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## **SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES 2011-12 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**

### **ORCHESTRA CELEBRATES 100th SEASON WITH DISTINCTIVE ARTISTIC EVENTS AND INNOVATIVE EDUCATION AND MEDIA INITIATIVES**

- Centennial season opens with week of civic celebrations including Opening Gala, All-SF community concert, and free outdoor concert in San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza
- Iconic *American Mavericks* Festival returns in 2012 with world premiere commissions by John Adams and Mason Bates; soloists Jessye Norman, Meredith Monk, Jeremy Denk, Emanuel Ax, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet; Orchestra to bring *American Mavericks* concerts and events to audiences in Chicago, Ann Arbor, and Carnegie Hall in NY in two-week tour
- *Project San Francisco* artist and composer residencies by Joshua Bell and Mason Bates
- Unprecedented presentation of the major American orchestras in San Francisco to celebrate the SFS at 100: Two-concert residencies by the Boston Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, and the Philadelphia Orchestra; all orchestras to bring commissioned works by composers such as Adès, Bates, Carter, Chapela, Clyne, Lindberg, and Sariaaho
- Semi-staged concerts celebrating the music of early San Francisco, from the Gold Rush and beyond
- Former Music Directors Edo de Waart and Herbert Blomstedt to return to the podium for concerts
- Living Heritage media projects include historical book, documentary film, visual art project, and exhibitions featuring rare archival recordings
- Expanded music education programs bring comprehensive support to every San Francisco public school with a music program, grades 1-12
- Formation of a new Community Music Program to foster amateur music-making
- Unique partnership with University of California at Irvine Center for Computer Games and Virtual Worlds to develop new interactive children's website for [sfskids.org](http://sfskids.org)

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA**, December 6, 2010 – The San Francisco Symphony will celebrate its Centennial in 2011-12 and today announced highlights for the Orchestra’s milestone year. Presenting an ambitious season of concerts, programs, and events, expanded education programs and Centennial media initiatives, the Orchestra’s 100<sup>th</sup> season celebrates the American orchestra and its vibrant role within its community as an artistic leader and civic institution. Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas and the SF Symphony will break new ground with a two-week *American Mavericks* Festival both in San Francisco and touring the country; an unprecedented presentation of the most distinguished major American orchestras in one series, in one season; unique concerts and heritage events celebrating the period of the Symphony’s founding; artist and composer residencies featuring world premiere commissions; expanded music education programs including instrument training for public schools and an amateur music program for adults; and a variety of media projects that explore the living heritage of the Orchestra and its role within its community.

"In marking the Orchestra's first hundred years, this season is the moment to define what this Orchestra will be for its next hundred," said John D. Goldman, President of the San Francisco Symphony. "We celebrate the role our Symphony plays, not just in the lives of those who enjoy our distinctive brand of music-making here at home, but in sharing this great art form with the world and in celebrating its impact on all of our communities."

The complete San Francisco Symphony Centennial Season concert schedule and detailed program information will be announced Tuesday, March 1, 2011, when subscription ticket packages for the San Francisco Symphony’s 2011-12 season go on sale to renewing subscribers and the general public. For more information, please visit [www.sfsymphony.org/100](http://www.sfsymphony.org/100).

## ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

### AMERICAN MAVERICKS FESTIVAL 2012

For its centennial season, Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony will present a two-week *American Mavericks* Festival in March 2012, building upon the iconic presentation of music that drew the world’s attention to Davies Symphony Hall 10 years ago. The 2012 festival celebrates the creative pioneering spirit and the composers who created a new American musical voice for the twentieth century and beyond. These concerts will examine the music of iconoclastic, pioneering composers championed by MTT and the SFS in their 16-year partnership, such as John Cage, Morton Feldman, Carl Ruggles, Edgard Varèse, and Charles Ives, and expand the maverick roster through two world premiere commissions by Bay Area composers John Adams and Mason Bates. Concerts will feature performances by longtime SFS collaborators Jessye Norman, Emanuel Ax, Meredith Monk, and Jeremy Denk, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet, among others. MTT and the SFS will also bring the music of the Mavericks to American audiences through a two-week U.S. tour featuring concerts, chamber program and educational events.

