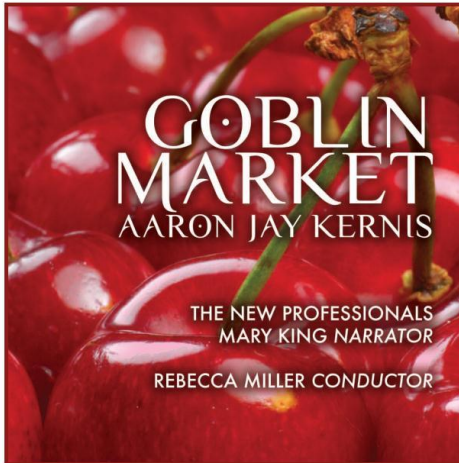


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**World premiere recording by Rebecca Miller and The New Professionals  
of renowned composer Aaron Jay Kernis' *Goblin Market* and *Invisible Mosaic II*  
to be released in January 2011 on SignumCLASSICS**



**Conductor Rebecca Miller and London-based The New Professionals release the world premiere recording of two works by Pulitzer Prize winning composer Aaron Jay Kernis on SignumCLASSICS this January 2011: *Goblin Market* (a setting of Christina Rossetti's poem), featuring Mary King as narrator, and *Invisible Mosaic II*.**

Entitled "Goblin Market – Aaron Jay Kernis," and the second recording from Miller and The New Professionals, the CD's major work, *Goblin Market*, written for orchestra and narrator, is a particularly good fit in regards to its

cross-Atlantic connections: the piece, by an American composer, was originally co-commissioned by a British ensemble (the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group), and premiered in England. It has now been recorded in England by an American conductor and her British orchestra, and will be released worldwide.

Rebecca Miller founded the New Professionals, an orchestra comprised of some of London's foremost classical musicians, in 1999. As music director, she has led the New Professionals in eight years of season performances and guest performances at the Proms at St Jude's, City Music Society, Richmond Concert Society, Mayfair Concerts, City Music Society, BAC Battersea Opera Festival, Hampstead and Highgate Festival, and repeated guest performances at London's South Bank Centre. The orchestra has received critical acclaim from The Strad, Musical Opinion, The Classical Source, Opera Now, and The Times (London), and is known for their innovative programming, dynamic musicianship, and fresh insights into familiar works.

The orchestra's debut CD, entitled "Lou Harrison: For Strings" was released by Mode Records in 2004 and features the world premiere recording of Harrison's *Pipa Concerto* played by world renowned Pipa player Wu Man. It is also the first complete recording on CD of Harrison's *Suite for Symphonic Strings* (1960), which is included in the 2010 major motion picture soundtrack to Martin Scorsese's "Shutter Island" starring Leonardo DeCaprio.

**For further details on conductor Rebecca Miller and The New Professionals, please visit [www.rebeccamiller.net](http://www.rebeccamiller.net) and [www.thenewprofessionals.uk](http://www.thenewprofessionals.uk).**

**Rebecca Miller, conductor**

A compelling, insightful and energetic force on the podium, conductor Rebecca Miller is acclaimed by press and audiences alike. Founder and music director of The New Professionals Orchestra, based in London, her sophisticated music making and evocative command of varied composers and styles, coupled with her ability to communicate with audiences of all ages, have resulted in her increasing demand as a guest conductor throughout the United States and abroad. Ms. Miller is First Prize winner of the 4<sup>th</sup> Eduardo Mata International Conducting Competition (September 2009).

Ms. Miller's guesting credits include the London Sinfonietta, The Orchestra of the Swan, the Manson Ensemble, and  
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the BBC Proms in the United Kingdom; the Orquesta Filarmonica de la UNAM in Mexico; The New Asiana Ensemble in Korea, and the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra in Israel. In the United States, Ms. Miller has guested with The Houston Symphony, the Reno Philharmonic, Hunstville Symphony Orchestra, Williamsport Symphony Orchestra (PA), Musiqa Houston and at The Bard Festival (NY). Guest engagements this 2010-2011 season include the National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico, Orquesta Sinfonica de Aguascalientes, Orquesta Sinfonica de Yucatán, the Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra and two performances at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts.

