

The New Crossroads of American Music

Press Release



Eastern Music Festival

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YOUNG ARTISTS ORCHESTRAS TO
PERFORM FAVORITES BY BEETHOVEN, MAHLER,
BOCCHERINI & BARTOK

Greensboro, NC- EMF's Young Artists Orchestras series presents two exciting concerts, scheduled on **Thursday, July 9, 2009** and **Friday, July 10, 2009**. Thursday's program will feature **Maestro Gerard Schwarz** and the Eastern Symphony Orchestra, performing standard orchestral repertoire by Ludwig van Beethoven and Gustav Mahler. On Friday, the concert will showcase the Guilford Symphony Orchestra led by **José-Luis Novo**, with a special appearance by **cellist Neal Cary**. The evening will include works by Boccherini and Béla Bartók. Both concerts will take place **at 8pm in Dana Auditorium at Guilford College** (5800 West Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410). Tickets may be purchased for \$25 for reserved seating and \$19 for general admission by calling the EMF Box Office at Triad Stage at 336.272.0160 or 866-579-TIXX, or online at www.EasternMusicFestival.org.

On Thursday evening, the Eastern Symphony Orchestra will start its performance with a rendition of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 in C minor, op.67. An epic masterpiece, it is perhaps Beethoven's most popular symphonic work. With an undoubtedly recognizable motivic theme, the composer engages in the continuous development of a musical idea filled with force and energetic character. Subsequently, the 1st movement of Mahler's Symphony No. 2 in C minor ("*Resurrection*") will culminate the program. This piece carries the significance of such programmatic music characteristic of Mahler. Depicting "the funeral of a great man..." this movement stimulates the listener's imagination with the use of orchestral colors and textures.

The Guilford Symphony Orchestra will open Friday's concert with Boccherini's Cello Concerto in B-flat major, G.482 (*Grützmacher* version), featuring exceptional **cellist and faculty member Neal Cary**. Considering the composer's background as a cellist, the piece intends to highlight the unlimited lyrical and technical possibilities of the instrument. This work exemplifies the classical-romantic style of the Italian composer while preserving traits from his other cello *concerti*. The program will come to an end with Bartók's incomparable Concerto for Orchestra. A standard piece that challenges every instrumentalist in the ensemble, it has become a favorite of musicians and audiences together.

More about Gerard Schwarz

Born to Viennese parents, EMF music director **Gerard Schwarz** has served as the Seattle Symphony Orchestra's music director since 1985. He is a recipient of the Ditson Conductor's award from Columbia University and was the first American to be named Conductor of the Year by *Musical America*. He holds numerous honorary doctorates, including ones from The Juilliard School, Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle University, University of Puget Sound, and Fairleigh Dickinson University. Recent highlights for Maestro Schwarz include two consecutive Emmy Awards in 2007 and 2008 for televised performances with Seattle Symphony; leading Seattle Symphony in its recent Southern California Tour; and conducting Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* with the 600-member community orchestra and chorus for His Holiness the Dalai Lama during the recent visit to Seattle sponsored by Seeds of Compassion.

Maestro Schwarz has received 12 GRAMMY® nominations, six ASCAP awards, and numerous *Stereo Review* and Ovation awards. In June 2007, he received an Emmy for his performance with Seattle Symphony of Shostakovich's *Eighth Symphony*. Moreover, Maestro Schwarz won critical acclaim that season for his remarkable collaboration with Dale Chihuly to present Bartók's *Bluebeard's Castle*. His extensive discography of some 250 releases showcases his collaborations with some of the world's most prestigious orchestras, including The Philadelphia Orchestra; the Tokyo, Czech and Royal Liverpool philharmonics; the London Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra National de France and Berlin Radio Symphony; the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra; and the New York Chamber and Seattle symphonies. Soon to be released are works by Mahler, Arthur Foote, Bright Sheng, and Samuel Jones, as well as Deems Taylor's *Peter Ibbetson* and the first complete recording of Kurt Weill's *Eternal Road*.

In addition to his leadership at Eastern Music Festival, Maestro Schwarz has also served as music director of New York's Mostly Mozart Festival, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, and New York Chamber Symphony, as well as artistic advisor to Tokyu Bunkamura's Orchard Hall.

More about José Luis Novo

Praised by audiences and critics alike for his fresh interpretations and dramatic presentation style, pianist **José-Luis Novo** is currently music director and conductor of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (Md.) and the Binghamton Philharmonic (N.Y.). Prior to these appointments, Mr. Novo held the positions of assistant conductor of the

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra; music director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Oxford Chamber Orchestra (Ohio), and the Miami University Symphony Orchestra; associate conductor of the National Repertory Orchestra; and assistant conductor of the National Youth Orchestra of Spain and the Yale Symphony Orchestra.