"San Francisco has always been known for its independent spirit," said Michael Tilson Thomas. "Consistent with the city’s character, the Orchestra has been daring in exploring a variety of musical territories. In our Centennial Season, we celebrate this spirit by building on the American Mavericks Festival of 2000 with a provocative mixture of music by iconic pioneers, as well as works new to our audience. We will also premiere commissioned pieces from Bay Area mavericks John Adams and Mason Bates."

## AMERICAN MAVERICKS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Programs for the March 8-17 American Mavericks festival feature two world premiere commissions, works new to SFS audiences featuring renowned soloists, and works by composers that MTT and the SFS have championed in their 16-year partnership and past Mavericks concerts.

MTT will lead the Orchestra in John Adams' new co-commission for American Mavericks and the Orchestra's Centennial, *Absolute Jest*, featuring the St. Lawrence String Quartet. The new work is based on fragments of Beethoven scherzos, particularly from the late string quartets. Bay Area resident Adams and the San Francisco Symphony have enjoyed a strong artistic relationship that dates back more than 30 years, as the Orchestra's new music advisor in 1978 and then its first composer-in-residence in 1982, a relationship that created a model for composer residencies at Orchestras around the country. In these three decades, through the end of 2010, the SFS has performed 22 of Adams' works in 217 concerts, including six world premiere commissions.

MTT will lead the SFS Chorus in the world premiere of *Mass Transmission*, a commission from Oakland-based Mason Bates. Scored for electronica and chorus, *Mass Transmission* will, according to Bates, "place emblems of found sounds from earth that have been captured electronically side-by-side with scraps of a shattered hypothetical mass made up of excerpts of sacred human texts." Bates credits the inspiration for his new work to the "Gemini in the Solar Wind" movement of his SFS commission *The B-Sides*, which utilized recordings from NASA.

Meredith Monk and legendary soprano Jessye Norman join forces with MTT and the Orchestra for a unique performance piece involving John Cage's songbooks. Jeremy Denk joins the Orchestra for Henry Cowell's Piano Concerto and pianist Emanuel Ax joins the Orchestra for Morton Feldman's haunting work of abstract expressionism, *Piano and Orchestra*.

American Mavericks programs also revisit works by composers that MTT and the SFS have championed: Carl Ruggles, Edgard Varèse, Aaron Copland's *Orchestral Variations*, and Charles Ives' *A Concord Symphony* as orchestrated by Henry Brant. On February 8, 2011 the Orchestra's in-house label, SFS Media, will release a recording of MTT and the SFS' 2010 performance of *A Concord Symphony*.

In addition to three Orchestral programs, the *American Mavericks Festival 2012* will offer chamber music programs, a variety of symposia and panel discussions, extensive collaboration with university students in San Francisco and on tour, as well as interactive online media components that further the discussion and exploration of the music of these musical pioneers and of the uniquely American creative spirit they embody.

## AMERICAN MAVERICKS FESTIVAL TOUR

In bringing the music and spirit of *American Mavericks* to audiences beyond Davies Symphony Hall, MTT and the SFS will perform the festival repertoire on a three-city U.S. tour. Following performances in San Francisco, MTT and the SFS will perform one concert on March 21 at Orchestra Hall in Chicago, presented by the CSO's Symphony Center Presents: Visiting Orchestras series. On March 22, 23, and 24, all three orchestral programs will be performed at Hill Auditorium on the campus of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. On March 28-30, Carnegie Hall and the San Francisco Symphony co-present *American Mavericks* programs in New York. The American Mavericks tour residencies also include chamber music programs, symposia, educational events and close collaborations with university music students in tour cities. Full details and tour soloists will be announced at a later date.

