

## **Lara Webber**

Widely admired as a dynamic, creative and engaging conductor, Lara Webber is dedicated to inspiring audiences through the power of symphonic music. She has been praised by fellow musicians around the country for her musical depth, genuine expression, strong personal vision, and collaborative spirit.

Ms. Webber brings a broad range of experience to the podium. She has held the positions of both assistant and associate conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Prior to her appointment with the BSO, she was associate conductor of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra (South Carolina), and music director of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Lara also currently serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Livermore Amador Symphony. Her career began as music director and conductor of the Los Angeles Debut Orchestra, a post previously held by such conductors as André Previn, Lawrence Foster, and Michael Tilson Thomas.

Lara Webber's activities as a guest conductor include multiple performances with orchestras around the country such as the Houston, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, Louisville, Santa Barbara, Modesto, the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, and the Chicago Sinfonietta, among several others. She has served as a cover-conductor for the San Francisco Symphony and The National Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Webber's operatic associations include posts as the assistant conductor at Glimmerglass Opera, and conductor of the Baltimore Opera Studio.

## **Elizabeth Pitcairn**

Violin virtuoso Elizabeth Pitcairn has earned a stunning reputation as one of America's most beloved soloists. She appeared as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Academy of Music and in the year 2000 gave her New York debut at Alice Tully Hall with the New York String Orchestra. She has since performed at Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall, the Fisher Center and the Kimmel Center. Passionate about youth and education, she serves as President and Artistic Director of the Luzerne Music Center which provides training for gifted young musicians ages 9 to 18 in upstate New York. Ms. Pitcairn attended the Marlboro Music Festival and is a graduate of the University of Southern California where she later taught alongside her former teacher, the renowned violin professor Robert Lipsett, and the Colburn School in Los Angeles. Her former teachers include Julian Meyer, Sylvia Ahramjian, Jascha Brodsky and Shmuel Ashkenasi. The artist performs with one of the world's most legendary instruments, the Red Mendelssohn Stradivarius of 1720, said to have inspired the Academy Award-winning film *The Red Violin*. Pitcairn is featured on the 10th Anniversary edition of *The Red Violin* DVD in a special feature called "The Auction Block". Named the Red Stradivarius violin while in the possession of Joseph Joachim, it was a gift from her grandfather in 1990 at Christie's Auction in London. Originally from a musical family in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, she began the violin at age three. Pitcairn believes strongly in philanthropy and is a frequent performer for such charitable events as the American Cancer Society, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, the Helping Hands and Hearts Foundation and the Nakashima Foundation for Peace. Her favorite activities are skiing, tennis, horseback riding, wine tasting. On the Red Mendelssohn Stradivarius, she uses the revolutionary Wittner Finetune-pegs. Her carbon titanium violin case is courtesy of GEWA. For Ms. Pitcairn's tour schedule, please visit [www.redviolin.com](http://www.redviolin.com).