



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NMSO Classics Season Continues Jan. 22-24 with Beethoven Violin Concerto**

***Music Director Guillermo Figueroa to perform as soloist;  
N-M-S-Opera and Rachmaninoff Concert Information Also Included***

**(ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Jan. 13, 2010)** – The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra’s 2009/2010 Classics season continues Jan. 22-24, 2010 with three performances featuring Ludvig van Beethoven’s Violin Concerto and Johannes Brahms’ Symphony No. 3. Dante Anzolini will guest conduct these concerts featuring NMSO Music Director Guillermo Figueroa as violin soloist.

**Program:** Beethoven’s Violin Concerto and Brahms’ Symphony No. 3

**Who:** New Mexico Symphony Orchestra  
Dante Anzolini, guest conductor  
Guillermo Figueroa, violin

**When & Where:** Friday, Jan. 22, 8 p.m., Popejoy Hall in Albuquerque  
Saturday, Jan. 23, 6 p.m., Popejoy Hall in Albuquerque  
Sunday, Jan. 24, 2 p.m., National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque

**Tickets & Info:** Tickets from \$10-\$60 at NMSO.org, 505-881-8999 or the NMSO Box Office (4407 Menaul NE, just east of Washington, in Albuquerque)

*Student discounts of 20%*—for those up to 12th grade or any age with valid student ID

*Student Rush*—will be sold at \$8 each, limited to two tickets per student with valid ID and available beginning 90 minutes prior to concert at the venue box office.

### **About Dante Anzolini**

Dante Anzolini is currently Music Director of the Orchestra of the Teatro Argentino Opera Theater, in La Plata, Argentina, and principal guest Conductor of the Linz Theater in Linz, Austria. He has had great success in Europe and North and South America conducting orchestras that include the Beethovenhalle Orchestra, the Bruxelles Radio Orchestra, the State Orchestra of Sao Paulo, the Solisti New York and the American Composers Orchestra. His debut as a conductor was at age 18 performing his own music for orchestra. Anzolini is a strong advocate of new music and young composers and has devoted a very

substantial part of his career to music education. He studied conducting at the Yale University School of Music, where he received both a Master of Musical Arts and a Doctorate in Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting. For more information, visit [danteanzolini.com](http://danteanzolini.com).

### **About Guillermo Figueroa**

Music Director of the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra since 2000, Guillermo Figueroa is also a renowned violinist. Figueroa is a founding member of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and has served as the group's concertmaster and as soloist in performances throughout the United States, Europe and Asia. He has made over fifty recordings for Deutsche Grammophon with Orpheus. He has appeared as soloist with Orpheus at Carnegie Hall and with the American Symphony Orchestra at Avery Fisher Hall. For ten years, Figueroa was Concertmaster and guest conductor of the New York City Ballet. He has appeared at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Music in the Vineyards in California, Music from Angel Fire and the El Paso Pro Musica Chamber Festival. For more information, visit [guillermofigueroa.com](http://guillermofigueroa.com).

### **About the Music**

Brahms completed his Symphony No. 3 in F Major in the summer of 1883. The work was first performed in December of that year by the Vienna Philharmonic and was well received by audiences. The conductor of the premiere even complimented the work by calling it Brahms' *Eroica*, a reference to the great third symphony of Beethoven.

Beethoven's Violin Concerto, one of the greatest works written for the instrument, is full of lyrical passages—some well known to even casual listeners—and passages that demand technical virtuosity. However, it earned a lukewarm reception from the audience at its 1806 premiere and remained virtually unknown for thirty years. Today it is unquestionably a centerpiece of the solo repertoire for concert violinists.

### **N-M-S-Opera and Rachmaninoff Second Symphony**

Upcoming concerts include N-M-S-Opera, which will be performed on Jan. 30 at Legacy Church on Albuquerque's west side and Jan. 31 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. This concert will feature Verdi opera choruses sung by the NMSO Chorus. Then, on Feb. 5 and 6 at Legacy Church, the NMSO will perform Rachmaninoff's Second Symphony. More information about these concerts and the Legacy Church venue is available at [nmso.org](http://nmso.org).

### **About the NMSO**

The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra is the official orchestra of the State of New Mexico, serving over 130,000 people each year through its Classics, Pops and Symphony Under the Stars series, as well as many free NMSO Family Concerts. The NMSO is the largest non-governmental provider of music education in New Mexico and has also been recognized by the Mellon Foundation for its innovative community engagement efforts. The NMSO is under the baton of Music Director Guillermo Figueroa and Resident Conductor and Chorus Director Roger Melone. For more information about the NMSO, visit [nmso.org](http://nmso.org).

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