



News Release

REDWOOD SYMPHONY PERFORMS WEST COAST PREMIERE OF DANNY ELFMAN'S FIRST SYMPHONIC WORK

Noted Bay Area Community Orchestra Scores a Coup for Northern California Classical Music Scene

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Bayside Performing Arts
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REDWOOD CITY, California (September 3, 2005) Redwood Symphony announced today that as part of their inaugural concert of the 2005–2006 season, they will perform the West Coast premiere of film composer Danny Elfman's first symphonic work, the *Serenada Schizophrana* for large orchestra and female chorus. The concert will take place at the Bayside Performing Arts Center in San Mateo on Sunday, October 2, at 3 P.M. with a pre-concert lecture at 2 P.M.

Elfman, 52, has written the scores for over 30 films, including nearly every one by Tim Burton, who gave Elfman his start in Hollywood. Film credits include the upcoming *The Corpse Bride*, *Charley and the Chocolate Factory*, *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (for which he also sang the lead role), *Edward Scissorhands*, *Beetlejuice*, *Batman*, *Spiderman*, *Good Will Hunting*, *To Die For* and the themes for two T.V. series, *The Simpsons* and *Desperate Housewives*. Before his film career, Elfman was a member of the L.A. cult rock group, Oingo Boingo.

The *Serenada Schizophrana* is a 40-minute, six-movement work for large orchestra and amplified female chorus. Elfman has stated that it most shows the influence of his favorite composers, Bernard Hermann and Prokofiev, as well as the minimalism of Phillip Glass and jazz influences. The work received its world premiere at Carnegie Hall by the American Composers Orchestra, Steven Sloan conducting, on February 23, 2005, but has never been performed on the West Coast.

This premiere is part of Redwood Symphony's inaugural concert of the 2005–2006 season – which coincides with the orchestra's 20th anniversary celebration. Along with the Elfman premier, the program will feature works by Stravinsky, Rodrigo/Galway and Bernstein. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

About Redwood Symphony

The orchestra, founded by Music Director Dr. Eric Kujawsky in 1985, has carved a unique niche for itself in the Bay Area as an all-volunteer community orchestra dedicated to the performance of ambitious and contemporary music and the redefining of the concert experience. Redwood Symphony has performed works ranging from Mahler and Beethoven to Frank Zappa and Charles Ives, all in an informal and engaging format. The San Mateo County Times has called Redwood Symphony "*in a class by itself.*"