

STEVEN BROWN

Classical music Surprising Schoenberg

While Arnold Schoenberg may have been one of classical music's greatest innovators of the past century, that doesn't make much difference to listeners who find his trademark atonal style off-putting. His Chamber Symphony No. 2 — begun when he was young, but finished only near the end of his life — reveals a different side. More rooted in traditional harmony, the work's brooding lyricism might enable wary listeners to at last get on Schoenberg's wavelength. The River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, led by violinist Andrés Cárdenes, will play the work as part of its annual conductorless concert. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "Serenata Notturna" and Joseph Haydn's "Drum Roll" Symphony



also are on the program. 5 p.m. Saturday at Church of St. John the Divine, 2450 River Oaks Blvd.; 6:30 p.m. Sunday at Sugar Land Auditorium, 226 Lakeview, Sugar Land; \$20-\$25; 713-665-2700, rocohouston.org.



Courtesy photo

Violinist Andrés Cárdenes will lead the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra's annual conductorless concert on Saturday.