

**Ellef Symphony by Avner Dorman
to be given its U.S. Premiere
by Asher Fisch and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra**

On June 6 and June 7, 2008, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Asher Fisch, will present the U.S. Premiere of the acclaimed **Ellef Symphony** written by prominent Israeli composer, Avner Dorman.

Avner Dorman composed his **Ellef Symphony** when he was only 25 for the Young-Euro-Classical Festival in Berlin in 2000. Ellef means "one thousand" in Hebrew and was written in honor of the year 2000. The symphony was first performed by the **Young Israel Philharmonic** on August 13, 2000 at the Schauspielhaus in Berlin. The piece went on to win **ACUM's Golden Feather Award** in 2001, and was one of three pieces for which the composer received **Israel's prestigious Prime Minister's Award** in 2000. The piece's first three parts are inspired by **Jewish poetry** of the second millennium (1000-2000), each concerned with a different aspect of war. The fourth movement represents the third millennium and the composer's aspirations that the poetry of the third millennium will not have to deal with wars. The movements are based on works by **Shmuel ha-Nagid (993-1056)**, **Haim Nachman Bialik (1873-1934)** Israel's National Poet, and the young Israeli poet **Yuval Rappaport. (b. 1975)**.

Praised as a "fresh, young voice, worth following" (*Gramophone Magazine*), **Avner Dorman** has quickly risen to become one of Israel's most successful and renowned composers. At the age of 25, he became the youngest composer to win Israel's prestigious Prime Minister's Award for his **Ellef Symphony**, and that same year he was awarded the Golden Feather Award from ACUM (the Israeli Society of Composers and Publishers). Since coming to the United States, Dorman received several international awards from ASCAP, ACUM, and the Asian Composers League.

Dorman's unique approach to rhythm and timbre has attracted some of the world's leading conductors, including Zubin Mehta, Asher Fisch, and Simone Young to bring his music to audiences of the Israel Philharmonic, the Munich Philharmonic, Nashville Symphony, and the Hamburg Philharmonic, among others.

Zubin Mehta and the New York Philharmonic will present the U.S. premiere of Dorman's percussion concerto "Spices, Perfumes, Toxins!" in March 2009. Recently the **Jerusalem International Chamber Music Festival** premiered a new piano quintet which was co-commissioned with the **Chicago Chamber Musicians**. Avner Dorman holds a Doctorate from the Juilliard School and is published by G. Schirmer

Asher Fisch, conductor; **Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra**
Haydn: Symphony No. 90; **Avner Dorman**: Ellef Symphony; **Berlioz**: Harold in Italy

Friday, June 6th, 2008 at 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, June 7th, at 5:30 P.M.

Hilbert Circle Theatre

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