FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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VIOLINIST JOSHUA BELL JOINS BSO AND CONDUCTOR MARCELO LEHNINGER FOR BERNSTEIN’S SERENADE (AFTER PLATO’S “SYMPOSIUM”) OCTOBER 4-6

MAESTRO LEHNINGER ALSO LEADS THE ORCHESTRA IN DVOŘÁK’S SYMPHONY NO. 8 AND TCHAIKOVSKY’S ROMEO AND JULIET

THE SERIES CONCLUDES OCTOBER 9 WITH ERVÍN SCHULHOFF’S CONCERTO FOR STRING QUARTET AND WIND ORCHESTRA, FEATURING THE HAWTHORNE STRING QUARTET, REPLACING BERNSTEIN’S SERENADE

Performances to take place Thursday, October 4, and Saturday, October 6, and Tuesday, October 9, at 8 p.m., and Friday, October 5, at 1:30 p.m.

Acclaimed for his Boston Symphony Orchestra performances at both Symphony Hall and Carnegie Hall, BSO assistant conductor Marcelo Lehninger leads a Thursday, October 4–Saturday, October 6, program featuring American violinist Joshua Bell as soloist in Bernstein’s five-movement Serenade—a violin concerto in all but name—inspired by Plato’s immortal dialogue on the nature and value of love, Symposium. Also on the program are two audience favorites: Tchaikovsky’s emotionally charged fantasy-overture Romeo and Juliet, and Dvořák’s bucolic Symphony No. 8. On October 9, in place of Joshua Bell, the Hawthorne String Quartet—made up of BSO members Ronan Lefkowitz, violin, Mark Ludwig, viola, Si-Jing Huang, violin, and Sato Knudsen, cello—is featured in Ervín Schulhoff’s multi-faceted Concerto for String Quartet and Wind Orchestra (1930).

For complete programs, ticket information, photos, and artist bios, click here: https://www.box.com/s/bdc46390a330b3d7eba0.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Tchaikovsky’s Romeo and Juliet was designed to stand on its own as a kind of one-movement drama. The concept for the piece originated in 1869, when friend and fellow composer Mily Balakirev suggested Shakespeare’s star-crossed lovers to Tchaikovsky as an appropriate subject. True to his painstaking compositional methods, Tchaikovsky completed the first draft of the score early in 1870 but only arrived at the final version familiar to today’s concertgoer 10 years later, after extensive and repeated revisions.
Constructed almost entirely from three main motives, the piece continually weaves and transforms these melodies to create musical coupling and conflict to mirror the story of Shakespeare’s Montagues and Capulets.

Bernstein’s lyrical and elegantly crafted Serenade is suffused with the gregarious yet thoughtful spirit of its inspiration, Plato’s *Symposium*. The work’s five movements each represent one of the guest speakers at Plato’s gathering and together make a list of names familiar to lovers of philosophy: Phaedrus, Aristophanes, Eryximachus, Agathon, and Socrates.

Concluding each of the four concerts is Dvořák’s Symphony No. 8, which the composer wrote at a furious pace in the fall of 1889. One of his most cheerful and vivacious works, it pulses with the energy of the Bohemian folk music that the composer experienced during his childhood and loved throughout his life.

The October 9 program is a rare opportunity to hear music by Ervín Schulhoff, a gifted Czech composer-pianist whose music reflects influences ranging from Baroque and dance-based musical forms to blues and jazz, and who died of tuberculosis during World War II in the Wülzburg concentration camp. His Concerto for String Quartet and Wind Orchestra dates from 1930 and was written specifically for performance on the radio, a medium important and dear to the composer.

**MARCELO LEHNINGER**

Brazilian-born Marcelo Lehninger is increasingly recognized as one of the most gifted conductors of his generation. Appointed Music Director of the New West Symphony Orchestra in Los Angeles, Mr. Lehninger has a growing reputation as a dynamic conductor who inspires musicians and audiences of all ages worldwide. Assistant Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Mr. Lehninger was selected by James Levine and is the second Brazilian conductor to hold this position; the first was Eleazar de Carvalho, who shared the duties with Leonard Bernstein. His success with the BSO was recognized when his tenure was extended through 2013. Mr. Lehninger made his BSO debut in 2010 with the violinist Pinchas Zukerman as soloist and in 2011 stepped in for Maestro Levine on very short notice to conduct a program including the world premiere of Harrison Birtwistle’s Violin Concerto with Christian Tetzlaff as soloist, a program he also led at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In 2012, Mr. Lehninger filled in for Andris Nelsons, conducting concerts including the American premiere of Mark-Anthony Turnage’s Trumpet Concerto *From the Wreckage* with Håkan Hardenberger as soloist as well as Strauss’s *Thus Spake Zarathustra*.

