

**REVIEW BY COMPOSER AND EDITOR PAUL TUROK
FOR NORWEGIAN AMERICAN WEEKLY**

A Concert to Remember

Grieg Festival Orchestra
Music Director and Conductor Per Brevig

Edvard Grieg: Funeral March for Rikard Nordraak

Edvard Grieg: Symphony in C Minor:

Arne Nordheim: Concerto for Cello and Orchestra "Tenebrae", Soloist Darrett Adkins

Edvard Grieg: Concerto in A minor, Soloist Anne-Marie McDermott

"PER BREVIG CONDUCTS ARNE NORDHEIM COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT AND MEMORIAL CONCERT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE TRAGEDY IN NORWAY.

Per Brevig is a superb conductor and planned this extraordinary concert which took place at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, on Oct.30th in a most interesting fashion. He presented three pieces by Grieg: "Funeral March for Rikard Nordraak," "Symphony in C Minor," and the "Piano Concerto in A Minor". The fourth composition was Nordheim's "Tenebrae" for Cello and Orchestra".

The first two pieces are seldom heard. Nordraak was a composer and good friend of Grieg. He died at 24, and Grieg's "Funeral March" is a most impassioned piece in honor of his friend. The "Symphony in C Minor" is an early work that deserves to be performed more often. Obviously, the audience as well as the orchestra loved the piece which was clear in Per Brevig's compelling interpretation. Brevig does an excellent job, expressing the emotion and vigor of the work. He was able to draw a beautiful, lyrical sound from the orchestra which is remarkable for an orchestra who does not perform together on a permanent basis.

Darrett Adkins was a great soloist in Arne Nordheim's substantial "Tenebrae" for Cello and Orchestra. It is obviously a major work. The opening was exciting with high sounds (from piano, celeste and violins) from the orchestra and repeated motives in the cello. Later, the solo part turns lyrical. The 25-minute piece investigates the free forms Nordheim used, with several climaxes in the tuttis. It proves an impressive work, played to the hilt by Adkins. The concert finale was Grieg's "Piano Concerto", gorgeously played by Anne-Marie McDermott. Brevig's accompaniment was first class. He received heartfelt playing from his excellent orchestra. He obviously knows the music, including the Nordheim which bristles with difficulties.

In light of the horrific attack that took place in Norway July 22, 2011, Edvard Grieg Society, Inc. NY had rededicated this concert to the fallen victims of the tragedy in Norway and hoped that this musical program would give solace to the members of the Norwegian audience as well as the audience at large. The audience responded to the music with a strong emotional reaction and warm applause.

**Paul Turok, Composer
Editor of "Turok's Choice"**