## THE AMERICAN ORCHESTRA SERIES

In an unprecedented celebration of the American orchestra, the country's seven most distinguished major symphony orchestras will perform on the same stage during the same season. Performing two concerts each as part of the San Francisco Symphony's historic centennial celebration in 2011-12 are the Boston Symphony Orchestra, led by Music Director James Levine; the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Music Director Riccardo Muti; The Cleveland Orchestra, led by Music Director Franz Welser-Möst; the Los Angeles Philharmonic, led by Music Director Gustavo Dudamel; the New York Philharmonic, with Music Director Alan Gilbert, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, with Chief Conductor Charles Dutoit. Taken together with the San Francisco Symphony, led by Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas, these seven orchestras, among the largest and oldest in the country, will perform music designed to showcase the artistic strengths of the contemporary American orchestra.

The SFS has invited each of the six visiting orchestras to perform music commissioned by their organizations and music closely associated with each orchestra's contemporary artistic identity. This repertoire will encompass commissioned works from some of the most distinctive voices in contemporary music, such as Thomas Adès, Mason Bates, Elliott Carter, Enrico Chapela, Anna Clyne, Magnus Lindberg, and Kaija Saariaho, music by John Adams and Iranian composer Behzad Ranjbaran, and music by core classical composers including Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Bartók, Ravel, Prokofiev, Berlioz, and Shostakovich.

"As we considered the many ways to mark the milestone of the San Francisco Symphony's Centennial, we felt that one of the most significant things we could do was to celebrate the role that American orchestras have played, and continue to play, in our public life," said Brent Assink, Executive Director of the San Francisco Symphony. "With this unprecedented gathering of orchestras, we invite everyone to join us on this journey to celebrate what orchestral music can offer, to expand the boundaries of what it can become, and cherish the meaningful connections that it makes."

*The American Orchestra* series opens October 23 and 24, 2011, with two performances by Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. The programs include a new LA Philharmonic commission for electric cello written by Mexican composer Enrico Chapela and performed by Johannes Moser. The orchestra also performs Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*, Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5, and two short pieces by John Adams: *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* and *Tromba lontana*.

On December 6 and 7, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Music Director James Levine perform two concerts with repertoire including Elliott Carter's Flute Concerto, a BSO commission featuring principal flutist Elizabeth Rowe, who was soloist in the American premiere performance by the BSO earlier this year. The orchestra also performs the Suite No. 2 from Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*, its recording of which won the 2010 Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 25 in C major, K.503 with Richard Goode, John Harbison's Symphony No. 4, and Mahler's Symphony No. 1.

On February 14 and 15, 2012, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra makes its first appearances in San Francisco since 1987, led by Music Director Riccardo Muti. These are Muti's first conducting appearances in the Bay Area since 1990, when he led the Philadelphia Orchestra in Davies Symphony Hall. Programs include two newly commissioned works by the CSO's two Mead Composers-in-Residence: Mason Bates' *Alternative Energy* and a new work by Anna Clyne. The orchestra also performs Franck's Symphony in D minor and Schubert's Symphony No. 9.

April 15 and 16, 2012 mark The Cleveland Orchestra's first two concerts in the Bay Area since 2005. Music Director Franz Welser-Möst leads the orchestra in two Cleveland Orchestra commissions: Kaija Saariaho's *Orion*, commissioned in 2002, and a co-commissioned orchestral suite of the Overture, Waltz and Finale from Thomas Adès' *Powder Her Face*, a 1995 chamber opera. The opera centers on the Duchess of Argyll's then-scandalous and explicit divorce proceedings. The orchestra will also perform Beethoven's Violin Concerto with soloist Nicolaj Znaider; Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3, *Scottish*; Shostakovich's Symphony No. 6; and three excerpts from Smetana's *Má Vlast*.

