



January 8, 2010

## ROCO presents its annual *Conductorless!* Concert

**February 13 and 14, 2010 -- features Beethoven's Fifth, piano soloist, Simone Dinnerstein performing Bach, and celebrates Valentine's Day and the Chinese New Year with composer Chen Yi**

### **Program**

Bach *Piano concerto in D Minor*

Beethoven *Fifth Symphony*

Jacobs *Old Wine in New Bottles*

Chen Yi *Shuo*

**Saturday**, February 13, 2009, 5:00 pm, at The Church of St. John the Divine, 2450 River Oaks Boulevard (at Westheimer), Houston, TX 77019. Tickets are \$25; \$10 for students, at [rocohouston.org](http://rocohouston.org), by phone at 713-665-2700, or at the door. With ROCOrooters and Club ROCO music education/childcare programs.

**Sunday**, February 14, 2009, 5:00 pm, Valentine's Concert and Dinner at The Houstonian Hotel, 111 North Post Oak Lane, Houston, Texas 77024. Tickets are \$95 per person, and include the concert followed by a three-course gourmet dinner. Childcare will be available.

### **Why Conductorless?**

Performing without a conductor empowers the individual musicians while engaging them in self-governing collaboration that translates into a powerful and exciting experience for the audience. Removing the "wall" between orchestra and audience exposes an intimate conversation among the musicians and invites the audience into conversation with the chamber orchestra. Few orchestras of ROCO's size attempt to perform conductorless, especially on a piece as challenging as Beethoven's well-loved *Fifth Symphony*. Sharing leadership roles among ROCO's 40 musicians requires a high level of artistry and a strong spirit of "*musical joie de vivre*". The result a fantastic audience experience that author/journalist, John DeMers calls, "*the most fun you can have with serious music.*"

### **Guest Artist**

American pianist **Simone Dinnerstein** has fast been gaining international attention since making a triumphant New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall in 2005. *The New York Times* called her, "An utterly distinctive voice in the forest of Bach interpretation." Ms. Dinnerstein is a graduate of The Juilliard School, and currently lives in Brooklyn, NY, with her husband and son.

### **Featured Composer**

Born in 1953, in Guangzhou, China, into a family of doctors with a strong interest in classical music, **Chen Yi** started studying violin and piano at age three. In 1986, she became the first woman to receive a master's degree in composition in China. Dr. Yi's diverse compositions have been performed by chamber orchestras all over the world.

Buy tickets at [www.rocohouston.org](http://www.rocohouston.org)