SYMPHONY magazine

THE SCORE

News, moves, and events in the orchestra industry

All Hands on Deck

Principal players from dozens of major orchestras—including the Brooklyn Philharmonic, Buffalo Philharmonic, MET Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Orchestra of St. Luke's, and Philadelphia Orchestra—were part of the combined forces for "Mahler for the Children of AIDS," a benefit concert of Mahler's massive Third Symphony at Carnegie Hall on January 12. Also on hand were mezzo-soprano Susanne Mentzer and singers from three New York City choruses, led by organizer George Mathew, a Singapore native and Manhattan School of Music graduate now based in New York. Mathew produced two previous benefit concerts at Carnegie Hall: "Beethoven's Ninth for South Asia" (for survivors of the 2005 earthquake in Kashmir) and "Requiem for Darfur" (Verdi's Requiem) in 2007. The 2009 concert raised funds and public awareness for global pediatric AIDS and the prevention-of-mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

A January 12 benefit at Carnegie Hall brought together musicians from around the world for Mahler's Third Symphony, led by organizer George Mathew.

Chris Lee

East Meets West

Clarinetist Kinan Azmeh—a native of Damascus, Syria who trained at Juilliard and is active in Arabic music and electronica—is set to perform with the Kinan Azmeh Quartet in a concert of Middle Eastern music at Saint Peter's Church in New York City on March 20. The "Music for Peace" concert, a co-presentation of Musicians For Harmony and the Iraqi Student Project, is part of "Day of Peace" activities at Saint Peter's that include poetry readings and a prayer vigil. Also in March, Azmeh and musicians from the Syrian National Orchestra will head to California for an "Arabian Nights" program with the Pacific Symphony, conducted by Music Director Carl St. Clair; repertoire includes Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*; Jabri's *Oriento Grosso* for clarinet, cello, and orchestra; Abdulkarim's Tango for bouzaq and strings; and Solhi al Wadi's *Meditation on a Theme by M. Abdul Wahhab*.