 102.1 KDFC at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18.

PRE-CONCERT TALK: Alexandra Amati-Camperi gives the “Inside Music” talks one hour prior to the concerts. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open fifteen minutes prior.

TICKETS: \$15-\$145; \$20-\$35 for Open Rehearsal. 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.

These concerts are made possible through the generosity of AT&T, Presenting Sponsor of the May 22, 2010 Black & White Ball.

Support for Christine Schäfer and Matthias Goerne's appearances is provided by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

Christoph Eschenbach's appearance is supported by the Louise M. Davies Guest Conductor Fund.

The concert of May 5 is made possible through the generosity of Jones Day.

David Fray's appearance is supported by the Shenson Young Artist Debut Fund.

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