On May 13 and 14, 2012, the New York Philharmonic and Music Director Alan Gilbert make their first San Francisco visit together, as part of a major tour of the West Coast, and marking the orchestra's first performances here since 1999. New York Philharmonic Concertmaster Glenn Dicterow performs Bartók's Violin Concerto No. 1, and Yefim Bronfman joins the orchestra in a new Magnus Lindberg piano concerto commissioned by the New York Philharmonic, where Lindberg is currently Composer-in-Residence. Also on the program are Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, Debussy's *La Mer*, Ravel's *La Valse*, and Berlioz' *Le Corsaire* and Dvořák's *Carnival* overtures.

Concluding the series on June 9 and 10, 2012, is the Philadelphia Orchestra, led by Chief Conductor Charles Dutoit. The orchestra performs Iranian composer Behzad Ranjbaran's *Saratoga*, a work it premiered in 2005; Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances, written for and dedicated to the Philadelphia Orchestra; Ravel's Piano Concerto in D Major for the Left Hand, with Louis Lortie; Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5; Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes of Weber*; Debussy's *L'Après-midi d' un faune*, and Scriabin's *The Poem of Ecstasy*. The Philadelphians last performed in San Francisco in 2007.

## PROJECT SAN FRANCISCO COMPOSER AND ARTIST RESIDENCIES

*Project San Francisco* brings today's foremost performing artists and composers to the SF Symphony to collaborate with the Orchestra in concerts, chamber music, lectures, and education and community events. In the 2011-12 centennial season, two artists with significant ties to the San Francisco Symphony, composer Mason Bates and violinist Joshua Bell, join the SFS for expanded creative collaborations. An integral part of the San Francisco Symphony's multi-year Centennial Initiatives, *Project San Francisco* celebrates the creative spirit while deepening connections between SFS guest artists, the Orchestra, and its community. Previous *Project San Francisco* guests include composers John Adams, George Benjamin and Sofia Gubaidulina, cellist Yo-Yo Ma and pianist Lang Lang. This season's *Project San Francisco* artist residency in June 2011 features pianist Yuja Wang.

Joshua Bell has been a frequent guest of the SF Symphony and is currently celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his debut with the Orchestra. In his *Project San Francisco* artist residency, Joshua Bell will join the Orchestra in a week of concerts, performing the Glazunov Violin Concerto. He also performs a Davies Symphony Hall recital and will perform with and lead the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields in an all-Beethoven program. Bell will participate in additional chamber music, educational, and community events as part of the residency.

The 2011-12 *Project San Francisco* programs will also celebrate the music of Bay Area composer Mason Bates, whom the San Francisco Symphony has commissioned to write a new work for the SFS Chorus. Scored for chorus and electronica, *Mass Transmission* will receive its world premiere as part of the *American Mavericks* Festival. Bates will perform on laptop with members of the SFS Chorus led by MTT. Bates' work will also be featured in the course of the subscription season, in chamber music concerts with members of the San Francisco Symphony, and in the American Orchestra series in February during the visit by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, where he is currently Mead Composer-in-Residence. Bates will take part in additional

chamber music, educational, and community events as part of his residency. In May 2009, Mason Bates performed the world premiere of his SFS commission *The B-Sides* with MTT and the SFS. Earlier this year the London Symphony Orchestra and Michael Tilson Thomas recorded Bates' *Mothership*, which invites soloists from around the world to 'dock' on the web with a live orchestra. A video of it can be seen on [YouTube](#) and it will have its world premiere at the next YouTube Symphony Orchestra performance to be held in Sydney, Australia, in March 2011, led by MTT.

## BARBARY COAST AND BEYOND: MUSIC FROM THE GOLD RUSH TO THE BIRTH OF THE SYMPHONY

In a special week of semi-staged concerts in May 2012, Michael Tilson Thomas and the Orchestra celebrate the musical roots and heritage of San Francisco in the time leading up to the Orchestra's founding through its formative years. With the discovery of gold in 1848, San Francisco went from boomtown to one of America's great cities almost overnight. San Francisco quickly grew into a rich tapestry of people from all over the world who brought with them a love of music and an eagerness for it to be a central part of their new community. MTT will lead the Orchestra and audiences in a journey of discovering music from this colorful era of the city's birth, through its rebirth after the 1906 earthquake, and into the early decades of the twentieth century, when the San Francisco Symphony was established as an orchestra "for the people." Full program details will be announced at a later date.

