

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**World-Renowned Composer Curates Albany Symphony's
March Performance**

(ALBANY, NY) - On March 26th, the Albany Symphony will present a concert personally designed by world-renowned composer John Harbison; one of the foremost American composers of our time and one of the Albany Symphony's resident composers this year. The Pulitzer Prize-winning composer has crafted a one-of-a-kind program that features an exciting mix of old and new works. The concert will showcase up-and-coming composer Timothy Andres, a protégé of Harbison, world-class violinist/violist Owen Dalby, and one of Harbison's own most exciting and evocative works, his Symphony No.4. Works by Haydn and Copland, two classics by composers close to his heart, round out the program. The performance will be held at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall at 8:00pm.

John Harbison is one of America's leading composers; his music is distinguished by its exceptional invention and deeply expressive range, with diverse influences stretching from Bach Cantatas to Stravinsky and jazz. His music has been played frequently by all of America's leading orchestras including a long, productive relationship with the Albany Symphony, resulting in two CD releases of his music. This year Harbison serves as the orchestra's first Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-funded "Composer-Mentor" partner, part of the ASO's Composer to Center Stage program. He will be returning in May for the performance of another of his works on the orchestra's American Music Festival.

Timothy Andres, will contribute a new concertino: *Look Around You*, created specifically for Owen Dalby, who will be playing both violin and viola on the work. Dalby, who has performed widely throughout North America and Europe as a solo, orchestral, and chamber musician, is a co-founder of The Hindemith Ensemble and a member of the Momenta Quartet, and appears regularly with the Clarion Music Society, the Grand Tour Orchestra, and the Orchestra of St Luke's.

Also on the program, is Copland's sizzling, jazzy early work, "*Music for the Theater*," and a glorious symphony Haydn wrote for his Paris audience, *Symphony No. 82, "The Bear."* Pre-performance talks with Harbison, Dalby, Andres and conductor David Alan Miller will take place on Thursday, March 25th, 12:00pm at the Albany Public Library (161 Washington Ave., Albany, NY), and Friday, March 26th, at 7:00pm at the Arts Center of the Capital Region (265 River Street, Troy, NY). The concert is sponsored by Citizen's Bank, the Troy Redevelopment Fund, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

More information about the performances or its featured artists can be found at the Albany Symphony's website at www.AlbanySymphony.com, or by calling (518) 465-4755.

**Albany Symphony Orchestra presents:
"A Composer Creates: An Evening with John Harbison and Friends"**

When: Friday, March 26th, 2010: 8:00pm

Where: Troy Savings Bank Music Hall, Troy, NY

Tickets: at the Troy Savings Bank Music Hall Box Office, by calling (518) 273-0038 or by visiting albansymphony.com ; \$25-\$49, \$15 Students

About the ASO

The Albany Symphony Orchestra is one of this region's oldest and most revered music and cultural organizations, having won numerous national awards for its adventurous programming of contemporary music and innovative educational efforts involving area schools for nearly 80 years. As the only professional symphony orchestra based within the Capital Region, the Albany Symphony aims to enrich a broad and diverse regional community, engaging over 150,000 people each year across an extended geographical area.

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