



NEWS FOR RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Superstar Violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg Plays Tango Masterpiece

World-renowned violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg joins forces with the Long Island Philharmonic in the brilliant masterwork, the *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, by famed Argentine tango composer Astor Piazzolla. Led by Music Director David Stewart Wiley, the concerts will take place on Saturday, May 15, 2010 at 8:00 p.m. at Staller Center for the Arts; and on Sunday, May 16, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at Tilles Center for the Performing Arts.

The program, entitled *The Passionate Strings of Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg*, features Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg performing the virtuosic and popular *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, a set of four tango compositions, originally conceived and treated as different works, then combined into one suite. The *Washington Post* said that Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg is “a breathtakingly daring and original artist.” “Brilliant...a performer of splendid technical accomplishment and an artist of deep feeling informed by a subtle intelligence...a performer in full command of her gift,” raved the *Vancouver Sun*. Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg last performed with the Philharmonic in 1992.

In addition to the Piazzolla work, the Philharmonic performs the exciting “Bacchanale” from Saint-Saëns’ opera *Samson et Delilah*; the moving symphonic poem “The Moldau” from Smetana’s *Má Vlast*; Gabriel Fauré’s gorgeous *Pavane*; and finishing the program will be the great *Romeo and Juliet* Fantasy-Overture by Tchaikovsky.

Long Island Philharmonic programs are made possible, in part, through public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency; support from the New York State Office of Park, Recreation and Historic Preservation; Nassau County Office of Cultural Development; Suffolk County under the auspices of the office of Cultural Affairs, Steve Levy, County Executive; and the Huntington Arts Council. The Philharmonic offers special thanks to its corporate sponsors: Arbor National Commercial Mortgage LLC, Audiovox, BAE Systems, Bank of America, David Lerner Associates, Frank & Camille’s, Henry Schein, Inc., J.H. Cohn LLP, mindSHIFT, LI Pulse, NEFCU, Newsday, Oheka Castle, OSI Pharmaceuticals, Roslyn Savings Foundation, UBS Financial Services and the WE’RE Group.

Saturday, May 15, 2010 • 8:00 p.m. at Staller Center for the Arts, SUNY Stony Brook
Sunday, May 16, 2010 • 7:30 p.m. at Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, Greenvale

THE PASSIONATE STRINGS OF NADJA SALERNO-SONNENBERG

Long Island Philharmonic

David Stewart Wiley, Music Director & Conductor

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, violin

Saint-Saëns	“Bacchanale” from <i>Samson et Delilah</i>
Piazzolla	<i>The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires</i>
Smetana	“The Moldau” from <i>Má Vlast</i>
G. Fauré	<i>Pavane</i> , Op. 50
Tchaikovsky	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> Fantasy-Overture

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Ticket Information

Prices: \$85, \$68, \$50, \$38

Tickets may be purchased by phone or in person at the Philharmonic Box Office 631.293.2222, 1 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 2C21, Melville, NY 11747 or online at www.liphilharmonic.org.

A \$2 per ticket handling charge will be applied to all individual tickets ordered through the Box Office or website.

For complete information about the Philharmonic's season, call 631.293.2223, or visit online at www.liphilharmonic.org.

About the Long Island Philharmonic

The **Long Island Philharmonic**, currently in its 31st season, is the largest performing arts organization and the only professional orchestra in the region. Founded in 1979 by folk singer Harry Chapin and a group of local business leaders, the Orchestra was conceived as an artistic institution that would serve as the cornerstone of Long Island's cultural life. Today, the Philharmonic continues to provide cultural and educational programming of the highest level to the residents of Long Island. Considered one of the nation's most honored and respected regional orchestras, the Long Island Philharmonic was designated a "Primary Arts Organization" by the State of New York. The Philharmonic is the resident orchestra of Tilles Center for the Performing Arts and an inaugural inductee of the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

The Long Island Philharmonic is noted for excellent artistic leadership beginning with founding Music Director Christopher Keene (1979-1990), followed by Marin Alsop (1990-1996), David Lockington (1996-2000), and current Music Director David Stewart Wiley who has led the Orchestra since 2001.

More than 30,000 lives are enriched each year by the Philharmonic's extensive Arts-In-Education and Community Engagement Programs, presented in schools, concert halls, libraries, hospitals, museums and community centers. Among these are Youth Concerts, the Annual Young Artist Competition, the Master Class Series, numerous In-School Programs, Orchestra at Work and Kids at Concerts.

About the Music Director

David Stewart Wiley has proven to be a strong, innovative, and inspiring young American music director, leading orchestras to artistic success, especially in challenging times. Wiley serves concurrently as Music Director & Conductor of our Long Island Philharmonic and Virginia's Roanoke Symphony Orchestra. Prior to these positions, he served as Assistant Conductor of the Minnesota Orchestra and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Active as a guest conductor, pianist, lecturer, and composer, Wiley conducts professional orchestras throughout the U.S. and abroad. He has guest conducted in nearly all U.S. states, including the symphonies of San Francisco, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Minnesota, Saint Louis, Atlanta, Oregon, Honolulu, Utah, and Buffalo. Wiley's growing career has taken him to dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa – most recently to Italy, Germany, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. From 1999 until the summer of 2006, Wiley was the Artistic Director & Conductor of the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival in Virginia.

David Stewart Wiley became the fourth Music Director of our Long Island Philharmonic in 2001. Wiley is credited with bringing significant artistic growth, energy, and excitement to the Long Island Philharmonic and Chorus, with double-digit ticket sales increases each year over the past few seasons.