## SFS MUSIC DIRECTORS RETURN TO THE PODIUM

Two conductors who steered the San Francisco Symphony through almost two decades of critical artistic growth and expansion will return in consecutive weeks to conduct the SFS in its Centennial Season: Edo de Waart, Music Director from 1977-1985, and Conductor Laureate Herbert Blomstedt, Music Director from 1985-1995.

For two weeks beginning in late January 2012, Music Director Laureate Herbert Blomstedt leads the Orchestra. Pianist Garrick Ohlsson joins Blomstedt and the SFS for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 9. The Orchestra also performs Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Bruckner's Symphony No. 5. Throughout his tenure, Blomstedt and the SFS repeatedly appeared to critical acclaim at major European concert venues and festivals, including Edinburgh, Salzburg, Munich, and Lucerne. The recordings he made with the SFS won prestigious awards, including the Orchestra's first Grammy award, for Orff's *Carmina burana* in 1993. Also during his tenure, the Orchestra completed the \$12 million acoustic and architectural renovation of Davies Symphony Hall. Blomstedt has also served as Music Director of the Dresden Staatskapelle, the NDR Symphony Orchestra in Hamburg, and the Gewandhaus Orchestra in Leipzig, a post he held until 2005.

Beginning February 12, former Music Director Edo de Waart, currently Music Director of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, returns to lead the SFS in a week of concerts, his first with the SFS since April 1997. During his tenure as the Orchestra's ninth music director, de Waart oversaw a momentous time in the Orchestra's growth, including the building of its own home, Davies Symphony Hall, opened in 1980. The Orchestra successfully expanded into a full-time, year-long performance schedule and launched many of its education programs, including the SFS Youth Orchestra. In addition to his posts in Hong Kong and Milwaukee, Edo de Waart is currently Conductor Laureate of the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra and Artistic Partner with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Beginning in the 2012-13 season, he becomes Chief Conductor of the Royal Flemish Philharmonic.

## CONCERTMASTER BARANTSCHIK'S 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik, known to many as Sasha, celebrates his 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in that leadership role with the Orchestra during the Centennial Season. In May 2012, he performs as soloist in Schnittke's Violin Concerto No. 4. Barantschik also performs in the Symphony's chamber music concerts with SFS musicians at the Palace of the Legion of Honor. Through an arrangement with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Barantschik has the exclusive use of the 1742 Guarnerius del Gesù violin, the favorite instrument of the legendary Jascha Heifetz. He joined the San Francisco Symphony as concertmaster in September 2001.

## **TICKETS AND INFORMATION**

The complete San Francisco Symphony Centennial Season concert schedule and detailed program information will be announced Tuesday, March 1, 2011, when subscription ticket packages for the San Francisco Symphony's 2011-12 season go on sale to renewing subscribers and the general public. For more information, please visit [www.sfsymphony.org/100](http://www.sfsymphony.org/100).

## **COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS**

Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony open their 100<sup>th</sup> season with a week of civic and community celebrations marking the centennial of the Orchestra's founding. The milestone year also features a community-wide celebration of music with The Black & White Ball.

### OPENING NIGHT CENTENNIAL GALA

The Centennial Season kicks off with an Opening Gala concert on September 7, 2011, with a program featuring pianist Lang Lang and violinist Itzhak Perlman and conducted by MTT. The Centennial Gala is chaired by two of the Orchestra's most impassioned supporters, Charlotte Shultz, Chief of Protocol of the State of California and former SFS President Nancy Bechtle, with Honorary Chairs Ann and Gordon Getty. Proceeds from the Centennial Gala benefit the Orchestra's myriad education, community, and artistic programs, providing music education to more than 75,000 Bay Area children each year.

