

# JACOBS' MASTERWORKS SERIES

Friday, January 9, 2009 8 pm

Saturday, January 10, 2009 8 pm

Sunday, January 11, 2009 2 pm

*All performances at Symphony Hall*

The appearances of Jeff Thayer, Carter Brey and Jessie Chang are generously underwritten by Guest Artist Partners Rafaella and John Belanich.



SAN DIEGO  
SYMPHONY  
JAHJA LING  
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jahja Ling, conductor  
Jeff Thayer, violin  
Carter Brey, cello  
Jessie Chang, piano

San Diego Master Chorale  
Gary McKercher, music director

## Program

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Concerto for Violin, Cello and Piano  
in C Major, Op. 56, "Triple"  
Allegro  
Largo  
Rondo alla Polacca  
Jeff Thayer, violin  
Carter Brey, cello  
Jessie Chang, piano

## Intermission

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 1 in C Major, Op. 21  
Adagio molto - Allegro con brio  
Andante cantabile con moto  
Menuetto: Allegro molto e vivace: Trio  
Adagio - Allegro molto e vivace

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Fantasy in C minor for Piano, Chorus & Orchestra, Op. 80, "Choral Fantasy"  
Adagio  
Finale: Allegro - Allegretto ma non troppo, quasi andante con moto  
Jessie Chang, piano  
San Diego Master Chorale

The approximate running time for this program, including intermission, is one hour and fifty-five minutes.

Join us in the concert hall for "What's The Score?", a stimulating talk by Nuvi Mehta given 45 minutes before the concert.

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**JEFF THAYER**

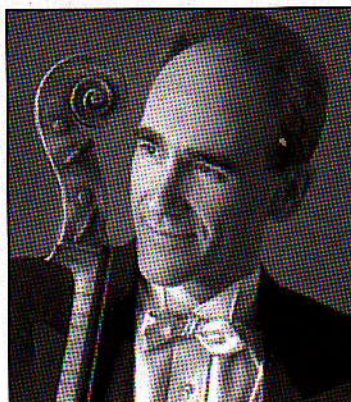
violin

Violinist Jeff Thayer is currently the concertmaster of the San Diego Symphony as well as concertmaster and guest artist of the Music Academy of the West (Santa Barbara). He also performs with the San Diego Symphony String Quartet. Previous positions include assistant concertmaster of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

A native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Mr. Thayer began violin lessons with his mother at the age of three. At fourteen, he went to study with Jose Antonio Campos at the Conservatorio Superior in Cordoba, Spain. He has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Jupiter Symphony, the North Carolina Symphony, and the Canton Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Institute of Music Symphony Orchestra, The Music Academy of the West Festival Orchestra, and the Conservatory Orchestra of Cordoba, among others. He attended Keshet Eilon (Israel); Ernen Musikdorf (Switzerland); Music Academy of the West; and as the 1992 Pennsylvania Governor Scholar, Interlochen Arts Camp. Other festivals include the Mainly Mozart Festival (San Diego), Festival der Zukunft, and the Tibor Varga Festival (Switzerland).

Through the generosity of Joan

and Irwin Jacobs and the Jacobs' Family Trust, the "Sir Bagshawe" Stradivarius dated 1708, is on loan to San Diego Symphony for use by Concertmaster Jeff Thayer. ■



**CARTER BREY**

cello

Carter Brey was appointed Principal Cellist of the New York Philharmonic in 1996, and made his subscription debut as soloist with the Orchestra in May 1997, led by then-Music Director Kurt Masur. He has performed as soloist in subsequent seasons with André Previn, Christian Thielemann, Christoph Eschenbach and former Music Directors Zubin Mehta and Lorin Maazel conducting. Carter Brey rose to international attention in 1981 as a prizewinner in the Rostropovich International Cello Competition. Subsequent appearances with Mstislav Rostropovich and the National Symphony Orchestra were unanimously praised. The winner of the Gregor Piatigorsky Memorial Prize, Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Young Concert Artists' Michaels Award, and other honors, he also was the first musician to win the Arts Council of America's Performing Arts Prize, and has performed as soloist with many of America's major symphony orchestras.

His chamber music career is equally distinguished. He has made regular appearances with the Tokyo

and Emerson string quartets as well as The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, the Spoleto Festival in the U.S. and Italy, and the Santa Fe Chamber Music and La Jolla Chamber Music festivals, among others. He presents an ongoing series of duo recitals with pianist Christopher O'Riley; together they have recorded *The Latin American Album*, a disc of compositions from *South America* and *Mexico* (Helicon Records). His recording with Garrick Ohlsson of the complete works of Chopin for cello and piano was released by Arabesque in the fall of 2002 to great acclaim.

