

For Immediate Release

**FW SO FORT WORTH
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

Miguel Harth-Bedoya, *Music Director*

FWSO Grows Conducting Staff

FORT WORTH, TX—June 1, 2017—The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Miguel Harth-Bedoya are delighted to announce the addition of two new conductors to the FWSO conducting staff. Colombian conductor Alejandro Gómez Guillén, artistic director and conductor of the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra in Indiana, is to be the new Associate Conductor, and Jacob Joyce, currently cover conductor of the Handel and Haydn Society in Boston, will serve in the new role of Conducting Fellow.

As the Associate Conductor, Gómez Guillén will lead the orchestras in many of the community and regional touring concerts that take place outside of Bass Performance Hall. He succeeds current associate conductor Daniel Black, who has been with the FWSO since 2014. As Conducting Fellow, Joyce will serve as assistant to Miguel Harth-Bedoya and conduct some of the education and community concerts.

“We are delighted to welcome these two exceptional musicians to our family,” said Miguel Harth-Bedoya. “I am looking forward to working with them and continuing to develop the artistry of our orchestra in the years to come.”

Gómez Guillén and Joyce will begin at the start of the 2017-2018 season.

About Alejandro Gómez Guillén

Colombian conductor Alejandro Gómez Guillén is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra. Newly appointed Associate Conductor of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, he is also a Freeman Conducting Fellow with the Chicago Sinfonietta. Recent and upcoming engagements include the Midland-Odessa Symphony Chorale and Ballet, the Weimarer Bachkantaten Akademie, the choral project ¡Canta, Bogotá Canta!, the Eighth Santander Choral Festival, the Cabrillo Festival, as well as a fellowship with SphinxConnect and a residency in Colombia with Batuta. This summer, Gómez Guillén returns to the Oregon Bach Festival as a member of the Berwick Academy.

Gómez Guillén previously served as Associate Conductor of the Boulder Symphony and as Music Director of the Mountain View Chancel Choir and Cantabile.

Committed to working with young artists, Gómez Guillén has served as Assistant Professor of Music at Colorado Mesa University and Music Director of the Colorado Youth Philharmonia. He has led performances with the Off Broadway School of Fine Arts in Boulder, the Javeriana University Symphony Orchestra, the Spokane Youth Symphony, as well as the Colorado University Symphony and Chamber Orchestras.

An accomplished violinist, Gómez Guillén was concertmaster of the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra, the Amherst Early Music Festival, and the Junges Stuttgarter Bach Ensemble, with which he toured Germany and Italy in performances at the Rheingau Music Festival and the Berlin Philharmonie, among other venues. Recent solo appearances include the Tolima Conservatory Symphony Orchestra and the Eastern Washington University Symphony.

Gómez Guillén has studied conducting with Gary Lewis, Helmuth Rilling, and Mei-Ann Chen among others. He holds DMA and MM degrees in conducting and violin performance from the University of Colorado at Boulder, as well as a BM in violin performance from TCU. Alejandro is married to Sarah Elizabeth Cranor, a violinist and an Associate Instructor at the Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University.

About Jacob Joyce

Jacob Joyce, age 24, is a conductor and violinist from Ann Arbor, MI. He has previously held positions as Associate Conductor of the Yale Symphony Orchestra, Music Director of the Berkeley College Orchestra, Music Director of Opera Theatre of Yale College, and he currently serves as a cover conductor for the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston. An avid promoter of contemporary music, Joyce has conducted several premieres of orchestral and operatic works. He has worked extensively with the NEC Contemporary Ensemble, and has performed with Hub New Music, Cantata Profana, and the Yale-based group SicInc. As an opera conductor, Joyce has recently conducted fully staged performances of Hansel and Gretel and the newly-composed Swann's Way.

As a violinist, Joyce has performed with several orchestras nationwide, and was awarded the Broadus Erle Prize for an Outstanding Violinist at the Yale School of Music. He served as the concertmaster of the Yale Symphony Orchestra and the Michigan Youth Symphony Orchestra, and performs regularly with the Boston Philharmonic and the Atlantic Symphony. He has previously attended the Tanglewood Music Center, the Bowdoin International Music Festival, and Encore School for Strings.

Joyce graduated from Yale College with a B.A. in Music and Economics in 2014, and he received an M.M. in Violin Performance from the Yale School of Music in 2015. Jacob currently studies orchestral conducting with Hugh Wolff at the New England Conservatory. Past conducting teachers include Toshiyuki Shimada and Kenneth Kiesler. Joyce has also attended the American Academy of Conducting at Aspen, where he studied with Robert Spano, Larry Rachleff, Patrick Summers, Nicholas McGegan, and Federico Cortese, and was awarded the Robert Spano Conducting Prize. This summer Jacob will return to the Tanglewood Music Center as a

conductor. Jacob was also recently given the award of Semi-Finalist in the Solti International Conducting Competition, where he conducted the Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Frankfurt Museumsorchester.

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.

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