### SFS "BIRTHDAY BASH" FREE CONCERT AND FESTIVITIES IN SAN FRANCISCO'S CIVIC CENTER PLAZA

In celebration of its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, and as a gift to its city, the San Francisco Symphony invites the entire Bay Area community to celebrate its Centennial Season together with a free outdoor concert and birthday festivities at Civic Center Plaza, September 8, 2011. Michael Tilson Thomas conducts the Orchestra in a lunchtime outdoor Birthday Party featuring pianist Lang Lang and other surprises and special activities.

### ALL-SAN FRANCISCO COMMUNITY CONCERT

On September 9, 2011, MTT leads the San Francisco Symphony in a special Davies Symphony Hall concert for more than 100 San Francisco social service and neighborhood organizations, organized through the Orchestra's extensive Volunteer Council.

## **BLACK & WHITE BALL**

On June 2, 2012, San Francisco's Civic Center will be transformed into one of the country's most elegant party venues, as the Bay Area community comes together to celebrate music in multiple venues within the War Memorial Performing Arts Center. A San Francisco tradition since 1956, the Orchestra's Black & White Ball returns in the Centennial Season with a spectacular evening in support of the Orchestra's myriad music education programs.

## **CENTENNIAL EDUCATION & COMMUNITY PROGRAM EXPANSION**

As the San Francisco Symphony embarks on its second century, the Orchestra continues its visionary leadership and advocacy for the importance of music in society. Ever since its third concert, a program for young people in 1911, the SFS has established, and now retains, one of the most comprehensive music education programs of any orchestra in the world. In its 100<sup>th</sup> season, the Orchestra will further expand its comprehensive education and community music programs to include added instrument training for San Francisco public schools, a new online learning environment for children, and a community-based amateur music program.

### **COMMUNITY OF MUSIC MAKERS**

Through a new multifaceted program, the SFS will serve amateur adult musicians and promote active participation in music-making and lifelong learning, with Davies Symphony Hall as a hub of music activity. *Community of Music Makers* extends the Symphony's role beyond its historic performance and teaching model by creating opportunities for SFS concertgoers to participate in music-making under the auspices of the SFS and with the support of SFS artistic resources.

*Community of Music Makers* will include an amateur orchestra, an amateur chorus, and a chamber music program. Participants in the orchestra and chorus will rehearse and perform in Davies Symphony Hall and receive mentoring from SFS musicians and artistic staff. Participants will be able to improve their skills over a schedule of regular rehearsals, building up to a public performance for family, friends, and the community in Davies Symphony Hall. The chamber music program will support amateur chamber music performance in the community through an SFS-hosted Internet clearinghouse that will help individual players find each other, and will facilitate communication among participants and with the Symphony. This innovative program will also include live and online coaching experiences. An important springboard to the Orchestra's second century of community engagement, the *Community of Music Makers* amateur chorus will roll out during the 2010-11 season, with all of the other programs beginning in the Orchestra's Centennial season.

### **YOUTH ORCHESTRA FESTIVAL**

While celebrating the Orchestra's first 100 years, the SFS is also mindful that its community's musical future depends on nurturing the Bay Area's young musicians. Building on the past success of the Bay Area Youth Orchestras concerts in Davies Symphony Hall, a biannual Youth Orchestra Festival under the auspices of the San Francisco Symphony will launch in the Centennial Season. The Youth Orchestra Festival will showcase the young talent of Northern California, allowing young musicians and their conductors to hear and be inspired by one another. Each festival will include four to six participating orchestras, including the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra.

### **INSTRUMENT TRAINING EXPANSION**

In this milestone season, the SFS reaffirms its commitment to providing music education experiences for children in the public schools of San Francisco. Through the *Instrument Training and Support (ITS)* program,

launched in 2006, the SFS provides artistic and technical assistance to instrumental music programs in San Francisco's public middle schools and high schools. In its Centennial Season, the SFS will expand the scope of this important program and support every instrumental program in the city's middle and high schools.

