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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**MICHAEL MORGAN ANNOUNCES
OAKLAND EAST BAY SYMPHONY 2011-2012 SEASON**

**WORLD PREMIERE BY TAYLOR EIGSTI, VIBRANT AMERICAN WORKS,
CARMINA BURANA, VODOO JAZZ, BERNSTEIN'S "AGE OF ANXIETY",
BEETHOVEN, BRAHMS, DVOŘÁK AND MORE**

**GUEST ARTISTS DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN, TAYLOR EIGSTI, PAULA
WEST, DAVID REQUIRO, ANDREW SORDS, SARA DAVIS BUECHNER AND
WILLIAM HARVEY**

Oakland, CA, May 2, 2011 – Oakland East Bay Symphony (OEBS) Music Director Michael Morgan has announced a season of premieres and debuts, exciting young soloists, American musical gems and his signature blend of vibrant collaborations and genre-expanding programming for 2011-2012. The November 4 – May 18 season features six concerts plus the annual holiday "Let Us Break Bread Together" at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland. Highlights of the season include the world premiere of composer/pianist Taylor Eigsti's latest work for jazz piano and orchestra, commissioned by OEBS; composer/violinist Daniel Bernard Roumain performing his *Voodoo Violin Concerto*, Carl Orff's monumental *Carmina Burana* with the Oakland Symphony Chorus and guest soloists, Leonard Bernstein's *Symphony No. 2, "The Age of Anxiety"*, with pianist Sara Davis Buechner, Mieczyslaw Weinberg's rarely performed *Trumpet Concerto* with soloist William Harvey and a new, commissioned premiere by a Filipino Jazz composer TBA. Also on the season are Beethoven's *Eroica* Symphony, Geroge Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, Ned Rorem's *Letters from Paris* with the Oakland Symphony Chorus, Brahms' *Violin Concerto* with guest soloist Andrew Sords, Dvořák's *Cello Concerto* with guest soloist David Requiro and works by Duke Ellington, Alberto Ginastera and Erwin Schulhoff.

Says Maestro Morgan: "This season has a lot of star power and youthful energy throughout. From Sara Davis Buechner through the trio of jazz greats in the season finale we're having another colorful year and this year we're embracing the Filipino community as we have the Persian, Armenian and others before. Binding our

community through the art of music remains a central focus for us. We can do this because we have such a vibrant and adventurous audience to go with our excellent orchestra."

All subscription concerts will be performed at the Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway in Oakland and are preceded by an on-stage lecture by well-known Bay Area musician and speaker John Kendall Bailey. <http://www.oeps.org/>

OAKLAND EAST BAY SYMPHONY 2011-2012 SEASON

Program 1

Friday, November 4, 8pm
Michael Morgan, conductor

OPENING NIGHT: *NEW WORLD A-COMIN'*

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington
***New World A-Comin'* (1945)**

George Gershwin
***An American in Paris* (1928)**

Leonard Bernstein
Symphony No. 2, "The Age of Anxiety" (1949, rev. 1965)
Sara Davis Buechner, piano

Alberto Ginastera
Estancia, Op. 8 (Ballet Suite; 1941)

For the season opening, Music Director Michael Morgan serves up a heaping helping of vibrant and varied American music. Duke Ellington's hopeful, forward-looking *New World A-Comin'* sets the tone with its vision of a post-World War II country in which oppression and racism no longer exist. The bubbly exuberance of Gershwin's beloved *American in Paris* captures the delight and wonder of an American visitor taking in the sights and sounds of Paris for the first time. Bernstein's unusual piano symphony, "The Age of Anxiety," will feature extraordinary pianist Sara Davis Buechner, whose powerful OEBS debut was a highlight in 2009. Alberto Ginastera's wildly popular *Estancia* closes the program with a nod to South America and its colorful tradition of Argentinean cowboy music.

Program 2

Friday, January 27, 8pm
Michael Morgan, conductor

CARMINA BURANA

Carl Orff***Carmina Burana* (1936)****Carrie Hennessey, soprano; Zachary Gordin, baritone; Brian Thorsett, tenor; Oakland Symphony Chorus (Lynne Morrow, Music Director); and members of Oakland Youth Orchestra (Bryan Nies, Principal Conductor)****Concerto tba, with winner of Young Artist Competition (held June 2011)**

Few works have achieved the iconic status of Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*. It is one of the most recognizable and frequently performed choral works in the Western classical tradition, as well as having been used at climactic moments in countless movies, television programs and commercials. Based on a collection of medieval, secular Latin poetry discovered in 1803 at a Bavarian monastery, the text for *Carmina Burana* is often colorful, bawdy and humorous. The poems deal with love and sex, drinking and gambling, time and the changing seasons, with the overall theme that in life and love, man is but a pawn of fate. The guest soloists are three rising stars in the opera world. Oakland East Bay Symphony is also joined by the Oakland Symphony Chorus and Oakland Youth Orchestra to celebrate the recent merger of these three organizations to form the newly created East Bay Performing Arts.

