

JACOBS' MASTERWORKS SERIES

Friday, January 8, 2010 8 pm
 Saturday, January 9, 2010 8 pm
 Sunday, January 10, 2010 2 pm

All performances are at Symphony Hall.

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



Jahja Ling, conductor
Che-Yen Chen, viola
San Diego Master Chorale
 Gary McKercher, Music Director

Program

JEFFREY RATHBUN

Three Psalms of Jerusalem

Psalm 137
 Psalm 79
 Psalm 122

RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Flos Campi (Flower of the Field)

Lento: As the Lily Among Thorns
 Andante con moto: For Lo, the Winter is Past
 Lento: I Sought Him Whom My Soul Loveth
 Moderato alla marcia: Behold His Bed, Which is Solomon's
 Andante quasi lento: Return, Return O Shulamite
 Moderato tranquillo: Set Me As a Seal Upon Thine Heart

Che-Yen Chen, viola
San Diego Master Chorale

GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL/
 HENRI CASADESUS

Viola Concerto in B minor

Allegro moderato
 Andante ma non troppo
 Allegro molto

Che-Yen Chen, viola

Intermission

SERGEI PROKOFIEV

Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major, Op. 100

Andante
 Allegro marcato
 Adagio
 Allegro giocoso

The approximate running time for this program, including intermission, is two hours.

JACOBS' MASTERWORKS SERIES JANUARY 8, 9 & 10, 2010



CHE-YEN CHEN
viola

Taiwanese violist Che-Yen Chen holds the Principal Viola position of the San Diego Symphony. Described by *The Strad* magazine as a musician whose "tonal distinction and essential musicality produced an auspicious impression," Mr. Chen has performed throughout the U.S. and abroad in venues such as Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Jordon Hall, Library of Congress in D.C., Kimmel Center, Taiwan National Concert Hall, Wigmore Hall, and Snape Malting Concert Hall.

A founding member of the Formosa Quartet, the Amadeus prize winner of the 10th London International String Quartet Competition, Mr. Chen is an advocate of chamber music. A participant at the Ravinia Festival, Mr. Chen was featured in the festival's "Rising Star" series and the "Musicians from Ravinia" tour. Other festival appearances include the Kingston Chamber Music Festival, International Viola Congress, Mainz Mozart, Chamber Music International, La Jolla Summerfest, Primrose Festival, Bath International Music Festival, Aldeburgh Festival, Seattle Chamber Music Society Summer Festival, Taiwan Connection, Incontri in Terra di Siena, Emilia Romagna Festival, and numerous others.

Mr. Chen studied at The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School under the guidance of Michael

Tree, Joseph de Pasquale, and Paul Neubauer. Mr. Chen is currently teaching at San Diego State University, UC San Diego and McGill University in Montreal. ■



GARY MCKERCHER
music director,
San Diego Master Chorale

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

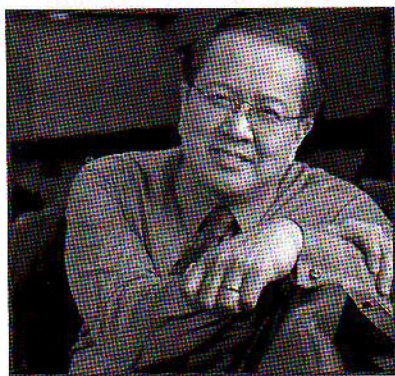
"The Voice of San Diego," by mayoral proclamation, the San Diego Master Chorale (SDMC) includes 125 of San Diego's finest singers performing more than 25 concerts a year. Now in its 49th season, the SDMC actively participates in many community events, in addition to regular appearances with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Nova. The Chorale has also made a number of concert tours throughout Europe and plans to tour after the 2010-2011 season to celebrate its Golden Anniversary.

The San Diego Master Chorale is the 2009 recipient of the ASCAP/Alice Parker Award for Innovative Choral Programming. This prestigious award was presented by legendary choral composer Alice Parker at the Annual Chorus America Convention in Philadelphia and was awarded, in part, as recognition for SDMC's debut performance of Daniel Kellogg's *Fierce Furnace* with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra. The SDMC recently commissioned a David Conte work to celebrate their 50th Anniversary in the upcoming season.

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 musical theatre. The SDMC is funded by a grant from the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the County Board of Supervisors, and by donations from Master Chorale singers, corporate sponsors, and dedicated friends throughout San Diego. ■

JAHJA LING

Conductor



Jahja Ling's distinguished career as an internationally renowned conductor has earned him an exceptional reputation for musical integrity, intensity and expressivity. Mr. Ling is in his sixth season as Music Director of the San Diego Symphony, where his contract was recently extended beyond 2012. In response to the community's overwhelming support of the orchestra's new Music Director, the Mayor of San Diego proclaimed October 2, 2004 as Jahja Ling Day in a grand gesture of welcome. Since then, his performances have received the highest praise from the public and critics alike. The San Diego Symphony performances conducted by Jahja Ling have been broadcast both locally and nationally. Last year saw the release of two new live recordings conducted by Ling (the Symphony's first in a decade), with more on the way. The Orchestra has undertaken many commissions as well as premieres of many new works and has recorded a CD of new works of Bright Sheng for Telarc Records released in August of 2009. Some live performances are available via www.instantcore.com. Under his leadership, audience attendance has consistently increased and the orchestra has reached a new level of unprecedented financial stability.