The *Instrument Training and Support* program provides weekly coaching by professional teaching musicians, resources and supplies such as instrument repairs and sheet music, and tickets to attend selected SFS and Youth Orchestra concerts. The program staff works directly with school music teachers and responds to specific needs at each school.

By expanding the ITS program to include every orchestra and band in SF's public middle and high schools, the SFS further strengthens its in-school support to the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) serving students throughout their elementary and secondary years, grades 1-12. In its second century, the SFS' nationally acclaimed Adventures in Music (AIM) program - now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year of partnership with the SFUSD - will continue to provide comprehensive music education in grades 1 through 5, while the *Instrument Training and Support* program covers grades 6 through 12. The SFS will continue to provide these services at no cost to children or schools.

### NEW SFSKIDS.ORG CHILDREN'S WEBSITE

When *SFSKids.org* was launched in 2002 as one of the first music websites for children, it quickly became the pre-eminent free online music education resource for children, their parents, teachers, and schools to learn about and engage with music. The SFS will revamp this innovative and popular website into a state-of-the-art interactive virtual music world, fully utilizing current technical capabilities. A model for online musical learning, *SFSKids.org* has reached more than four million users. With an expanded and updated *SFSKids.org*, the SFS will continue to empower young learners, their families, and schools, using modes of engagement which are at the forefront of online learning and which are familiar to today's Internet-savvy users.

The SFS's collaborative partner for the project is The Center for Computer Games and Virtual Worlds at the University of California at Irvine. The team from UCI will bring a research-based approach to creating the most effective, fun, and engaging online learning environment for today's users utilizing the latest in computer game technology. UCI was among the first major research universities to establish educational and research programs in computer game culture and technology. The newly updated and expanded site will launch in the SFS's Centennial Season.

## **LIVING HERITAGE MEDIA INITIATIVES**

Chronicling the impact of the Orchestra's first hundred years, the San Francisco Symphony is developing multimedia projects designed to showcase its past, present and vision of the future, including a book, a documentary film about the Orchestra's history, and archival exhibitions. The Symphony also plans to make available rarely heard, historic recordings of the Orchestra from the last century, both as part of the historical retrospectives and on the web.

### CENTENNIAL HISTORY BOOK: MUSIC FOR A CITY, MUSIC FOR THE WORLD

The definitive history of the San Francisco Symphony, *Music for a City, Music for the World: 100 Years with the San Francisco Symphony*, will be published in the summer of 2011 by Chronicle Books. Written by Larry Rothe, longtime editor of the Symphony's program book and co-author of the acclaimed essay collection *For the Love of Music*, the book traces the growth of the orchestra, founded as an Orchestra "for the people" just

five years after the 1906 earthquake, to the internationally renowned ensemble that today reaches millions annually through concerts, recordings, radio, television, and the web. *Music for a City, Music for the World* is based on interviews with musicians, conductors, and Symphony personnel, as well as on press reports, letters, board documents, and other local and national histories. Accompanying Rothe's narrative are hundreds of photos and images, assembled by Symphony Archivist Joe Evans. The oversized (9" X 12"), 272-page hardcover book will be available through the SFS store, in bookstores, and on the web through the SFS eStore.

### CENTENNIAL DOCUMENTARY FILM

A new documentary film will present highlights of the Orchestra's 100-year history and the people behind its artistic achievements, education and community involvement, and recording projects. Commissioned by the SFS and produced by SFS Media, the hour-long film will paint a compelling portrait of the role of an Orchestra in its community and the power of music to inspire it. With rare archival footage, photographs, television broadcast excerpts, and new interviews with current and former members of the Orchestra and others, the film illustrates the impact the Orchestra has had on its community and beyond, from its origin as an Orchestra for its community to its modern presence as a significant cultural institution with a reach far beyond San Francisco and the Bay Area. The documentary is scheduled for distribution during the Centennial Season.

