



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The ARC Ensemble will release *Two Roads to Exile*  
Its third album for Sony Music  
on Tuesday May 4, 2010**

(TORONTO, Canada - March 30, 2010) The ARC Ensemble is pleased to announce the release of its third album for Sony Music, **Two Roads to Exile**, on Tuesday May 4, 2010. As part of its acclaimed "Music in Exile" series, **Two Roads to Exile** features repertoire by two brilliant but neglected composers, Adolf Busch and Walter Braunfels. Produced by multiple Grammy award-winner David Frost, **Two Roads to Exile** comes on the heels of the ARC Ensemble's previous two Grammy-nominated albums, **On The Threshold of Hope** (2006) and **Right Through the Bone** (2007).

Adolf Busch and Walter Braunfels were major German musical figures in the 1920s and '30s, who were forced into two very different kinds of exile as their country moved toward institutionalized racial intolerance. Adolf Busch, praised by Hitler as "our German violinist" to differentiate him from his Jewish colleagues, was one of Europe's pre-eminent virtuosos. Busch felt both ashamed and embarrassed by the Nazis and in 1933 left Germany for Switzerland, moving to America just before the war. Walter Braunfels, half-Jewish, although a practicing Catholic, moved to Überlingen, a small town on the shore of Lake Constance, where he was hidden from the Nazis: an internal exile immobilized by his attachment to his homeland.

The ARC Ensemble's "Music in Exile" series revives works that were lost or ignored due to the political upheavals and changes in musical fashion that followed WWII. With **Two Roads to Exile**, the ARC Ensemble expands and deepens our awareness of these exiled composers' contributions, and addresses the injustice that condemned them to obscurity.

"The status of composers during the 20th century has as much to do with politics, fashion and sheer luck, as it has to do with training, imagination and creativity," says Simon Wynberg, Artistic Director of the ARC Ensemble. "As listeners, we are often led by names and traditions rather than by a genuinely open attitude. The rediscovery and performance of unfamiliar music is a hugely rewarding process for the ensemble."

"Through their remarkable dedication to the music of these composers, along with the scholarship, discussion and historical context provided by this [Music in Exile] series, the stories of these composers are brilliantly illuminated," says James Conlon, the Honorary Chairman of the ARC Ensemble. "This organization gives active meaning to the concept of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world; work that can never be fully completed."

The ARC Ensemble continues to receive worldwide acclaim and award recognition for its impeccable musical performances. The ensemble-in-residence at [The Royal Conservatory in Toronto](#), it is composed of senior faculty members of the Conservatory's Glenn Gould School with the participation of its most exceptional students and graduates. Dedicated to introducing lost musical works, the ARC Ensemble performs concerts worldwide and broadcasts internationally on a regular basis. The dedicated group of performers for **Two Roads to Exile** includes: Marie Bérard, Benjamin Bowman (Violins); Steven Dann, Carolyn Blackwell (Violas); and Bryan Epperson, David Hetherington (Cellos). The ARC Ensemble collaborates with a range of artists, which recently included pianist Leon Fleisher, novelist Yann Martel, actors Saul Rubinek and R. H. Thompson, and composers Omar Daniel and Vincent Ho. It has become one of Canada's leading cultural exports, and has received accolades from most of the world's major music journals and magazines. The ARC Ensemble's Artistic Director is Simon Wynberg.

"The ARC Ensemble play with fierce conviction" — Alex Ross

"Passion, polish and vitality" — *The New York Times*

"Sets the skin rippling at every turn" — *The Strad*

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