

**New Century**  **Chamber Orchestra**  
NADJA SALERNO-SONNENBERG, MUSIC DIRECTOR

**NADJA SALERNO-SONNENBERG AND THE NEW CENTURY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA  
PRESENT WORLD PREMIERE BY FEATURED COMPOSER MICHAEL DAUGHERTY  
NOVEMBER 20-24**

San Francisco, CA – October 29 – Music Director Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and the New Century Chamber Orchestra continue their 2013-2014 season **November 20-24** with the world premiere of *Fallingwater* for solo violin and strings by Featured Composer Michael Daugherty. A musical tribute to the visionary American architect Frank Lloyd Wright, *Fallingwater* is inspired by four of his most admired buildings - Taliesin, Fallingwater, Unity Temple and the Guggenheim Museum – and explores the various dimensions of the string orchestra within four separate movements.

*Dreamscapes*, a work written by 2008-2009 Featured Composer Clarice Assad, is reprised, with both works featuring Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg as soloist. The program also includes Tchaikovsky's Andante Cantabile alongside Arensky's Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky and *Elegy* by Samuel Jones.



*Dreamscapes* by Clarice Assad was commissioned and premiered in May 2009 and marks the first of six new works composed as part of New Century's Featured Composer program. Jeff Kaliss of *San Francisco Classical Voice* stated that *Dreamscapes* is "an exciting and worthy addition to the repertoire... showcasing the NCCO's individual and collective skills." Both *Dreamscapes* and *Fallingwater* will be featured on New Century's upcoming May 2014 recording *A to Z: 21st Century Concertos* that will include commissioned violin concertos by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich and William Bolcom.



"Classical music has a rich tradition of mentor and student, which the New Century Chamber Orchestra will explore in these concerts" said Music Director Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg. "This is represented not only by Tchaikovsky and Arensky on the first half of the program, but also by two commissioned violin concertos by 2013-2014 Featured Composer Michael Daugherty and our first Featured Composer Clarice Assad, who studied with Michael at the University of Michigan. Performing such remarkable new works for New Century is always a thrill for us and we look forward to fostering this collaborative and enriching tradition."

Based on a Russian folksong, Tchaikovsky's Andante Cantabile was originally the second movement of his String Quartet No. 1 in D major, Op. 11 and is one of the earliest significant quartets ever written by a Russian composer. In similar fashion, Arensky's Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky was also taken from the second movement of his String Quartet No. 2 and later scored for string orchestra to great acclaim. Tchaikovsky was a lifelong mentor and friend to Arensky and became a major influence on the young composer's music.

Conductor-composer Samuel Jones, founder and longtime director of the renowned music school at Rice University, wrote *Elegy* in the wake of the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963. Discussing this work, Jones said that "it is a brief musical statement of the feelings of grief and shock which swept the country and, indeed, the world, after the President's death. During the years since the Kennedy tragedy, the piece has been performed on five continents as conductors have turned to this work on numerous occasions both for concert performances as well as to mark the passing of notables. The music is simply and deeply expressive of the anguish one feels at the loss of a loved one." These performances mark the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's assassination.

“Legacies and Concertos” will be given on four evenings in different locations around the Bay Area: **Wednesday November 20** at 8 p.m., Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, Mountain View, **Friday, November 22** at 8 p.m., First Congregational Church, Berkeley, **Saturday, November 23** at 8 p.m., Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco and **Sunday, November 24** at 5 p.m., Osher Marin JCC, San Rafael. New Century offers an Open Rehearsal **Tuesday, November 19** at 10 a.m., Kanbar Performing Arts Center, San Francisco for a price of only \$8. The Open Rehearsal will offer a sneak preview of the concert repertoire while allowing audiences to experience the musical democracy of a rehearsal without a conductor.

Michael Daugherty is the Featured Composer for the 2013-2014 season, a program established by Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg in her first season as music director to commission new works for the chamber ensemble. Daugherty is the orchestra’s sixth Featured Composer, following Clarice Assad, William Bolcom, Mark O’Connor, Ellen Taaffe Zwilich and Lera Auerbach.

Characterized by music that is rich with cultural allusions bearing the stamp of classic modernism, Michael Daugherty is one of the most frequently performed living American composers. Daugherty first came to international attention with the 1994 performance of his *Metropolis Symphony* at Carnegie Hall with the Baltimore Symphony conducted by David Zinman and has since composed a vast number of works spanning orchestral, band and chamber music. His music has received numerous awards and fellowships including “Outstanding Classical Composer” at the Detroit Awards and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. Daugherty’s works have been released on numerous labels with his 2011 recording of *Metropolis Symphony* and *Deus ex Machina* receiving three GRAMMY awards, including Best Classical Contemporary Composition. In the same year, Naxos released a CD of orchestral music to great acclaim entitled Route 66 with Marin Alsop conducting the Bournemouth Symphony. Daugherty has taught music composition at Oberlin Conservatory of Music and currently teaches at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) where he is Professor of Composition.

#### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

#### **Legacies and Concertos November 20-24, 2013**

**Tchaikovsky:** Andante Cantabile

**Arensky:** Variations on a Theme of Tchaikovsky

**Jones:** *Elegy*

**Assad:** *Dreamscapes*

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, *violin*

**Daugherty:** *Fallingwater* for Solo Violin and Strings (World Premiere)

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, *violin*

*Commissioned by the New Century Chamber Orchestra*

Open Rehearsal: Tuesday, November 19, 10 a.m., Kanbar Performing Arts Center, San Francisco

Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 8 p.m., Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, Mountain View

Friday, November 22, 2013, 8 p.m., First Congregational Church, Berkeley

Saturday, November 23, 2013, 8 p.m., Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco

Sunday, November 24, 2013, 5 p.m., Osher Marin Jewish Community Center, Marin

Single tickets range in price from \$29 to \$59 and can be purchased through City Box

Office: [www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com) and (415) 392-4400, with the exception of concerts at Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts: [www.mvcpa.com](http://www.mvcpa.com) and (650) 903-6000. Discounted \$15 single tickets are available for patrons under 35. Open rehearsal tickets are priced at \$8.

For further information on New Century, please visit [www.ncco.org](http://www.ncco.org). Media contacts are listed at the end of the release.

**PHOTO CREDITS**

Michael Daugherty / Michael Daugherty  
Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg / Jim Block

**Press and Media Relations Contact:**

Karen Ames Communications  
Karen Ames and Brenden Guy  
[\(415\) 641-7474](tel:(415)641-7474)  
[karen@karenames.com](mailto:karen@karenames.com)  
[brenden@karenames.com](mailto:brenden@karenames.com)