### LIVING HERITAGE EXHIBITIONS AND ARCHIVAL TREASURES

#### San Francisco Public Library

The Centennial exhibit *Music for a City; Music for the World: 100 Years with the San Francisco Symphony* will be held in the Jewett Galleries at the Main Branch of the San Francisco Public Library from September 8, 2011 through January 9, 2012. Organized by Joe Evans, SFS Archivist, the exhibition tells the story of the SF Symphony and its role within and impact on its city, from its formative years following the 1906 earthquake to its present day position as one of America's most respected symphony orchestras. This exhibition will present over 100 historic objects and documents, all drawn from the San Francisco Symphony archival collection, including photos, concert posters, programs, and tickets, most exhibited for the first time. The display will be accompanied and enhanced by samples from the audio archive, lending depth and musical context to the items on view. In conjunction with the exhibit, a series of events in the Library's Koret Auditorium are scheduled throughout the run, including talks, demonstrations and panel discussions. Event details and dates will be announced at a later date.

#### San Francisco International Airport

A photography exhibition titled "The San Francisco Symphony on Tour" will be on view in Terminal 3 at San Francisco International Airport from March 1 through May 31, 2012. The exhibition will include fascinating and rarely seen photos drawn from the Orchestra's extensive photo archives, highlighting the orchestra's colorful tour history from its first to present day.

#### Museum of Performance and Design

San Francisco's Museum of Performance & Design (MPD) will organize a major new exhibition on the San Francisco Symphony. With a working title of *San Francisco Symphony: A Century of Musical Mavericks*, this exhibition will explore the unique pioneering spirit that has informed the evolution of one of the country's great orchestras, which has been so closely linked with the growth of San Francisco over the past century. Working with the Symphony, MPD will create an exhibition drawing on its own collection and the SFS Archive, richly illustrated with rare photos from throughout the orchestra's history and offering a special acoustic environment

in which to sample treasures from the Symphony's long recording history. The exhibition will be on view in MPD's Main Gallery during spring 2012 (exact dates and title to be announced at a future date).

## ARCHIVAL RECORDINGS

Beyond the recorded music already familiar to SF Symphony audiences is a wealth of recordings now out of print, nearly impossible to find, or in antiquated formats, as well as extensive live recordings spanning decades from the San Francisco Symphony audio archives. For the Orchestra's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Scott Foglesong, musicologist and frequent pre-concert lecturer, has researched and compiled the most extensive San Francisco Symphony discography to date of existing and available recordings. Beginning in its Centennial Season, the Symphony plans to excerpt the very best of those recordings for the public to hear and enjoy. These recordings will accompany and illustrate its San Francisco Public Library exhibition and selected recordings will be available for the public to access through various web-based creative projects showcasing the Symphony's music over the last 100 years.

For further press information, please contact the SFS Communications Department at (415) 503-5474, email [publicrelations@sfsymphony.org](mailto:publicrelations@sfsymphony.org), or visit [www.sfsymphony.org/100](http://www.sfsymphony.org/100) and the SFS Press Room online at [www.sfsymphony.org/press](http://www.sfsymphony.org/press).

## ABOUT THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Founded in 1911, the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) celebrates its Centennial Season in 2011-12 and is widely considered to be among the country's most artistically adventurous and innovative arts institutions. Under Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas, the SFS performs and presents more than 220 concerts annually for an audience of nearly 600,000 in its home of Davies Symphony Hall, in other Bay Area venues, and through an active national and international touring program. Since its inception and founding as an orchestra "for the people," the SFS has played a leading role in the musical life of its community, offering one of the most comprehensive music education and community programs of any orchestra in the world. The San Francisco Symphony maintains a wide-ranging series of educational programs serving over 75,000 children in the Bay Area and millions of children and families around the globe, including comprehensive music education for students K-12, concerts for families and young people, its own Youth Orchestra and innovative children's website SFSKids.org. Since it became the first orchestra to have its concerts broadcast over the airwaves in 1935, the SFS reaches millions more around the world with its music through its *Keeping Score* multimedia projects, syndicated television and radio broadcasts, websites, and recordings on its own label SFS Media.

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