

**For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Michael Frisco  
Director of Marketing & Communications  
(847) 888-0404  
m.frisco@elginsymphony.org  
A Windfall of Musicians

**Author Dorothy Lamb Crawford Speaking, Signing New Book  
at Upcoming ESO Concerts**

**ESO's Exiles in Hollywood concerts April 30-May 2 feature author of  
A Windfall of Musicians as part of month-long festival**

**Elgin, IL** – As part of the Elgin Symphony Orchestra's month-long festival exploring the music of American film composers, author Dorothy Lamb Crawford will present pre-concert lectures and sign copies of her new book, [A Windfall of Musicians: Hitler's Émigrés and Exiles in Southern California](#).

Ms. Crawford will speak beginning one hour prior to each of the ESO's *Exiles in Hollywood* performances. All performances are at the Hemmens Theatre in downtown Elgin and are Friday, April 30th at 1:30pm, Saturday, May 1st at 8:00pm and Sunday, May 2 at 3:30pm. Tickets to this event start at \$15 for all concerts. A "Lunch with the Maestro" is offered prior to the Friday Matinee performance on April 30th at 11:30am in the Heritage Ballroom at the Centre of Elgin, located across the street from the Hemmens Theatre. "Lunch with the Maestro" tickets may be reserved until April 23rd, 2010 for \$25 each.

[A Windfall of Musicians Pre-Sale](#)

Now through April 29th, patrons can purchase copies of [A Windfall of Musicians](#) for a \$10 discount of \$25/copy by calling the ESO Box Office at (847) 888-4000. Copies will then be available at the concerts of April 30-May 2 for \$35 each.

For more information, call the ESO Box Office at (847) 888-4000 Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm, or visit [www.ElginSymphony.org](http://www.ElginSymphony.org). To stay up-to-date on all ESO events, visit [www.facebook.com/ElginSymphonyOrchestra](http://www.facebook.com/ElginSymphonyOrchestra). Groups of 10 or more qualify for discounted tickets – speak to a Box Office representative for more details.

**[A Windfall of Musicians: Hitler's Émigrés and Exiles in Southern California](#)**

By Dorothy Lamb Crawford | 2009, Yale University Press

This book is the first to examine the brilliant gathering of composers, conductors, and other musicians who fled Europe and arrived in the Los Angeles area. Musicologist Dorothy Lamb Crawford looks closely at the lives, creative work, and influence of sixteen performers, fourteen composers, and one opera stage director, who joined this immense migration beginning in the 1930s. Some in this group were famous when they fled Europe, others would gain recognition in the young musical culture of Los Angeles, and still others struggled to establish themselves in an environment often resistant to musical innovation.

Emphasizing individual voices, Crawford presents short portraits of Igor Stravinsky, Arnold Schoenberg, and other musicians while also considering their influence as a group—in the film industry, in music institutions in and around Los Angeles, and as teachers who trained the next generation. The book reveals a uniquely vibrant era when Southern California became a hub of unprecedented musical talent.

Dorothy Lamb Crawford has lived and worked in music throughout her career, teaching and lecturing, performing as a singer, directing opera, and hosting broadcast interviews with musicians. She is author of *Evenings On and Off the Roof: Pioneering Concerts in Los Angeles, 1939–1971* and (with John C. Crawford) of *Expressionism in Twentieth-Century Music*. She lives in Cambridge, MA.

"Ms. Crawford, who has spent much of her working life teaching and making music in Southern California, brings a physical familiarity to her narrative and a keen eye for poignant detail. . . . *A Windfall of Musicians* is valuable for its account of how the West became a cultural force in America, a rising counterweight to the tradition-stifled East." —Norman Lebrecht, *Wall Street Journal*

"Along with some notable quarrels, [Dorothy Lamb Crawford] also tells us about a good deal of socializing and solidarity in this émigré ghetto. . . . *A Windfall of Musicians* makes for steadily rewarding and entertaining reading." —John Simon, *The Weekly Standard*

### **2010 Exiles in Hollywood Festival**

The Elgin Symphony Orchestra's 2010 *Exiles in Hollywood* Festival is the sixth installment in the ESO's multi-year *Exploring Our American Voice* project presented to the greater Chicago community. A series of concerts and humanities programs began in the early spring and continues through the ESO's May Classics concert: *Exiles in Hollywood*.

This year the ESO examines Hollywood film music, which itself has become an American Icon and favorite for concert audiences. From George Gershwin to John Williams, the ESO will discover works of beloved Hollywood composers who have touched lives through the sounds of the Big Screen. The *Exiles in Hollywood* Festival also dives further into the history of film music, exploring music from the composers of Hollywood's golden age who were responsible for bringing the European musical language to film, including Erich Korngold and Miklós Rózsa. Once musical sound came to motion pictures, a new genre of music was born. The festival highlights this genre through concert music by Hollywood composers and film music by concert composers. Film composers have taken both leading and supporting roles in shaping American music, "We musicians are just now beginning to recognize the important part Hollywood composers have played in defining America's music." – Robert Hanson, ESO Music Director

The *Exploring Our American Voice* project strives to intellectually stimulate and engage audiences of all ages beyond the program notes through community activities, educational initiatives, and collaborative partnerships. The festival started in 2005 with the exploration of musical icon Antonin Dvorák with "*Dvorák in America*." Since then, the festival has pushed borders with "*In Search of the American Dream: The Immigrant Experience*" in 2006 and uncovered the lives of icons such as Aaron Copland (2007), George Gershwin (2008), and Leonard Bernstein (2009). The continuation and growth of the Exploring Our American Voice project has been made possible by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Illinois Arts Council.