David Stewart Wiley won the prestigious Aspen Conducting Prize, which led to his engagement as Assistant Conductor for the 1994 Aspen Music Festival. In 1995, after being invited to conduct the

Boston Symphony Orchestra at Symphony Hall, he was awarded a Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood, where he conducted several performances. Wiley holds a Doctor of Music in Conducting from Indiana University, where he had also received his Master of Music degree, a degree in Piano Performance with honors from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a degree in Religion, summa cum laude, from Tufts University, where he co-founded the Tufts Amalgamates. Wiley was honored this season by the Roanoke branch of the NAACP as “2009 Citizen of the Year” in the arts category – a testament to Wiley's deep and lasting involvement with the African-American community.

As a solo pianist, Wiley has performed with numerous major orchestras throughout the United States including Minnesota, Indianapolis, Oregon, Honolulu, Wheeling, and at the Aspen, Garth Newel, Wintergreen, and Prince Albert (Hawaii) summer festivals. He has also appeared as a jazz pianist in Boston's Symphony Hall and in recital appearances throughout the U.S., as well as in China, Russia, Romania, Germany, the Czech Republic, Italy, and Bulgaria.

Wiley's CDs include an album of French cello concerti with Zuill Bailey on Delos International, Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 "Choral", American Piano Concertos with Norman Krieger on Artistic 4, "David Wiley & Friends: Classical Jazz", with Wiley at the piano, "American Trumpet Concertos" with the Slovak Radio Symphony and Paul Neebe, and a recording of American contemporary music with the IU New Music Ensemble.

David and his wife Leah have a son and a daughter. Together, they enjoy traveling, hiking and mountain biking, and family music time. Wiley's website is www.DavidStewartWiley.com.

About the Artist

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, violin

Electrifying performances, fearless interpretations and musical depth have established violinist **Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg** as one of the leading violinists of our time. After a triumphant first season as Music Director of the New Century Chamber Orchestra, Nadja leads this 19-member string orchestra in four subscription series for the 2009-10 season, including the world premier commission of Bolcom's *Romanza* violin concerto. On August 11, 2009, Nadja's record label, NSS Music, released “Together,” her first recording collaboration with New Century.

Nadja appears during the 2009-10 season as soloist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Madison Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Austin Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony Orchestra, Chattanooga Symphony, Lexington Philharmonic, Long Island Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony Orchestra and San Antonio Symphony. She is joined once again by pianist and collaborator Anne-Marie McDermott for recitals throughout the season.

A powerful and innovative presence on the recording scene, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg started NSS Music in 2005. This record label continues to grow, with the most recent release being “Together.” “Together” includes *Impressions* by Clarice Assad, which was given its world premiere by New Century in 2008; Piazzolla's *Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*, and Gershwin's “Bess You Is My Woman Now” from *Porgy and Bess* arranged for string orchestra, both with Nadja as soloist; and Bartók's *Romanian Dances* arranged for string orchestra. “Together” follows NSS Music's previous recording, “Originis Live from Brasil,” released in April 2009, a recording which honors the Italian heritage of Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg and the Brazilian heritage of her collaborators, guitarists Sérgio and Odair Assad. The NSS Music label also features Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg's “Merry” (a compilation of Christmas favorites, performed by Nadja and friends), “Nadja” (Tchaikovsky and Assad, violin concertos), “Live” (Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and Anne-Marie McDermott), as well as “Love, All That It Is” (NSS Music's first jazz album featuring The Clarice Assad Trio), Anne-Marie McDermott's “Bach” and John Cerminaro's “John Cerminaro, A Life of Music.” Additionally, she has over twenty releases on the EMI and Nonesuch labels.

Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg's exceptional artistry is paired with great musical intelligence which, along with her unique personality, have served her well in numerous environments—on camera, in a commercial for Signet Bank, hosting a Backstage/Live from Lincoln Center program for PBS, appearing in the PBS/BBC series *The Mind*, even talking to Big Bird on *Sesame Street*. She was the subject of the 2000 Academy Award-nominated film, *Speaking in Strings*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Released in theaters nationwide and subsequently premiered on HBO's Signatures channel in 1999, this intensely personal documentary on her life is available on VHS and DVD through New Video. The CD of music from the film was released in 1999 by Angel/EMI. Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg has appeared on ABC's prime time comedy *Dharma & Greg* in 2001, and she has also been interviewed and profiled on CBS' *60 Minutes*, *60 Minutes II*, and *Sunday Morning*; CNN's *Newsstand*; NBC's *National News* and *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson*; A&E's *Artist of the Week with Elliot Forrest*; Bravo's *Arts & Minds* and *The Art of Influence*; PBS' *Live from Lincoln Center*, *The Charlie Rose Show*, and *City Arts*. On the publishing front, *Nadja: On My Way*, her autobiography written for children discussing her experiences as a young musician building a career, was published by Crown Books in 1989.

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg's professional career began in 1981 when she won the Walter W. Naumburg International Violin Competition. In 1983, she was recognized with an Avery Fisher Career Grant, and in 1988, was Ovation's Debut Recording Artist of the Year. In 1999, she was honored with the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize, awarded to instrumentalists who have demonstrated "outstanding achievement and excellence in music." In May of that same year, Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg was awarded an honorary Masters of Musical Arts from the New Mexico State University, the first honorary degree the University has ever awarded. An American citizen, Ms. Salerno-Sonnenberg was born in Rome and emigrated to the United States at the age of eight to study at The Curtis Institute of Music. She later studied with Dorothy DeLay at The Juilliard School.

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