

**Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony's**  
***HOME COOKIN'* set for May 10**  
**--Concert to feature music of living Iowa composers--**

**In collaboration with the Iowa Composer's Forum, the Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony will present *Home Cookin'* on Saturday, May 10 at 2 p.m. in the Gallagher-Bluedorn's Great Hall.** The program, the first new music concert by a major Iowa orchestra in several years, will demonstrate just how varied and exciting Iowa music is today. Featured on this performance will be Jeremy Beck's *Sinfonietta*, Jon Chenette's *Oh Millersville!*, Michael Gilbertson's *Polovitsia*, Brooke Joyce's *october skies* and Jerry Owen's *Glee*. The concert will showcase works that are quite varied in terms of ensemble size. Gilbertson's work is a nonette, Beck's piece is for string orchestra, and Owen's composition is for full orchestra with a heavy dose of winds, brass, and percussion. Two of the works on the program will feature soloists. Chenette's *Oh Millersville!* is written for soprano and orchestra while Joyce's *october skies* is a piano concerto and will showcase the talents of UNI School of Music faculty member Sean Botkin. **The performance is sponsored in part by the Iowa Arts Council and the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.**

**Jeremy Beck** (b. 1960) holds degrees in composition from the Yale School of Music, Duke University and the Mannes College of Music in New York. His music has been presented by such organizations as New York City Opera, American Composers Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Boston, and the Slovak Radio Symphony Orchestra, among others. Formerly tenured as an Associate Professor of Composition and Theory at the University of Northern Iowa, he now makes his home in Louisville, Kentucky, where he is a practicing attorney. More information at [www.BeckMusic.org](http://www.BeckMusic.org)

**Jonathan Chenette** (b. 1954) is Blanche Johnson Professor of Music and Associate Dean of the College at Grinnell College. His music has been performed in Amsterdam, Vienna, the U.K., on an NPR national broadcast by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and on international tours by several ensembles. Dr. Chenette's major choral-orchestral work *Broken Ground* premiered in 1996 on a concert of the Des Moines Symphony broadcast statewide over Iowa Public Television. Other major works include the opera *Eric Hermansson's Soul* (1993), the song cycle *Oh Millersville!* (1990), and the orchestral works *Chamber Symphony for 31 Instruments* (1983), *Triple Feature* (1994), and *Rural Symphony* (2000). Commissioned works include *Elegy and Affirmation* for the Iowa Arts Council's "American Spirit" project memorializing the September 11 terrorist attacks, a collaboration with folk singer Bonnie Koloc, an orchestration of the song cycle *Oh Millersville!* for the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, a fantasy on the tune *Macapay* for the Iowa-based Latin American duo Calle Sur and orchestra, and *The Pale Queen of the Silent Night* for the London-based early music group Virelai.

Dubuque native **Michael Gilbertson** is currently a student of Samuel Adler at The Juilliard School. His studies also include academic coursework at Columbia University. Gilbertson's works have been programmed by ensembles including the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, the Flint Symphony Orchestra, the Rockford Symphony Orchestra, and the Galesburg Symphony. Among his many commissioned works is a ballet, *La Veuve Noire*, which was premiered in February of 2005 at the Madison Contemporary

Dance Festival. Gilbertson's most recent commission, a Flute Sonata for flutist Peg Cornils, premiered at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall just this month. His most recent orchestral work, titled *Vigil*, will be premiered by The Juilliard Orchestra on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008. Gilbertson's works have earned recognition and awards including a \$5,000 prize from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, a 2006 Morton Gould Award from ASCAP, and an ASCAP Honorable Mention in 2007. Gilbertson's orchestral pops works are published by Robert Wendel Music in New York.

**Brooke Joyce** (b. 1973) was born and raised in East Lansing, Michigan and holds degrees in theory and composition from Princeton University, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and Lawrence University. He has attended summer courses with Joan Tower and Magnus Lindberg, and in 1997, he traveled to Wales on a Kittredge Educational Grant to study with Alun Hoddinott. His music has been performed by such ensembles as the Indianapolis Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, and the St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic. In addition to his concert music, Brooke has collaborated on several musical theater works with playwright Frederick Gaines, including *Unbekannt*, a musical based on the life of the famous Anastasia pretender Anna Anderson, and *An Imaginary Line*, based on the book *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer. Brooke teaches theory, history and composition at Luther College in Decorah and is a faculty member at The Walden School, a summer music festival for young composers in New Hampshire.

**Jerry M. Owen** (b. 1944) was Composer-in-residence with the Iowa-based Red Cedar Chamber Music, and Composer-in-residence and founder of the composer residency with the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra. The many awards and special performances given his music include two full-length Iowa Public Television specials. He has been a featured guest, and his music has been aired, on Iowa Public Radio, NPR, and European Broadcasts on many occasions. Commissioners include the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, Coe College, the Iowa Composers Forum, Red Cedar Chamber Music, Iowa String Teacher's Association, and the Iowa Arts Council. Dr. Owen taught for 37 years at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA, and is the Alma A. Turechek Professor Emeritus of Music. In addition to founding and conducting the Coe College Symphony Orchestra, he directed the music theory/composition area at Coe. He is a composer of vocal, choral, symphonic, chamber, and electronic/computer music. His music is published by Southern Music Company, Cimarron Music Press, Acoma-Nambe Music Publishers (Canada), Carl Fischer / Pembroke, Inc., and his own company, Indian Hill Road Music. Dr. Owen has received two Pulitzer Prize nominations, two Grawemeyer Prize nominations, two performances by the late Howard Hanson at his Festival of American Music, no fewer than twelve performances by the Cedar Rapids Symphony Orchestra, and the Iowa Arts Council prize for symphonic music. His Iowa Sesquicentennial composition, *Meshquanowat'* (Red-tail Hawk), was awarded the Iowa Composers Forum Francis J. Pyle Commission award.

Tickets to *Home Cookin'* are just \$10 for adults; \$5 for students. To order, call 319-273-4849 (877-549-7469) or visit [wcfssymphony.org](http://wcfssymphony.org).

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