

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / November 10, 2009



(Alfie Boe, Layla Claire, Chad Hoopes)

**CELEBRATE 2010 AT THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY'S  
NEW YEAR'S EVE MASQUERADE BALL****Guest conductor Bramwell Tovey, tenor Alfie Boe, soprano Layla Claire and 15-year-old violinist Chad Hoopes join SF Symphony for operetta, waltzes and songs****Post-concert bash with Peter Mintun Orchestra and 80s cover band Tainted Love, dancing on Davies Symphony Hall stage to welcome the New Year**

**WHAT:** Ring in the New Year and the New Decade with the city's most elegant celebration, the [San Francisco Symphony's](#) New Year's Eve Masquerade Ball. The December 31 event stars soprano [Layla Claire](#), tenor [Alfie Boe](#), and 15-year-old violin prodigy [Chad Hoopes](#). [Bramwell Tovey](#) conducts the Orchestra and performs on piano.

Arrive when the doors open at 8 p.m., and get a free mask, plus enjoy live music and dancing to [The Martini Brothers](#) before the Orchestra concert. At 9 p.m., the Orchestra performs a full-length program of Viennese classics, operetta, waltzes, songs, and polkas. Continue the party at a post-concert bash with [The Peter Mintun Orchestra](#) and dancing on the Davies Symphony Hall stage, 80s cover band [Tainted Love](#) in the First Tier lobby, party favors, and a special midnight celebration. Complimentary sparkling wine, desserts, and savories will be served.

The program includes popular waltzes by Johann Strauss, Jr. (*By the Beautiful Blue Danube*) and Franz Lehár (*Gold and Silver Waltz*); Noël Coward's "Someday I'll Find You," and composer/actor Ivor Novello's "Waltz of My Heart" (heard on the soundtrack to the film *Gosford Park*). Tovey will conduct his own arrangements of the Coward and Novello songs. Fifteen-year-old violin prodigy Chad Hoopes joins the Orchestra to perform two Kreisler pieces. Costumed dancers from [Dance Through Time](#), an historical social dance company, appear as part of the program. As always, there will be a few special New Year's Eve surprises.

Special pre-concert dinner packages, including an elegant buffet supper at Davies Symphony Hall with entertainment, or dinner at Caffé Delle Stelle, are also available.

[Bramwell Tovey](#), music director of Vancouver Symphony and principal guest conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, will lead the Orchestra and perform on piano, with Alfie Boe and Layla Claire singing his arrangements of Novello's "Waltz of My Heart" and Noël Coward's "Someday I'll Find You." [Alfie Boe](#) made his SF Symphony debut in June 2009 as Thomas, Earl of Tolloller, in Gilbert & Sullivan's *Iolanthe*. The English tenor has just released a new CD of arias by Léhar, and will perform his "You Are My Heart's Delight," from *The Land of Smiles*. He'll also sing "Vienna, City of My Dreams," by Siczynski. Boe's *La Passione*, a collection of Italian folk songs including "O Sole Mio," "Funiculi Funicula," and "Santa Lucia," was released in 2007.

Canadian soprano [Layla Claire](#), who makes her debut with the SF Symphony, will perform Léhar's "On My Lips Every Kiss is Like Wine," from *Giuditta*, and "Vilja" from *The Merry Widow*. Claire, a member of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program, is a 2008 Queen Elisabeth Competition Laureate. She has performed Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* at Tanglewood under James Levine, and will open the season there in 2010 with Levine and Boston Symphony Orchestra in Mahler's Fourth Symphony. She will sing the role of The Countess in Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* with Glyndebourne on Tour in 2012. She has also performed with the Russian National Orchestra, led by Itzhak Perlman, and recently made her Montreal Symphony Orchestra debut as Clotilde in *Norma* under the baton of music director Kent Nagano.

Violin prodigy [Chad Hoopes](#), 15, winner of first prize in the Young Artists Division of the Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition, joins the Orchestra for two Kreisler pieces, *Caprice viennois* and *Liebesfreud*. Hoopes, from Ohio, has been featured on PBS-TV's [From the Top at Carnegie Hall](#) and CBS's [The Early Show](#). He has performed with the Cleveland, Minnesota, and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras, and makes his debut with the California and Peoria symphonies this season. He will perform education concerts with the Minnesota Orchestra in 2010.

**WHO:**

ORCHESTRA CONCERT:

[Bramwell Tovey](#), conductor and piano

[Layla Claire](#), soprano

[Alfie Boe](#), tenor

[Chad Hoopes](#), violin

[San Francisco Symphony](#)

[Dance Through Time](#)

PRE-CONCERT ENTERTAINMENT:

[The Martini Brothers](#)

POST-CONCERT PARTY:

[The Peter Mintun Orchestra](#)

[Tainted Love](#)

**PROGRAM:**

Lehár / *Gold and Silver Waltz*, Opus 79

Lehár / "You Are My Heart's Delight" ("*Dein ist mein ganzes Herz*") from *The Land of Smiles* (with Alfie Boe)

Lehár / "On My Lips Every Kiss is Like Wine" ("*Meine Lippen sie küssen so heiss*") from *Giuditta* (with Layla Claire)

Novello (arr. Tovey) / "Waltz of My Heart" (with Bramwell Tovey on piano, Layla Claire, and Alfie Boe)

Strauss, Jr. / *Egyptian March*, Opus 335

Kreisler / *Caprice viennois*, Opus 2 (with Chad Hoopes)

Strauss, Jr. / *Thunder and Lightning*, Quick Polka, Opus 324

Strauss, Jr. / *Perpetuum mobile*, Opus 257

Strauss, Jr. / *Champagne* Polka, Opus 211  
Lehár / “Vilja” from *The Merry Widow* (with Layla Claire)  
Strauss, Jr. / *Artist’s* Quadrille, Opus 201  
Sieczynski / “Vienna, City of my Dreams” (“*Wien, du Stadt meiner Träume*”) (with Alfie Boe)  
Kreisler / *Liebesfreud* (with Chad Hoopes)  
Coward (arr. Tovey) / “Someday I’ll Find You” (with Bramwell Tovey on piano, Alfie Boe and Layla Claire)  
Strauss, Jr. / *By the Beautiful Blue Danube* Waltz, Opus 314

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 31  
8:00 p.m. – Doors open, pre-concert lobby entertainment begins with The Martini Brothers  
9:00 p.m. – San Francisco Symphony concert onstage in Davies Symphony Hall  
11:00 p.m. (approximately) – Post-concert party with Peter Mintun Orchestra, Tainted Love

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

**TICKETS:** \$80-\$195; available through SFS Ticket Services at (415) 864-6000 or at [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org). For special dinner packages, including an elegant buffet supper at Davies Symphony Hall or dinner at Caffé Delle Stelle, please call the Box Office at (415) 864-6000 or visit <http://www.sfsymphony.org/newyears>.

*Special thanks to media partners KPIX CBS5, Classical 102.1FM KDFC, 92.5FM KOIT, and BART.*

-SFS-