Program 3**Friday, February 24, 8pm****Michael Morgan, conductor*****HEROES AND GIANTS*****Erwin Schulhoff****Suite for Chamber Orchestra (1920)****Mieczyslaw Weinberg****Trumpet Concerto (1967)****William Harvey, trumpet****Ludwig van Beethoven****Symphony No. 3, "Eroica" (1804)**

February's concert features works by two of the brightest figures in a generation of European musicians whose careers were prematurely terminated by the rise of the Nazi regime. Czech composer and pianist Erwin Schulhoff, who died in the Wülzburg concentration camp, and was one of the first classical composers in Europe to be inspired by jazz, is represented by his Suite for Chamber Orchestra. Mieczyslaw Weinberg had a remarkable life, having lost most of his family in the Holocaust yet surviving the torments of two brutal dictatorships himself. He fled the German occupation of Poland in 1939, only to fall victim to Stalin's post-war campaign against the Jews. He was released after years of imprisonment, and later created

what is considered one of the finest trumpet concertos ever written. OEBS Principal Trumpet William Harvey is the featured soloist in this inspiring work. Beethoven's colossal Third Symphony completes the evening.

Program 4

Friday, March 16, 8pm
Michael Morgan, conductor

STOPS ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

Franz Schubert
Overture in C Major in the Italian Style (1817)

Ned Rorem
***Letters from Paris* (1966)**
with Oakland Symphony Chorus (Lynne Morrow, Music Director)

Johannes Brahms
Violin Concerto (1878)
Andrew Sords, violin

Ned Rorem is an American art song legend. Words and music are inextricably linked in the works of this prolific Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, who lived in Paris for nearly a decade. His *Letters from Paris* embodies a whimsical French spirit. Andrew Sords is establishing himself as one of the preeminent new faces of classical violin, and makes his debut with OEBS playing Brahms' richly harmonic Concerto. Schubert's delightful Overture in C Major, the more popular of the two overtures he wrote in the Italian style, opens the program.

Program 5

Friday, April 20, 8pm
Michael Morgan, conductor

NOTES FROM THE PHILIPPINES

Antonín Dvořák
Cello Concerto (1895)
David Requiro, cello

Works by Filipino composers tba

Oakland native David Requiro has emerged as one of today's most promising young cellists. Requiro was first-prize winner of numerous prestigious awards (including the Naumburg, Washington and Irving M. Klein International Competitions), and makes his OEBS debut on this concert. Also on the program will be a new work by a

Filipino jazz composer, commissioned by OEBS.

Program 6

Friday, May 18, 8pm
Michael Morgan, conductor

SEASON FINALE: DO THAT VODOO

Daniel Bernard Roumain
Voodoo Violin Concerto (2002)
Daniel Bernard Roumain, violin

Taylor Eigsti
New work for Jazz Piano & Orchestra (World Premiere)
Taylor Eigsti, piano

Works with jazz vocalist Paula West

Daniel Bernard Roumain blends his Haitian roots with classical and techno textures and a vibrant musical imagination in his *Voodoo Violin Concerto*. This innovative composer, performer and band leader has played everywhere from Carnegie Hall to *American Idol*, where he recently performed with Lady Gaga. Bay Area native and musical prodigy Taylor Eigsti returns home to present the world premiere of his new work for jazz piano and orchestra. Internationally recognized for his unique touch and rhythmic control, Eigsti already has several best-selling CDs and two Grammy nominations under his belt at the age of 26. Jazz vocalist Paula West, known for her heartfelt renditions of well-known standards and unique interpretations of dynamic jazz songs, will delight us with a set backed by the orchestra.

Holiday Concert

Let Us Break Bread Together: A Holiday Celebration
Michael Morgan, conductor

Sunday, December 11, 4pm

Let Us Break Bread Together: A Holiday Celebration
Michael Morgan, conductor

**Featuring Oakland East Bay Symphony, Oakland Symphony Chorus,
Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, Klezmer Band Kugelplex and a special
guest appearance by Joan Baez**

Let Us Break Bread Together has been an OEBS tradition for 19 years for which Michael Morgan, the orchestra and favorite local choirs present inspiring performances of gospel music, classical selections, holiday favorites and sing-alongs.

Oakland East Bay Symphony's 2011-2012 season is supported, in part, by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the California Arts Council, the Oakland City Council, and the City of Oakland's Cultural Funding Program. Concert sponsors for the season include Bell Investment Advisors, KPMG, Mueller Nicholls and Wells Fargo. Media sponsors for the season include *Oakland Magazine*, *Oakland Tribune* and *East Bay Express*.

Subscriptions and Tickets

Season subscription tickets are priced from \$42 to \$360. To order OEBS series tickets, call Oakland East Bay Symphony at 510-444-0801 or visit www.oeps.org. Single tickets for individual subscription concerts are priced from \$20 to \$70 and go on sale October 1, 2011. For complete information about Oakland East Bay Symphony, please visit www.oeps.org.

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