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Los Angeles Jewish Symphony and BODYTRAFFIC Present
ERNEST BLOCH AND ERIC ZEISL: 50 YEARS LATER

One performance only at Wadsworth Theater
Tuesday, May 19, 2009 at 8:00 PM

LOS ANGELES- The Los Angeles Jewish Symphony and contemporary dance company BODYTRAFFIC premier a concert celebration honoring famed composers Ernest Bloch and Eric Zeisl whose compositions still continue to thrill concert-goers 50 years after their deaths.

This musical spectacular, conducted by the symphony's founder/artistic director Dr. Noreen Green, showcases Ernest Bloch's Suite Modale for Flute and Strings and "Jacob and Rachel," a biblical ballet by Eric Zeisl. The evening spotlights BodyTRAFFIC, a repertory dance ensemble providing Los Angeles with innovative and beautiful dancers from around the globe, and features world premiere choreography by Sarah Elgart, Laura Gorenstein-Miller and Andrea Miller.

"Both Ernest Bloch and Eric Zeisl are composers who created music with great spiritual expression," said Dr Green. "Both composers' music reflect Jewish culture as well as European traditions. I'm delighted to see Zeisl's music performed and come to life through the dance interpretation of world-class choreographers and dancers. Randy Schoenberg, a long-time LAJS Board member and the grandson of Eric Zeisl, and I have been dreaming of producing Zeisl's biblical ballet for years. We are both delirious with excitement to have that dream fulfilled."

The exhilarating evening will open with the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony performing the “Suite Modale for Flute and Strings” by Ernest Bloch. As part of LAJS’ mission to give opportunities to emerging performers, the flute soloist will be Alexandra Wallin, who is working on a degree in flute performance at USC’s Thornton School of Music. Following intermission, the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony and BODYTRAFFIC will perform Eric Zeisl’s ballet “Jacob and Rachel.” Zeisl’s ballet music reflects his style of “expressive melody, rich harmonies, strong dance-derived rhythms and imaginative scoring.”

“Los Angeles Jewish Symphony and BODYTRAFFIC Present ERNEST BLOCH AND ERIC ZEISL: 50 YEARS LATER” takes place on Tuesday , May 19 at 8:00 PM Tickets are \$ \$100, \$36 and \$25.; full-time students and DRC members \$12. Tickets may be purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com or by calling (800) 838 3006. The Wadsworth Theatre is located at 11301 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, 90073, near the intersection of Wilshire Blvd. and San Vicente Blvd.

The **Los Angeles Jewish Symphony (LAJS)**, founded in 1994, is the only one of its kind outside of Israel. The LAJS has touched the hearts and minds of the culturally and religiously diverse community of Los Angeles. By reaching out with the language of music, the symphony’s programs have been instrumental in giving voice to the heart and souls of the Jewish people. The Symphony has presented numerous world-premieres of works by Jewish composers, premiered works never-before performed in America and presented world premiers in Israel. Its mission is to perform orchestral works of well known and aspiring Jewish composers; establish opportunities for the presentation of new compositions by Jewish artists; serve as a professional source for aspiring Jewish and non-Jewish musicians; and act as an educational medium for Jewish music by providing educational opportunities for diverse populations of school age children. Since 1998, over 10,000 elementary school students of diverse multicultural backgrounds have participated in music

education programs sponsored and taught by the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony.

In addition to her duties as Artistic Director and Conductor of the LAJS, **Dr. Noreen Green** is music director of Valley Beth Shalom in Encino, and is an accomplished educator and a renowned lecturer on Jewish Music. Dr. Green has received much public recognition for her outstanding contributions to the multi-cultural musical scene in Los Angeles. She has been recognized for her remarkable enthusiasm and dramatic conducting and for bringing neglected as well as new and familiar orchestral works on Jewish themes to the concert stage. She is known world-wide for her knowledge and skill in presenting this material and has received numerous awards and accolades for her entertaining and unique concerts.

BODYTRAFFIC, a repertory dance ensemble founded by directors Tina Burkett and Lillian Barbeito, provides Los Angeles with innovative and beautiful dance by commissioning choreographers from around the globe. Since its inception, the company has performed at The Colburn School, Celebrate Dance at the Alex Theatre, the World Festival of Sacred Music at the Aratan/Japan America Theatre and the Laguna Dance Festival. BodyTraffic can currently be seen on the PBS Hanukkah Special "Lights." Lewis Segal of the LA Times described BodyTraffic as "fresh and skillful" and Debra Levine of the LA Times claims that BodyTraffic's "impressive debut transformed a room into a cavern of raw human emotion" with "confident professionalism evident across every performance element—décor, costume, lighting and in the super-contemporary choreography."

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