VCF Cabrillo Music Festival RP

Cabrillo Music Festival appoints interim director

Composer and conductor John Adams will be interim music director at next summer's Cabrillo Music Festival, filling in for music director Dennis Russell Davies, who is taking a sabbatical.

Adams, who lives in Berkeley, is known for his opera "Nixon in China" as well as a variety of orchestral works. His recording "The Chairman Dances" won a Grammy nominee for Best Classical Album of the Year in 1987.

Somewhat of a minimalist and founder of the San Francisco Symphony's New and Unusual Music series, Adams is expected to continue the Cabrillo Music Festival's approach to new works. From 1975 to 1985, Adams was composer-inresidence with the San Francisco Symphony, serving under conductor Edo de Waart.

Among Adams's other works are "Harmonium" for orchestra and chorus; "Harmonielehre," picked by Time Magazine as one of the best classical recordings of 1985; and "The Wound-Dresser," a 1989 piece that draws on a poem by Walt Whitman about a Civil War hospital.

Adams is working on a new op-



John Adams

era, "The Death of Klinghoffer," which concerns the fate of an American hostage at the hands of terrorists aboard the cruise ship Achille Lauro.

Next summer's Cabrillo Music Festival will be held from July 25 to Aug. 4 in various locations in Santa Cruz County and in San Juan Bautista. Further details will be announced later.