As a guest conductor, Mr. Ling has conducted all of the major symphony orchestras in North America including Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and San Francisco, among others. He made his European debut with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra in 1988 to great acclaim. His other engagements abroad have taken him to the Chamber Orchestra of Lausanne, the China Philharmonic in Beijing, the Copenhagen Philharmonic, the Guangzhou Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Malaysia Philharmonic, the MDR Symphony Orchestra in Leipzig, the Netherlands Radio Philharmonic, the NDR Radio-Philharmonie in Hannover, the NDR Symphony Orchestra in Hamburg, the Orchestre Nationale du Capitole de Toulouse, The Philharmonia Taiwan, the Rundfunk-Sinfonieorchester Berlin, the Shanghai Symphony, the Singapore Symphony, the Sydney Symphony, the Stockholm Philharmonic and Tokyo's Yomiuri Nippon Symphony. In May 1997, Mr. Ling led the Scottish Chamber Orchestra on tour to Hong Kong as part of the celebrations marking the return of Hong Kong to China. In this and

upcoming seasons Mr. Ling returns as guest conductor with the China Philharmonic, The Cleveland Orchestra, Columbus Symphony, Guangzhou Symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Philharmonia Taiwan, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Singapore Symphony, and Taiwan National Symphony and he makes his debut with the Macao Symphony and Royal Philharmonic in London. In May 2000, his debut performance with the St. Louis Symphony and cellist Yo-Yo Ma was featured on the ABC News program *20/20*. He also demonstrates a strong commitment to working with young musicians and has conducted the orchestras of the Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute and the Aspen Music Festival.

Mr. Ling is acclaimed not only for his interpretation of the standard repertoire, but also for the breadth of contemporary music included in his programs. Among the world premieres he has conducted are works by William Bolcom, Paul Chihara, Daniel Kellogg, George Perle, Bright Sheng, Alvin Singleton, Augusta Read Thomas, Mark Anthony Turnage and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, with orchestras such as The Cleveland Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony, the Florida Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic and the San Diego Symphony, among others.

Mr. Ling holds one of the longest continuous relationships with one of the world's greatest orchestras, The Cleveland Orchestra. He first served as Associate Conductor in the 1984-85 season, and then as Resident Conductor for 17 years from 1985-2002 and as Blossom Festival Director for 6 seasons (2000-2005). Since then he has continued to appear as guest conductor of the Orchestra in every season. This season he is returning to both Severance Hall and the Blossom Festival to celebrate his 25th anniversary with that esteemed ensemble. In his unprecedented 25 consecutive season appearances with the Orchestra, he has conducted over 450 concerts and 600 works in all types of concerts including tours and many world premiere performances. Among his distinguished services as Resident Conductor, Mr. Ling led the orchestra's annual concert in downtown Cleveland, heard by more than a million people since first presented in 1990. His telecast of *A Concert in Tribute and Remembrance* with the Orchestra for 9/11 received an Emmy® Award. The U.S. House of Representatives presented a Congressional Record of his outstanding achievements in the U.S. Capitol in September 2006. Prior to his Cleveland appointment, Mr. Ling served as Assistant and Associate Conductor of the San Francisco Symphony. Deeply committed to education, Mr. Ling served as founding Music Director of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra (1986-1993) and the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra (1981-84).

His tenure as Music Director of the Florida Orchestra was a notable artistic success, both in the Tampa Bay region and beyond. The significant contribution he made to the cultural life of the area was recognized by the mayors of Tampa and St. Petersburg, who presented him with keys to the city in April 2002 and further honored him through a declaration of "Jahja Ling Day" in February 1998. With the Florida Orchestra, Jahja Ling was the first conductor ever invited to appear at the Super Bowl (XXV) in 1991 with

Whitney Houston performing the National Anthem, and the audio and video of that performance earned platinum records. He was named Music Director Laureate in 2002. Additionally, Mr. Ling served as Artistic Director of the Taiwan National Symphony Orchestra from 1998-2001. Mr. Ling's recordings for Telarc include the Dupré Organ Symphony and the Rheinberger Organ Concerto with soloist Michael Murray and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and two albums of baroque works with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (the first of which, with trumpeter Rolf Smedvig, was nominated for a Grammy® Award). In 1998, Azica Records released a disc with Mr. Ling and the Florida Orchestra entitled *Symphonic Dances*, featuring Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances* from *West Side Story*, Strauss's *Rosenkavalier Suite*, and Ravel's Suite No. 2 from *Daphnis and Chloé*. Mr. Ling and the Florida Orchestra have also recorded Stephen Montague's *From the White Edge of Phrygia* for Continuum. His performance with the New York Philharmonic of the world premiere of Ellen Taaffe Zwilich's Third Symphony is featured in a recent compact disc collection of philharmonic performances entitled *American Celebrations*. Also, The Cleveland Orchestra has released a special edition compact disc featuring Mr. Ling and the orchestra performing Saint-Saëns' "Organ" Symphony for the rededication of Severance Hall's Norton Memorial Organ.

