

NEWS Lehman College

THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Office of Media Relations and Publications • Phone 718-960-8211 • Fax 718-960-8212 • Website www.lehman.cuny.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, March 27, 2000

CONTACT: Marge Rice
718-960-4992

LEHMAN MUSIC PROFESSOR JOHN CORIGLIANO WINS ACADEMY AWARD FOR 'THE RED VIOLIN'

BRONX, NY — John Corigliano, Distinguished Professor of Music at Lehman College, CUNY, has won the Academy Award for Best Original Score for the film "The Red Violin." The Canadian film chronicles the story of one violin over several centuries and has already earned the composer that nation's Genie Award.

Corigliano, who has taught at Lehman since 1972, is the winner of multiple Grammy Awards and internationally celebrated as one of the leading composers of his generation.

"I'm from another world of classical music," he told the Academy audience, "and when I write my symphonies and concertos it's a very lonely profession. One thing I've learned about film writing is how communal it is." He thanked in particular the director of the film, François Girard, and the "voice of the violin," Joshua Bell.

Corigliano's first film score, for "Altered States," was nominated for an Academy Award in 1981. His second score, for the British film "Revolution," won Great Britain's prestigious Anthony Asquith Award.

"The world knows John Corigliano through his brilliant work as a composer," said Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández. "Our students know him best as Professor Corigliano, a remarkably gifted teacher who inspires and encourages their own creative efforts. We are all grateful for his commitment to our young musicians and join in congratulating him on his latest accomplishment."

A virtuoso composer, Corigliano has won acclaim not only for his film scores but also for his orchestral, chamber and opera works. "The Ghosts of Versailles," commissioned by the Metropolitan Opera, became an enormous critical and popular success, as did his Symphony No. 1, which was commissioned by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The first major orchestral work written in response to the AIDS epidemic, it has been performed by over 100 orchestras around the world. His latest work, a song cycle entitled "Mr. Tambourine Man: Seven Poems of Bob Dylan," debuted last week at Carnegie Hall.

#