



chicago **sinfonietta**
MUSIC EXCELLENCE DIVERSITY

Maestra Mei-Ann Chen



The first woman to win the Malko International Conductors Competition (2005), Mei-Ann Chen, 37, is considered one of America's most exciting and promising young conductors. Concluding a highly successful tenure as Assistant Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony this summer, she has also accepted a three-year appointment as the Music Director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra beginning in the 2010-2011 season. Chen's guest conducting appearances include all of the principal Danish orchestras, Norwegian Radio Orchestra, Taiwan National Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, and the symphonies of Alabama, Atlanta, Bournemouth, Fort Worth, National, Oregon, Seattle, Toledo, Toronto, Trondheim, Grand Teton Music Festival, and Chautauqua Institution. Awarded the 2007 Taki Concordia Fellowship, she appeared jointly with

Marin Alsop and Stefan Sanderling in highly acclaimed subscription concerts with the Baltimore Symphony, Colorado Symphony and Florida Orchestra.

Among Chen's upcoming debuts include symphonies of the BBC Scottish, Chicago, Columbus, Edmonton Symphony, Netherlands Philharmonic in Concertgebouw, Pacific, Phoenix, and Graz.

A native of Taiwan, Chen has lived in the United States since 1989. She holds master's degrees in both conducting and violin from the New England Conservatory, and a D.M.A. in conducting from the University of Michigan, where she was a student of Kenneth Kiesler. Chen was a participant in the National Conducting Institute in Washington, D.C. and the American Academy of Conducting in Aspen. During her five-year tenure as Music Director of the Portland (OR) Youth Philharmonic, she led its sold-out debut in Carnegie Hall, received an ASCAP award for innovative programming, and was honored with a Sunburst Award from Young Audiences for her contribution to music education.