**JOSHUA BELL**

Joshua Bell has enchanted audiences worldwide with his breathtaking virtuosity and tone of rare beauty. His restless curiosity and multifaceted musical interests have taken him in exciting new directions which have earned him the rare title of “classical music superstar.” Often referred to as the poet of the violin, Bell is the recipient of the Avery Fisher Prize and is the newly named Music Director of The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields. Bell first came to national attention at the age of 14 in a highly acclaimed orchestral debut with Riccardo Muti and the Philadelphia Orchestra. His Carnegie Hall debut and a recording contract further confirmed his presence in the music world. Today he is equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestra leader and composer who performs his own cadenzas to several of the major concerto repertoire. 2012 highlights include a 15-city U.S. tour with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, and a North American recital tour with pianist Sam Haywood. In Europe, Bell will tour with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Vladimir Jurowski and in recital with Jeremy Denk in cities to include London, Paris, and Berlin.
TICKET, SPONSORSHIP, AND OTHER PATRON INFORMATION

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2012-13 season are available by calling the BSO Subscription Office at 888-266-7575 or online through the BSO’s website (www.bso.org). Single tickets are priced from $30 to $124. Regular-season Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts on Tuesday and Thursday evenings are priced from $30 to $114; Friday afternoons are priced from $31 to $107; concerts on Friday and Saturday evenings are priced from $33 to $124. Tickets may be purchased by phone through SymphonyCharge (617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200), online through the BSO’s website (www.bso.org), or in person at the Symphony Hall Box Office (301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston). There is a $6.25 service fee for all tickets purchased online or by phone through SymphonyCharge.

A limited number of Rush Tickets for Boston Symphony Orchestra subscription concerts on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Friday afternoons are set aside to be sold on the day of a performance. These tickets are sold at $9 each, one to a customer, at the Symphony Hall Box Office. For Friday afternoon concerts Rush Tickets are available beginning at 10 a.m. For Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday evening concerts Rush Tickets are available beginning at 5 p.m.

The BSO’s <40=$20 program allows patrons under the age of 40 to purchase tickets for $20. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis on both the orchestra and balcony levels. There is a limit of one pair per performance, but patrons may attend as many performances as desired.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra offers groups advanced ticket reservations and flexible payment options for BSO concerts at Symphony Hall. Groups of 20 or more may take advantage of ticket discounts, backstage tours, clinics, and master classes. Pre- and post-concert dining options and private function space are available. More information is available through the group sales office at groupsales@bso.org

The BSO College Card and High School Card are the best way for students and aspiring young musicians to experience the BSO on a regular basis. For only $25 (College Card) or $10 (High School Card) students can attend most BSO concerts at no additional cost by registering the card online to receive text and email notifications of real-time ticket availability.

American Express, MasterCard, Visa, Diners Club, and Discover (in person or by mail) and cash (in person only) are all accepted at the Symphony Hall Box Office. Gift certificates are available in any amount and may be used toward the purchase of tickets (subject to availability) to any Boston Symphony Orchestra or Boston Pops performance at Symphony Hall or Tanglewood. Gift certificates may also be used at the Symphony Shop to purchase merchandise.

Patrons with disabilities can access Symphony Hall through the Massachusetts Avenue lobby or the Cohen Wing on Huntington Avenue. An access service center, accessible restrooms, and elevators are available inside the Cohen Wing entrance. For ticket information, call the Access Services Administrator at 617-638-9431 or TDD/TTY 617-638-9289.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES AT SYMPHONY HALL

As part of the BSO’s ongoing initiative to make classical music programming and education widely available to listeners, the orchestra is offering adult educational initiatives for the 2012-2013 season.

UnderScore Fridays is a uniquely formatted concert series. At all Friday-evening concerts, subscribers will hear comments from the evening’s conductor, guest artists, or other important guests speaking from the stage about the program. Tickets for UnderScore Fridays range from $33 to $123.

BSO 101: Are You Listening? returns in 2012-2013, offering seven Wednesday-evening sessions with BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel and members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra designed to enhance your listening abilities and general appreciation of music by focusing on works from the BSO’s repertoire. No prior musical training, or attendance at any previous session, is required, since each session is self-contained. BSO: 101: An Insider’s View also returns in 2012-2013, offering four Tuesday-
evening sessions with BSO administrative staff and musicians in discussions of such behind-the-scenes activities as program planning, auditions, and the rehearsal process, as well as player perspectives on performing with the BSO. All “BSO 101” sessions take place from 5:30-6:45pm at Symphony Hall, and each is followed by a complimentary reception. Full details of the 2012-2013 “BSO 101” schedule will be announced at a later date.

