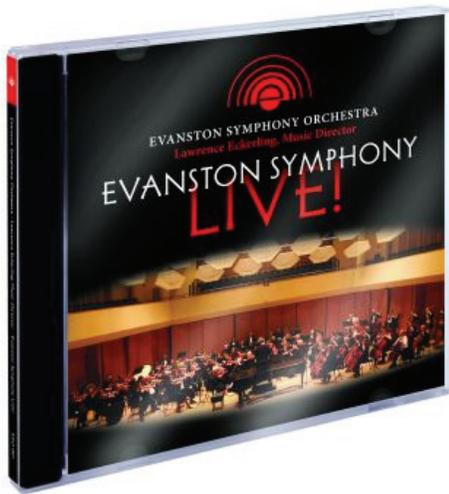




Evanston Symphony Issues First CD



By David Ellis Sep. 19, 2011 at 3:18 p.m.



Evanston Symphony Live! - just issued by the ESO

Evanston, IL — The Evanston Symphony Orchestra (ESO) has just released Evanston Symphony Live! The ESO's first commercially available compact disc features an all-American program conducted by Music Director Lawrence Eckerling,

The highlight of the CD is the acclaimed world premiere performance of Gwyneth Walker's *The Promised Land*, composed for the ESO and local soprano Michelle Areyzaga.

The disc includes the recording premiere of *Overture With Fanfares*, commissioned by the ESO for its 50th anniversary season from Evanston resident and ESO bassoonist Donald Draganski. It also features George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with Music Director Eckerling both conducting and playing the piano solo. The suite from Howard Hanson's *Merry Mount* and the overture to Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* round out the 72 – minute disc.

All performances were recorded live in Evanston's Pick-Staiger Concert Hall, primarily during the just concluded 65th anniversary season. The audio post-production and booklet design work were also executed by Evanston firms, contributing to the strong local focus of the disc.

The CD may be purchased on the ESO website: www.evanstonsymphony.org. It will also be available on ESO concert days at Pick-Staiger Hall and at the Christmas concert at Evanston Township High School on December 4, 2011.