

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY MUSICIANS PERFORM FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT
AT CHINESE CULTURE CENTER SUNDAY, MARCH 30, SPONSORED BY
SAN FRANCISCO ARTS COMMISSION**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4, 2003– As part of the San Francisco Symphony's (SFS) partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission, the SFS will present a free chamber music concert at the Chinese Culture Center, 750 Kearny Street, at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 30. The chamber music concert features two musicians from the San Francisco Symphony, violinist Yun Chu and Associate Principal violist Yun Jie Liu, along with cellist Shu Yi Pai and pianist Dorian Ho. Hosted by the San Francisco Arts Commission Chinatown Community Arts Program, the performance is generously sponsored by Bank of the Orient, and features the Brahms Piano Quartet No. 1, Opus 25 and three traditional Chinese pieces.

Free community concerts continue to play an important role in the San Francisco Symphony's strong commitment to education and community involvement. Musicians of the San Francisco Symphony have performed chamber concerts at the Chinese Culture Center since 1996. The SFS's partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission presents free community concerts in San Francisco neighborhoods and free outdoor concerts in venues such as Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow.

Violinist **Yun Chu** began studying at the Shanghai Conservatory at age 10, as a teenager served as Concertmaster of the prestigious Asian Youth Orchestra under the baton of Sergei Commissiona, and was featured as soloist with Yo-Yo Ma on tour with the group. Yun Chu came to the the U.S. in 1998, and has held positions such as Assistant Concertmaster of the Santa Barbara Symphony, Concertmaster of the American Youth Symphony, and concertmaster of the Westwood Chamber orchestra. Mr. Chu joined the SFS a member of the first violin section last season, and holds the Isaac Stern Chair.

Assistant Principal Violist **Yun Jie Liu** has been a member of the SFS since 1993. Born in Shanghai, he began his violin studies with his father at the age of five. He attended the Shanghai Conservatory where he was named Assistant Professor of Viola upon graduation in 1985. He came to the

U.S. a year later and studied at the University of Southern California. Mr. Liu served as Principal Violist of the San Diego Symphony and was a member of the National Symphony Orchestra under Mstislav Rostropovich. Last May, Mr. Liu and SFS Principal Viola Geraldine Walther performed the U.S. premiere of George Benjamin's *Viola, Viola* at San Francisco Symphony subscription concerts. Since 1999, Mr. Liu has been a coach for the Asian Youth Orchestra.

Cellist **Shu Yi Pai** began her musical training at the middle school branch of the National Taiwan Normal University and graduated from the National Taiwan Academy of Arts in 1994. She went on to study in Frankfurt, Germany at the Hochschule für Darstellende Kunst, from which she received her Master's Degree in 1997. Ms. Pai has performed throughout Asia, Europe, and the U.S., has been a member of the prestigious Asian Youth Orchestra and participated in the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo. Ms. Pai has been a member of the Taipei Symphony, Principal Cellist of the Trossingen Symphony Orchestra and Principal Cellist at the Schleswig Holstein Festival in Germany.

Pianist **Dorian Ho** was born in Taiwan and made her New York debut at Carnegie Hall as winner of the Thirteenth Annual Artists International Competition. She studied at The Juilliard School of Music, the Vienna Academy of Music and New York University. She has performed as soloist with numerous orchestras in the U.S. and around the world, including the Fine Arts Orchestra of Taiwan, the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, and at the Sun Yat Sen Memorial Hall for former Taiwanese President Chien Ching-kuo. Recently, she performed with the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra in a sold out concert in Shanghai's Grand Theater. Her chamber music performances include concerts with the St. Petersburg String Quartet and frequent appearances with members of the San Francisco Symphony. Last month, Ms. Ho performed and gave a master class at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. Ms. Ho has been on the faculty of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music since 1988.

This Chinese Culture Center concert is free, but due to limited seating, RSVP is required. To reserve tickets, please call (415) 503-5484.

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This concert is generously sponsored by Bank of the Orient.
This concert is made possible through the San Francisco Arts Commission's
Chinatown Community Arts Program.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

Sunday, March 30 at 2:00 p.m.

FREE CONCERT

Chinese Culture Center
750 Kearny Street, Third Floor
San Francisco

Yun Chu, violin

Yun Jie Liu, violin

Shu Yi Pai, cello

Dorian Ho, piano

PROGRAM:

Traditional Chinese / Farewell at the Yang Gate

Traditional Chinese / Night Song from the Fishing Boat

Traditional Chinese / Happy Spring

Brahms / Piano Quartet No.1 in G minor, Opus 25

TICKETS: This concert is free, but RSVP's required. To reserve tickets, please call (415) 503-5484.

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