

BERKELEY SYMPHONY



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MUSIC DIRECTOR

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For Immediate Release

BERKELEY SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES 2011-12 *UNDER CONSTRUCTION* COMPOSERS

Berkeley, CA – November 4, 2011 – Berkeley Symphony announces the selections for its 2011-12 ***Under Construction Composers* program**, designed to provide an opportunity for the Bay Area’s emerging composers to work with a professional orchestra. Three selected composers—Nils Bultmann, Noah Luna, and Evelyn Ficarra—will each write a symphonic work to be read and performed by Berkeley Symphony at the *Under Construction* New Music Concerts on **Sundays, January 22** and **April 29, 2012**, at St. John’s Presbyterian Church in Berkeley.

Nils Bultmann (www.nilsbultmann.com) is a UC Berkeley doctoral student in music composition. His versatile background ranges from studying German literature as an undergrad at the University of Wisconsin-Madison to performing with the New World Symphony under conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and recording and touring with jazz saxophonist Roscoe Mitchell. **Noah Luna** (www.noahluna.com) received his Master’s Degree in Composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Conrad Susa. He currently works as part of the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra’s Incredible Shrinking Orchestra Project. **Evelyn Ficarra** (www.cnmat.berkeley.edu/people/evelyn_ficarra) has written music for dance theater, experimental film, installation, radio and the concert hall. She has had a strong focus on electro-acoustic and collaborative work but is increasingly drawn to large scale instrumental form. She recently earned a PhD in Composition from UC Berkeley.

Under Construction is Berkeley Symphony’s unique open rehearsal and performance series in which audiences hear works-in-progress played for the first time. Designed as a reading session and showcase for the Bay Area’s composing talents, the program provides a rare and invaluable opportunity for emerging composers to further develop their skills and gain practical experience in writing for a professional orchestra. Each selected composer will workshop and complete one large symphonic work during the year-long mentorship program, as well as receive artistic and career guidance from the Symphony’s artistic staff, musicians, and visiting composers. The two *Under Construction* concerts are formatted to build upon one another: the orchestra will “test-drive” the works-in-progress and experiment with different musical passage at the first concert to enable the complete, polished piece to be performed at the second concert.

For more information, visit: www.berkeleysymphony.org/education/uccp.

Upcoming Concerts

“Meet the Symphony” Family Concerts—Saturday, November 19, 2011 | 10 & 11:30 am

LOCATION Malcolm X Elementary School Auditorium (1731 Prince Street, Berkeley)

TICKETS \$10 Adult / \$5 Child

Available by phone at (510) 841-2800 or online at www.berkeleysymphony.org

Zellerbach Hall Concert II: In Celebration—Thursday, December 8, 2011 | 8 pm

PERFORMERS Jayce Ogren, guest conductor

Sarah Cahill, piano

PROGRAM Lei Liang, *Verge*

Harrison, Piano Concerto

Sibelius, Symphony No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 82

LOCATION UC Berkeley Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley

TICKETS \$20~\$60; available by phone at (510) 841-2800 or online at www.berkeleysymphony.org