For the past three seasons (2007 – 2010), Rebecca Miller served as Resident Conductor of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra in the United States, conducting subscription and spotlight series concerts, and where she was artistic director of her own series, "Casual Classics". From 2005 – 2007, Ms. Miller served as Conducting Fellow of The Houston Symphony, leading over 70 concerts in two years, including her debut on the symphony's classical subscription series, sharing the podium with Hans Graf.

In 1999, conductor Rebecca Miller founded the London-based The New Professionals Orchestra, an orchestra comprised of some of London's foremost classical musicians. The orchestra has been acclaimed for innovative programming and dynamic musicianship as well as for juxtaposing rarely performed 20th-century works with fresh interpretations of traditional repertoire.

### **Aaron Jay Kernis, composer**

One of America's most honoured composers, Aaron Jay Kernis' music figures prominently on orchestral, chamber, and recital programs worldwide and he has been commissioned by many of America's foremost performing artists, including soprano Renee Fleming, violinists Joshua Bell and Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, soprano Dawn Upshaw, and guitarist Sharon Isbin, and by institutions, including the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Birmingham Bach Choir, Minnesota Orchestra, and Los Angeles and Saint Paul Chamber Orchestras, the Walt Disney Company, James Conlon's first season at the Ravinia Festival, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and Rose Center for Earth and Space at the Museum of Natural History in New York, among others. Recent recordings include a disc of his song cycles by soprano Susan Narucki (Koch) and orchestral works by the Grant Park Festival Orchestra (Cedille). His music is available on Nonesuch, Phoenix, New Albion and Argo and CRI.

Winner of the coveted 2002 Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition for the cello concerto "Colored Field" and one of the youngest composers ever awarded the Pulitzer Prize (1998 Pulitzer Prize for his String Quartet No. 2 ("musica instrumentalis")), Mr. Kernis is among the most esteemed musical figures of his generation. He has also been awarded the Stoeger Prize from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Rome Prize, and received Grammy nominations for "Air" and the Second Symphony.

Mr. Kernis has served as Composer-in-Residence for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Minnesota Public Radio, and the American Composers Forum, and, since 1998, as New Music Advisor to the Minnesota Orchestra. He is chairman and co-director of the Minnesota Orchestra Composer Institute, and has taught composition at the Yale School of Music since 2003.

### **Mary King, narrator**

Mary King's career has encompassed a wide range of roles, including that of performer, teacher, coach and most recently broadcaster and writer. A popular and highly experienced mezzo soprano, Mary has worked with leading conductors and numerous orchestras across the world, and has made a particular feature of the contemporary classical repertoire.

Mary's versatility as a performer has allowed her career to encompass a wide range of vocal genres, from opera, oratorio, chamber music and recital through to musical theatre and straight plays. She has had a long involvement with outreach and teaching, working with all the major companies in the UK as well as running training programmes both at home and abroad. During Mary's long association with English National Opera, she devised and ran a highly successful performance skills course, 'The Knack', for eleven years, and between 2004 and 2006 she was also an Artistic Associate for the company.

Mary is increasingly widely known through her work on television and radio. She was one of the driving forces behind Channel 4's critically acclaimed and award-winning Operatunity, a five week television series introducing opera to the wider public. This was followed by Musicality, also on Channel 4, a five part series on music theatre. She appeared as the expert analyst for the Cardiff Singer of the World competitions in 2005 and 2007, shown extensively on BBC Television, and performed the role again for the 2009 competition. She is a regular guest presenter on BBC Radio 3, and she has been one of the judges on the 2006 and 2008 BBC Radio 3 Choir of the Year competitions.

Mary is a Member of Council for the Royal Philharmonic Society.

To request a high-resolution image of the CD cover, for questions regarding the recording or to request an interview, please contact:

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