



FWSO to perform Sibelius, Prokofiev, and Adam Schoenberg

April 7-9, 2016 | Bass Performance Hall | Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor

FORT WORTH, TX— March 21, 2017—From **April 7-9, 2017**, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Miguel Harth-Bedoya will explore the frigid, glacial majesty of one of the repertoire's most profound offerings: Jean Sibelius's Violin Concerto in D Minor, to be performed with French violinist Alexandra Soumm in Bass Performance Hall. The program also features *La Luna Azul* by visiting composer Adam Schoenberg and selections from Prokofiev's ballet, *Cinderella*.

Sibelius's Finnish nationalism is evident in much of his music, and the violin concerto is no exception. This work is an inimitable vehicle for expression, perfect for showcasing Soumm's exquisite technique and passion. Soumm has worked with many of the world's leading orchestras including the London and Los Angeles philharmonics, the Munich Symphony, the Hungarian National Philharmonic, the Detroit Symphony, and many others. She currently performs on the "ex-Kavakos" violin, made in 1785 by Giovanni Battista Guadagnini in Turin.

The concert will open with Adam Schoenberg's *La Luna Azul* ("The Blue Moon"). Adam Schoenberg (no relation to Arnold, though he is distantly connected to the Gershwin family) is one of the most regularly performed living composers. He is often classified as a composer of "neo-romantic" music. In the Schoenberg's own words, "[*La Luna Azul*] is about love, light, curiosity, innocence, and a glimpse into the unknown."

After intermission, Harth-Bedoya will lead the FWSO in Prokofiev's musical retelling of the famous fairy tale, *Cinderella*. Originally commissioned as a ballet, selections from *Cinderella* are often performed as stand-alone works.

Performances are **Friday, April 7, 2016, Saturday, April 8, 2017, at 7:30 PM**, and **Sunday, April 9, 2017, at 2:00 PM**. All concerts take place at Bass Performance Hall. Prices range from \$20 to \$82 with student rush available for \$10. Tickets can be purchased by calling the FWSO Ticket Office at 817-665-6000 or by visiting www.fwsymphony.org.

About the Alexandra Soumm

French violinist Alexandra Soumm is a multi-faceted artist who is equally at home in concerto and chamber repertoire. Highlights of her 2016-2017 season include debuts with the Lahti Symphony Orchestra, Mitteldeutscher Rundfunk, in addition to a tour with the Philharmonie der animato stiftung through Bratislava, Budapest, Berlin, Vienna, and Prague. In the spring, she returns to the Detroit Symphony to work with Carlos Miguel Prieto and the Bournemouth Symphony under James Gaffigan.

Soumm has performed with leading orchestras around the world such as the Royal, BBC, London, and Hungarian National philharmonics, as well as the Baltimore, Galicia, RTÉ National, Danish National, Trondheim, NHK, Tokyo Metropolitan, Tokyo and Munich symphonies. She has worked with distinguished conductors such as Herbert Blomstedt, Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, Neeme Järvi, Lionel Bringuier, Edward Gardner, Alexander Shelley, Thomas Sondergard, Eva Ollikainen, Osmo Vänska, Juanjo Mena, and Marin Alsop, and she has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at consecutive Hollywood Bowls under the batons of Leonard Slatkin and Mirga Gražinyte-Tyla. In 2015 she made two U.S. summer festival debuts in concert at the Colorado and Breckenridge festivals.

Alexandra has ongoing relationships with many leading orchestras in France: the Orchestre National de Bordeaux, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de Lyon, and Orchestre National de Montpellier. In the UK, she was a member of BBC Radio 3's New Generation Artist roster 2010-12, during which time she worked with most of the BBC ensembles. She maintained her connection with the UK through her position as a London Music Masters awardee from 2012-2015.

Born in Moscow, Alexandra started to learn the violin with her father at the age of 5 and gave her first concert two years later. She later moved to Vienna to study with renowned pedagogue Boris Kuschnir and won the Eurovision Competition in 2004. Now based in Paris, she, along with two friends, founded non-profit organization Esperanz'Arts in 2012, which was the culmination of four years' involvement in charity projects aimed at creating opportunities through the arts. In January 2013, Alexandra was named Godmother of the newly established El Sistema France. She is very involved with the Seiji Ozawa International Academy in Switzerland and has been taking part in the project for the past 10 years.

About the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

Since 1912, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra has educated, entertained and enhanced the cultural life of Cowtown. The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra performs a broad range of symphonic and pops concerts from August through May. In addition to its own concert series, the Orchestra also collaborates with the Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Southwestern Seminary Master Chorale, and the Children's Education Program of Bass Performance Hall. Concerts In The Garden, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra's summer music festival, was launched in 1990 and takes place each June - July at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. For more information about Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, visit www.fwsymphony.org.

Connect with Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

<http://facebook.com/fwsymphony>

<http://twitter.com/ftworthsymphony>

Press Contact

Jeremy Reynolds

Press and Publications Manager

Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

jreynolds@fwsymphony.org

817-665- 6500