Mr. Brey was educated at the Peabody Institute, where he studied with Laurence Lesser and Stephen Kates, and at Yale University, where he studied with Aldo Parisot, and where he was a Wardwell Fellow and a Houghton Scholar. He lives in New York City with his wife, Ilaria Dagnini Brey, and their two children, Ottavia and Lucas. Among his outside interests are marathon running, ballroom dancing, and sailing (he holds two U.S. Sailing certifications and restored a classic sloop that he sails out of City Island). ■

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## *Beethoven Festival*

### CHAMBER RECITAL CONCERT

Irwin M. Jacobs Qualcomm Hall  
Wednesday, January 14 @ 7:30pm  
Program & Artists:

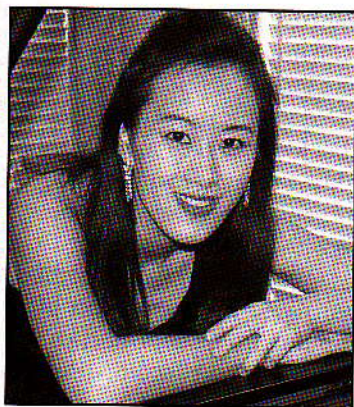
Sonata No. 5 for Piano and Violin in F Major,  
Op. 24, *Spring*  
Jeff Thayer, violin; Jahja Ling, piano

Piano Sonata No. 14 in C-sharp minor,  
No. 2, *Moonlight*  
Jahja Ling, piano

Piano Trio No. 7 in B-flat Major,  
Op. 97, *Archduke*  
Jisun Yang, violin; Yao Zhao, cello;  
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

Tickets: \$25 - \$75 619.235.0804  
www.sandiegosymphony.com

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## JESSIE CHANG

piano

Jessie Chang is admired for her beautiful tone, commanding technique, and magnetic personality. She first discovered her love for the piano when she was not even four years old and urged her parents to enroll her in the Yamaha Music School in Taipei, Taiwan. Ms. Chang attended the Manhattan School of Music where she studied with Constance Keene. At the age of nineteen, she earned her Bachelor degree and Masters of Music degree two years later and was the recipient of the "Best Female Pianist" award at both commencements.

Ms. Chang has received top honors in more than thirty distinguished piano competitions of national and international stature, including First Prizes in the Joanna Hodges International Piano Competition, the Music Teachers Association of California State Solo Competition, the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, the Southern California Junior Bach Festival, and the Chinese Talent Search. Ms. Chang was also awarded Grand Prize in the Music Teachers Association of California Young Artists Guild, and received additional top honors in the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Competition, the IBLA International Competition, and the International Young Artists Piano Competition. Ms. Chang has the distinguished honor

of being the first person to have won four gold medals at the US Open Music Competition.

Among the highlights of her career, Ms. Chang appeared at the Blossom Festival with The Cleveland Orchestra playing Mozart's double concerto with her duo-partner and husband, Jahja Ling. She has been featured at the Carnegie Hall's Isaac Stern Auditorium, Pasadena's Ambassador Auditorium and in front of 28,000 people at Bung Karno stadium in Jakarta. Ms. Chang has played with various other orchestras including the Florida Orchestra and the Malaysian Philharmonic. Her upcoming schedule includes engagements with China Philharmonic and Guangzhou Symphony.

Locally, Ms. Chang enjoys teaching piano, playing chamber music with members of the San Diego Symphony, singing as an alto with the Westminster Choir of First Presbyterian Church, and being the proud mom of two daughters: 5 year old Priscilla and 3 year old Stephanie. ■

## GARY MCKERCHER

music director, SDMC

A Midwesterner by birth and formal education, Gary McKercher first came to California in the early 1970's to earn an advanced degree in choral music at California State University-Fullerton with choral legend, Howard Swan. Later, he earned his degree of Doctor of Musical Arts at University of Southern California. While in California, he performed as a vocalist with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, the William Hall Chorale, the Carmel Bach Festival, and the John Biggs Consort. During his doctoral studies in the 1980's, he conducted the celebrated 'Music at Immanuel' concert series at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Los Angeles.

Over the past thirty years, Dr. McKercher has held the position of director of choral activities at colleges and universities in Nebraska, California, Kentucky, Iowa, and Wisconsin, and over that span of time conducted over forty choral/orchestral works. Dr. McKercher has done post-doctoral study at the American Conservatory in Fontainebleau, France and most recently with the Tallis Scholars at Oakham, England.

Before coming to San Diego, he founded and for ten years conducted the Wisconsin Chamber Choir in Madison, Wisconsin which had gained a wide reputation for beauty of tone, technical precision, and creative programming. ■

## SAN DIEGO MASTER CHORALE

The San Diego Master Chorale includes more than 125 of San Diego's finest singers performing more than 25 concerts a year. As "The Voice of San Diego," the SDMC actively participates in many community events, in addition to regular appearances with the San Diego Symphony and the San Diego Chamber Orchestra. The Chorale has also made a number of tours throughout Europe.

The San Diego Master Chorale's mission statement is: *To promote and preserve the art of choral music through performance, education, and diverse community outreach.* The SDMC's repertoire ranges from the masterworks of choral literature to contemporary songs, spirituals, folk songs, opera choruses, and choruses from all types of musical theatre. The SDMC is funded by a grant from the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, and by donations from Master Chorale singers, corporate sponsors, and dedicated friends throughout San Diego. ■