



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **NMSO to Perform Saint-Saëns' *Organ Symphony* Mar. 12-14**

### ***Concerts Also to Include Mendelssohn's Scottish Symphony***

**(ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., March 3, 2010)** – The New Mexico Symphony Orchestra's 2009/2010 Classics season continues Mar. 12-14, 2010, with three performances featuring Charles Camille Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 3 (*Organ*) and Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 3 (*Scottish*). NMSO Music Director Guillermo Figueroa will conduct these performances.

**Program:** Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 3, *Organ*  
Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 3, *Scottish*

**Who:** New Mexico Symphony Orchestra  
Guillermo Figueroa, conductor

**When & Where:** Friday, Mar. 12, 8 p.m., Popejoy Hall in Albuquerque  
Saturday, Mar. 13, 6 p.m., Popejoy Hall in Albuquerque  
Sunday, Mar. 14, 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 the Music**

Saint-Saëns' Symphony No. 3, more popularly known as the *Organ Symphony*, was commissioned by the London Philharmonic Society and premiered by that orchestra in London with the composer conducting in May of 1886. The *Organ Symphony* is considered the pinnacle of Saint-Saëns' career. The composer said of the work that he had "given everything to it I was able to give," seeming to know it would be his last attempt at writing in the symphonic form. The symphony was dedicated to his friend Franz Liszt.

Felix Mendelssohn premiered his Symphony No. 3 (*Scottish Symphony*) in Leipzig, Germany on March 3, 1842, after 12 years of composition. He dedicated the score to Queen Victoria the following June after conducting it at a Philharmonic concert in London. It is believed that Mendelssohn became inspired to

write his third symphony by a painting he saw during a trip to Scotland. The Scottish Symphony is Mendelssohn at his lyrical best.

**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, visit [nmso.org](http://nmso.org).

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