Born in Jakarta, Indonesia, of Chinese descent and now an American citizen, Mr. Ling began to play the piano at age 4 and studied at the Jakarta School of Music. At age 17, he won the Jakarta Piano Competition and, one year later, was awarded a Rockefeller grant to attend The Juilliard School, where he studied piano with Mieczyslaw Munz and conducting with John Nelson. After completing a master's degree at Juilliard, he studied orchestral conducting at the Yale School of Music under Otto-Werner Mueller and received a doctor of musical arts degree in 1985. He was also awarded an honorary doctorate by Wooster College in 1993. In the summer of 1980 Mr. Ling was granted the Leonard Bernstein Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood and, two years later, was selected by Mr. Bernstein, who became one of his most influential mentors, to be a Conducting Fellow at the Los Angeles Philharmonic Institute. In 1988 Mr. Ling was a recipient of the Seaver/National Endowment for the Arts Conductor's Award, a career development grant made to American conductors of extraordinary promise.

As a pianist, Mr. Ling won a bronze medal at the 1977 Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Israel and was awarded a certificate of honor at the following year's Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition in Moscow. He made his Cleveland Orchestra debut as a pianist in 1987 and has appeared as both soloist and conductor with a number of orchestras in the United States and internationally. Mr. Ling makes his home in San Diego with his wife, Jessie, and their young daughters Priscilla and Stephanie. He also serves as a volunteer as Vice President of the Stephen Tong Evangelistic Ministries International. ■

MARVIN HAMLISCH, PRINCIPAL POPS CONDUCTOR
MATTHEW GARBUTT, PRINCIPAL SUMMER POPS CONDUCTOR
PHILIP MANN, ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR/
AMERICAN CONDUCTING FELLOW

VIOLIN

Jeff Thayer

Concertmaster

Nick Grant

Principal Associate Concertmaster

Jisun Yang

Associate Principal I

Alexander Palamidis

Principal II

Jeff Zehngut

Associate Principal II

Randall Brinton

Yumi Cho

Hernan Constantino

Alicia Engley

Otto Feld

Pat Francis

Kathryn Hatmaker

Angela Homnick

Tricia Lee (S)

Laurence Leeland (L)

Lenora Leggatt (S)

Martha Nilsen (L)

Igor Pandurski

Susan Robboy

Shigeko Sasaki

Edmund Stein

John Stubbs

Pei-Chun Tsai

Jing Yan

Joan Zelickman

Mingzhao Zhou (S)

VIOLA

Che-Yen Chen

Principal

KAREN AND WARREN KESSLER CHAIR

Nancy Lochner

Associate Principal

Rebekah Campbell

Chi-Yuan Chen

Wanda Law

Qing Liang

Thomas Morgan

Yoko Okayasu

Di Shi (S)

Dorothy Zeavin

Gareth Zehngut (L)

CELLO

Yao Zhao

Principal

Chia-Ling Chien

Associate Principal

Jahja Ling, Music Director

Marcia Bookstein

Glen Campbell

Michael Deatherage

Karla Holland-Moritz

Richard Levine

Ronald Robboy

Mary Oda Szanto

BASS

Jeremy Kurtz

Principal

Susan Wulff

Associate Principal

W. Greg Berton

Samuel Hager

Margaret Johnston +

Allan Rickmeier

Michael Wais

FLUTE

Demarre McGill

Principal

Sarah Tuck

Elizabeth Ashmead

PICCOLO

Elizabeth Ashmead

OBOE

Sarah Skuster

Principal

Betsy Spear

Andrea Overturf

ENGLISH HORN

Andrea Overturf

CLARINET

Sheryl Renk

Principal

Theresa Tunnicliff

Frank Renk

BASS CLARINET

Frank Renk

BASSOON

Valentin Martchev

Principal

Ryan Simmons

Leyla Zamora

CONTRABASSOON

Leyla Zamora

HORN

Benjamin Jaber

Principal

Wei-Ping Chou (S)

Acting Assistant Principal/Utility

Warren Gref

Tricia Skye

Douglas Hall

TRUMPET

Calvin C. Price

Principal

John MacFerran Wilds

Mark Bedell

TROMBONE

Kyle Covington

Principal

George Johnston

Richard Gordon +

Michael Fellinger

BASS TROMBONE

Michael Fellinger

TUBA

Matthew Garbutt

Principal

HARP

Julie Ann Smith

Principal

TIMPANI

Jason Ginter, Principal

Jonathan Szanto (S)

Acting Assistant Principal

PERCUSSION

Gregory Cohen

Principal

James Plank

Jonathan Szanto (S)

PIANO/CELESTE

Mary Barranger

ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL MANAGER

Magdalena O'Neill

ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER

Douglas Hall

PRINCIPAL LIBRARIAN

Nancy Fisch

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Courtney Cohen

(L) On Leave

(S) Long Term Substitute Musician

+ Staff Opera Musician

All musicians are members of the American Federation of Musicians Local 325

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