Recent engagements include the Baltimore, Syracuse, Modesto, Tulsa, Ridgefield, Tallahassee, and Stamford symphonies, the National Repertory Orchestra, the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra, and the Abilene Philharmonic.

Previous guest conducting engagements have included appearances with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, the Windsor Symphony, the Cleveland Philharmonic, and the Echternach Festival Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. He has guest conducted on tour in Luxembourg and Germany and with numerous Spanish orchestras, including performances at the National Auditorium and at the Royal Opera House in Madrid, and the Palau de la Musica in Barcelona. Mr. Novo holds music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, Yale University, and the Royal Conservatory of Music in Brussels.

Mr. Novo returns for his tenth year as resident conductor of EMF.

More about Neal Cary

Cellist **Neal Cary** joined the EMF faculty in 1984 and has served as principal cello of the Eastern Music Festival since 1988. He is principal cello with the Richmond Symphony and is on the adjunct faculty at the College of William and Mary and Virginia Commonwealth University. He was co-principal cello of the Kansas City Philharmonic and assistant principal cellist of the Tulsa Philharmonic, the San Antonio Symphony, and the Denver Symphony orchestras. His major teachers have included Robert Newkirk, Channing Robbins, and the world-renowned Leonard Rose.

Mr. Cary holds a M.M. from The Juilliard School of Music, holding a chamber music teaching assistant position to both Claus Adam and Earl Carlyss of the Juilliard String Quartet during his final year. Notable recital performances in the Richmond area include performances from memory of the 40 Popper Etudes and all the Bach Suites for Solo Cello. Mr. Cary has completed a “performance edition” of the Popper Etudes (as yet unpublished) and is working on a companion book which explains how to practice these etudes. He has also completed an unpublished edition of the Bach Suites for Solo Cello, based on the three surviving copies from Bach’s manuscript.

Tickets: Triad Stage Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579.TIXX or www.EasternMusicFestival.org.

*a service fee will apply

Discounts are available for full-time students with a valid ID, seniors aged 65 or older, and groups of 10 or more for most performances. Young Artists and EMF*kids* concerts offer family-friendly packages. Please call the box office about packages. This season

most discounts will be available at the door. Discounts and gift certificates will not be accepted for concerts designated as special events.

**Dates, programs, venues, and artists are subject to change.*

More About Eastern Music Festival

Now in its 48th year, the Eastern Music Festival & School is recognized for its prodigious contributions to the field of American music and its commitment to nurturing talented American and international youth through a collaborative learning process. The program brings together a cross-section of America's most sought-after artists with pre-professional students in a five-week schedule of 100 concerts and music-related events. **Music Director Gerard Schwarz** heads a distinguished list of participating artists scheduled for 2009, including **Peter Serkin, Sarah Chang, Horacio Gutiérrez, Nadja Salerno Sonnenberg, Xavier Phillips**, plus many others.

The Festival also produces a popular EMF*fringe* series of alternative programming, featuring everything from Americana to alt country, blues, jazz and gospel with artists such as **Mike Cross, The John Cowan Band, Laurelyn Dossett, Steep Canyon Rangers, Waybacks, The Chris Hicks Band**, blues artist **Larry McCray** and more. EMF*kids* offers camps and concerts with each uniquely designed to foster a love and knowledge for classical and non-classical music. This year's concerts are **Shana Banana** and **Dan Zanes**. EMF*jazz&blues* runs each spring and EMF Fringe on the Fall each autumn. Single tickets on sale now. FlexPasses are available throughout the season and EMF*fringe* season tickets still available through July 9th. www.EasternMusicFestival.org; Box Office 336.272.0160 or 866.579-TIXX.

The 2009 Eastern Music Festival season is sponsored in part by the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro, the North Carolina Arts Council, Lincoln Financial Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Southern Arts Federation, WFDD Triad Arts Station, Greensboro's News and Record, Continental Airways, Yes! Weekly, and Piedmont Music Center (Steinway Pianos).

For more information about EMF or its programs, please visit www.EasternMusicFestival.org, or call toll free: 1.877.833.6753

The Eastern Music Festival's mission is to promote musical enrichment, excellence, professional collaboration, innovation and diversity through a nationally-recognized teaching program, music festival, concerts and other programs which will enhance the quality of life, health and vitality of our region.

EMF is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.
All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

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