

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / April 12, 2010

**SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY MUSICIANS PERFORM NATHANIEL STOOKEY'S *JUNKESTRA* IN
A CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

WHAT: San Francisco Symphony (SFS) musicians perform the fifth concert of the chamber music series this season at Davies Symphony Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 9. The program includes Stravinsky's Octet for Wind Instruments, Prokofiev's String Quartet No. 2, Ravel's Piano Trio, and Nathaniel Stookey's *Junkestra*. *Junkestra* features thirty instruments created from trash the composer found in the San Francisco dump and was first performed by musicians from the SFS Youth Orchestra and conductor Benjamin Shwartz at the dump's warehouse. A recording of *Junkestra* will be released on CD on the day of the chamber music concert, May 9.

A San Francisco native and former member of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, at 17 [Nathaniel Stookey](#) was the youngest composer to have his music performed in the SFS's *New and Unusual Music* series. At 23 after graduating from the University of California, Berkeley, he won the Hallé Orchestra Composition Fellowship where he served as resident composer under Kent Nagano from 1993 until 1996. In 2000, he won a three-year composer-in-residence award with the North Carolina Symphony, The Ciompi Quartet, and NPR affiliate WUNC-FM while simultaneously completing a doctorate at Duke University. Albany Records released Stookey's Music for Strings (1992-2002), featuring The Ciompi Quartet and the strings of the North Carolina Symphony in 2005. In 2009 Harper Collins released a recording of the SFS performing Nat Stookey's SFS-commissioned work [The Composer is Dead](#), with narrator Lemony Snicket, accompanying an illustrated children's book.

Stookey's *Junkestra* was composed during his artist residency at Recology San Francisco in 2007. Made up of three movements, the work is performed on percussion instruments created from materials found at the dump. Through intensive experimentation of hitting and listening to the sounds of objects found at the dump, the piece's instrumentation eventually grew to include pipes, pans, mixing bowls, bottles, serving trays, dresser drawers, oil drums, bike wheels, saws, garbage cans, and shopping carts, to name a few. This collection of instruments creates a rich spectrum of timbre and pitch. The work was premiered by the SFS Youth Orchestra ([YouTube clip here](#)) and has since been performed at the Herbst Theater and the opening of the new California Academy of Sciences, both in San Francisco.

WHEN & WHERE: Sunday, May 9 at 2:00 p.m.
Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco

PROGRAM: Nathaniel Stookey / *Junkestra*
Victor Avdienko, percussion
Raymond Froehlich, percussion

Tom Hemphill, percussion
David Herbert, percussion
Rick Kvistad, percussion
Jack Van Geem, percussion
David Weiss, musical saw
James Lee Wyatt, III, percussion

Stravinsky / Octet for Wind Instruments

Tim Day, flute
Carey Bell, clarinet
Steven Dibner, bassoon
Rob Weir, bassoon
Glenn Fischthal, trumpet
Jeff Biancalana, trumpet
Timothy Higgins, trombone
Paul Welcomer, bass trombone

Prokofiev / String Quartet No. 2 in F Major, Opus 92 *On Kabardinian Themes*

Florin Parvelescu, violin
John Chisholm, violin
Tina King, viola
Barbara Andres, cello

Ravel / Piano Trio in A minor

Dan Carlson, violin
Amos Yang, cello
Solon Gordon, piano

TICKETS: \$35; Tickets are available at sfsymphony.org, by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Box Office at Davies Symphony Hall, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.

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