

New Century Chamber Orchestra

NADJA SALERNO-SONNENBERG, MUSIC DIRECTOR

NADJA SALERNO-SONNENBERG AND THE NEW CENTURY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCE FEBRUARY 2011 TOUR

San Francisco, CA – August 1, 2010 – Music Director Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and the New Century Chamber Orchestra announce plans to embark on a seven-city tour of the Midwest and California in January/February 2011.

The tour will start at home in San Francisco's Herbst Theatre, on January 29, and continues on to Cleveland, OH, Granville, OH, Ann Arbor, MI, Evanston, IL, Santa Monica, CA, and San Diego, CA, ending in Davis, CA on February 12, 2011. The tour is underwritten, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.

New Century Chamber Orchestra United States Tour JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 12, 2011

Wolf (arr. Drew): *Italian Serenade*

Bartók: *Romanian Folk Dances*

Piazzolla (arr. Desyatnikov): *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*

Tchaikovsky: *Serenade for Strings in C Major, Op. 48*

January 27, Open Rehearsal, Herbst Theatre, **San Francisco, CA**

January 29, Herbst Theatre, **San Francisco, CA**

January 30, Oakmont Village, **Santa Rosa, CA**

February 2, Cleveland Museum of Art, Gartner Auditorium, **Cleveland, OH**

February 3, Denison University, Swasey Chapel, **Granville, OH**

February 4, University Musical Society, Rackham Auditorium, **Ann Arbor, MI**

February 7, Northwestern University, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, **Evanston, IL**

February 9, Santa Monica College, The Broad Stage, **Santa Monica, CA**

February 11, UC San Diego, Conrad Prebys Concert Hall, **San Diego, CA**

February 12, UC Davis, Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, **Davis, CA**

The New Century Chamber Orchestra, one of only a handful of conductor-less ensembles in the world, was founded in 1992. Musical decisions are made collaboratively by the 19-member string ensemble, made up of local musicians and those who travel from across the U.S. and Europe to perform together. World-renowned violin soloist, chamber musician and recording artist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg joined the ensemble as Music Director and Concertmaster in January 2008, bringing “a new sense of vitality and determination, as well as an audacious swagger that is an unmistakable fingerprint of its leader,” according to Gramophone Magazine.

As part of its dedication to the future of music, New Century provides musical education to 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students in an intensive program at schools in Marin City and San Rafael's Canal District. In addition to several annual classroom visits by a string quartet, selected students are offered free violin instruction twice weekly throughout the school year.

The orchestra has released five compact discs. *Together*, released in August 2009, is the first album featuring Music Director and soloist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, and will be followed by a November 2010 release of a live recording of works by Strauss, Barber, and Mahler. *Written With The Heart's Blood*, a recording of Shostakovich works, was nominated for a Grammy Award in 1997. The orchestra has also recorded the music of 20th century Swiss composer Frank Martin, Argentine composers Alberto Williams and Alberto Ginastera, and New Century violist Kurt Rohde. For more information, please visit www.ncco.org.

Music Director Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, one of the leading violinists of our time, is best known for her exhilarating performances, passionate interpretations, musical depth and unique charisma. After serving for two highly successful seasons as Music Director of the New Century Chamber Orchestra, Nadja leads this 19-member string orchestra into their third season, which includes a January/February 2011 U.S. tour. In Fall 2010, Nadja's record label, NSS Music, releases a highly anticipated second recording of Nadja and New Century featuring Strauss's *Metamorphosen*, Barber's Adagio for Strings and Mahler's Adagietto from Symphony No. 5.

A powerful and innovative presence on the recording scene, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg started NSS Music in 2005. This record label continues to grow, with the most recent release being "Schubert's Echo" featuring the American String Quartet released in August 2010. Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg's exceptional artistry is paired with great musical intelligence which, along with her unique personality, have served her well in numerous environments—on camera, in a commercial for Signet Bank, hosting a Backstage/Live from Lincoln Center program for PBS, appearing in the PBS/BBC series *The Mind*, as well as CBS' *60 Minutes*, and even talking to Big Bird on Sesame Street. She was the subject of the 2000 Academy Award-nominated film, *Speaking In Strings*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg's professional career began in 1981 when she won the Walter W. Naumburg International Violin Competition. In 1983 she was recognized with an Avery Fisher Career Grant, and in 1999, she was honored with the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize. Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg was born in Rome and emigrated to the United States at the age of eight to study at The Curtis Institute of Music. She later studied with Dorothy DeLay at The Juilliard School. For more information, please visit <http://www.nadjasalernosonnenberg.com/> or <http://www.nssmusic.com/>.

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