



SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

SFSmedia

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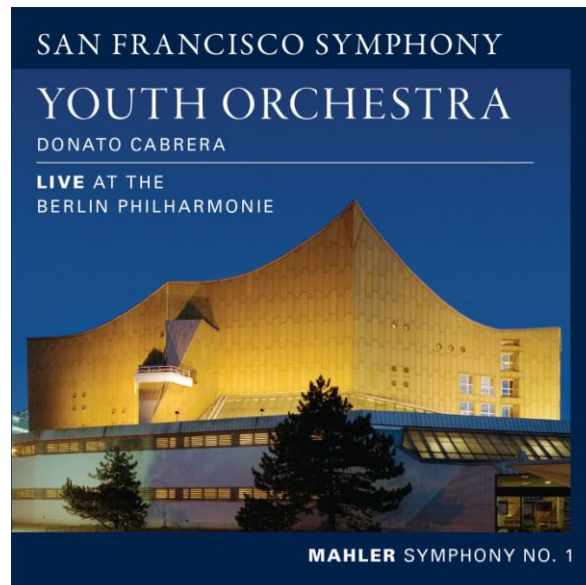
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** May 14, 2013



(A high resolution version of this cover image is downloadable from the [San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra online press kit](#))

**SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA RELEASES NEW RECORDING:  
LIVE AT THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIE, MAHLER SYMPHONY NO. 1  
MAY 14 FROM THE SYMPHONY AND ITUNES, JULY 9 WORLDWIDE**

**Recording released in conjunction with Youth Orchestra's final concert of the season  
Sunday, May 19 at 2:00pm**

**SAN FRANCISCO, May 14, 2013** - The San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra (SFSYO) will release its new recording *Live at the Berlin Philharmonie*, Mahler Symphony No. 1, on SFS Media, the San Francisco Symphony's in-house label, on May 14 from the [San Francisco Symphony Store](#) and the [iTunes music store](#) worldwide, and on July 9 on disc from other North American music retailers. The performance was captured live in concert on July 3, 2012 while the Youth Orchestra was on their most recent tour of Europe. The SFSYO *Live at*

the *Berlin Philharmonie* Mahler Symphony No. 1 recording can be purchased from iTunes and on CD from the San Francisco Symphony Store in Davies Symphony Hall and online from [sfsymphony.org/store](http://sfsymphony.org/store). Proceeds from the sale of the album benefit the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra touring program. The SFSYO performs its final concert of the 2012-13 season on [Sunday, May 19 at 2:00pm](#) at Davies Symphony Hall.

The [San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra](#) (SFSYO), led by Wattis Foundation Music Director [Donato Cabrera](#), made its ninth international tour in summer 2012 with concerts in Germany, Austria, and Luxembourg. The six-date tour included performances at Regensburg's Auditorium Maximum, Munich's Philharmonie am Gasteig, at Wiesbaden's Rheingau Festival, Luxembourg's Festival international d'Echternach, in the Berliner Philharmonie and Europa Hall in Salzburg. Tour repertoire included Bay Area composer John Adams's *Shaker Loops*, Mahler's Symphony No. 1, Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5 in B-flat major and Berlioz's *Roman Carnival* Overture. Pianist Lars Vogt also joined the SFSYO on tour performing Grieg's Piano Concerto in A minor. The SFSYO won a 2011-12 ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming of American Music on foreign tours.

The SFSYO, composed of highly gifted young people ranging from age 12 to 21, is a hallmark of the San Francisco Symphony's commitment to Bay Area youth and music education. The SFSYO tours internationally every three to four years. Touring is a vital part of musical development for musicians. Since the average tenure of a Youth Orchestra musician is three to four years, this allows most young musicians to experience the rigors of touring, ensemble building, and the once-in-a-lifetime experience of making music in some of the world's most venerable concert halls. A scholarship fund ensures that no student is left behind due to financial reasons.

The SFSYO toured Europe for the first time in 1986, and won the "City of Vienna" prize at the prestigious International Youth and Music Festival in Vienna. The orchestra made its first tour of Asia in 1989 and returned to Europe in 1992, 1995, 1998, 2001 and 2004. Their previous most recent European tour, in 2008, included performances at some of the Europe's most prestigious music venues including debuts at the Berlin Philharmonie, the Munich Philharmonie am Gasteig and Prague's Smetana Hall. Read the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra's full bio [here](#).

### **Donato Cabrera**

[Donato Cabrera](#) joined the San Francisco Symphony conducting staff in September 2009. As the Resident Conductor he works closely with SFS Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas, and as Wattis Foundation Music Director leads the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. He conducts the San Francisco Symphony throughout the year, including the annual *Día de los Muertos* Community Concert, as well as the *Concerts for Kids*, *Adventures in Music*, and *Music for Families* concerts, which annually draw more than 60,000 young people and their families from throughout the Bay Area to Davies Symphony Hall. In March 2012, he conducted the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, with Paul Jacobs on organ, in the world premiere of Mason Bates' *Mass Transmission*, subsequently conducting it with the Young People's Chorus of New York City in Carnegie Hall for the *American Mavericks* Festival. In 2002, Cabrera was a Herbert von Karajan conducting fellow at the Salzburg Festival. He has also served as Assistant Conductor at the Ravinia, Spoleto, and Aspen Music Festivals, and as Resident Conductor at the Music Academy of the West. The 2011-2012 season marked his first year as Music Director of the Green Bay Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Cabrera has been recognized as a Luminary by the Friends of Mexico Honorary Committee for his contributions to the Bay Area's Mexican community.

Support for the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra's 2012 European Tour provided by Bernard and Barbro Osher, with additional support from Bettye Ferguson, Jennifer MacCready, the Phyllis C. Wattis Youth Orchestra Fund, and many other generous donors.

All SFS Media recordings are available from the Symphony Store in Davies Symphony Hall and online at [sfsymphony.org/store](http://sfsymphony.org/store) as well as other major retailers. The recordings can also be purchased as downloads from

iTunes, Amazon and other digital outlets. SFS Media recordings are distributed by harmonia mundi in North America, Avie Records internationally, and by The Orchard to digital outlets.

**Title:** San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra, *Live at the Berlin Philharmonie*, Mahler Symphony No. 1

**Composer:** Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

**Artists:** San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra  
Donato Cabrera, Conductor

**Recorded:** Recorded live at Berlin Philharmonie, Berlin Germany July 3, 2012

**Label:** SFS Media

**Catalogue Number:** SFS0067

**Release Date:** May 14, 2013 from Apple's [iTunes Music Store](#) worldwide and on disc from the [San Francisco Symphony Store](#) at [sfsymphony.org/store](http://sfsymphony.org/store)  
July 9, 2013 on disc from North American music retailers.

**Distribution:** harmonia mundi (North America)  
The Orchard (Digital)  
Online: [sfsymphony.org/store](http://sfsymphony.org/store)

**Media copies:** If members of the press would like a copy of the recording for review, please contact Amelia Kusar at [akusar@sfsymphony.org](mailto:akusar@sfsymphony.org)

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