The popular Friday Preview Talks, during which sandwiches and beverages are available for purchase, run from 12:15pm to 12:45pm and the Symphony Hall doors open at 11:30am. Given by BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel and Assistant Director of Program Publications Robert Kirzinger, these informative half-hour talks incorporate recorded examples from the music to be performed.

**BSO MEDIA OFFERINGS**

The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s extensive website, [BSO.org](http://BSO.org), is the largest and most-visited orchestral website in the country, receiving approximately 7 million visitors annually and generating over $70 million in revenue since its launch in 1996. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is on Facebook at Facebook.com/BostonSymphony and on Twitter at Twitter.com/BostonSymphony. Video content from the BSO is also available at YouTube.com/BostonSymphony.

In the fall of 2011, the BSO redesigned and updated its popular website at [BSO.org](http://BSO.org). The site’s Media Center, consolidates its numerous new media initiatives in one location. In addition to comprehensive access to all BSO, Boston Pops, Tanglewood, and Symphony Hall performance schedules, patrons have access to a number of free and paid media options. Free offerings include WGBH radio broadcast streams of select BSO, Boston Pops, and Tanglewood performances; audio concert preview podcasts; Emmy Award-winning audio and video interviews with guest artists and BSO musicians; music excerpts, of up to three minutes, highlighting upcoming programs as well as all self-produced albums by the BSO, Boston Pops, Boston Symphony Chamber Players, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Tanglewood Music Center Fellows, and complete program notes for all performances, which can be downloaded and printed or saved offline to an e-reading device such as a Kindle or Nook.

Paid content includes digital music downloads produced and published under the BSO's music label BSO Classics and includes performances by the BSO, Boston Pops, Boston Symphony Chamber Players, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Tanglewood Music Center Fellows. Albums available include the BSO’s and James Levine’s Grammy-winning recording of Ravel’s complete *Daphnis and Chloé*, Brahms’s *A German Requiem*; the Boston Pops’ *The Dream Lives On: A Portrait of the Kennedy Brothers* featuring Robert De Niro, Morgan Freeman, and Ed Harris, and *The Red Sox Album*; as well as the Tanglewood Festival Chorus’s 40th Anniversary CD. The most recent album released by BSO Classics in November 2011, is the Boston Symphony Chamber Players' *Profanes et Sacrées: 20th-Century French Chamber Music*. During the summer of 2012, BSO Classics will be releasing 75 archive recordings from Tanglewood's storied history. These recordings will be released individually for the first 70 days of the Tanglewood season. Each release will be free to stream within the first 24 hours of release, and then available as a paid digital download after the streaming period is over. Digital music is available in standard definition MP3, and select content is also available in high definition (HD) stereo and surround formats. The Media Center can be visited by clicking on Media Center at bso.org.

Also in the fall of 2011, the BSO launched its highly anticipated BSO Kids website. Kids and parents can access educational games and resources designed to be fun and help teach various aspects of music theory and musical concepts. Initial games include “Cue the Conductor,” “build and play a “Monstrument,” “Catchy Tuba,” “Play that Tune,” and “Music Memory.” In addition to games, teachers will have access to a number of resources including lesson plans, curriculum kits, and workshop information.

In the late spring of 2012, BSO.org will also be available in a phone/mobile device format. Patrons will be able to use BSO.org Mobile to access performance schedules, purchase tickets as well as pre-
performance food and beverages, download program notes, listen to radio broadcasts, music clips, and concert previews, watch video exclusives, and make donations to the BSO – all in the palm of their hand.

RADIO BROADCASTS AND STREAMING
BSO concerts are broadcast regularly on the stations of Classical New England, a service of WGBH. Saturday-evening concerts are broadcast live on 99.5 in Boston and 88.7 in Providence, on HD radio at 89.7 HD2, and online – both live and archived – at www.classicalnewengland.org In addition, BSO concerts are now heard throughout New England and upstate New York, on a network of stations including WFCR/Amherst MA, WAMC/Albany NY, WCNH/Concord NH, Vermont Public Radio, and the Maine Public Broadcasting Network. BSO broadcasts on Classical New England begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday nights, and are repeated at 1 p.m. on Sunday afternoons. The full schedule is available at www.classicalnewengland.org/bso.

FOOD SERVICES AT SYMPHONY HALL
The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s catering partner, Boston Gourmet, offers a fresh perspective on the food and beverage options offered at Symphony Hall before concerts, during intermission, and in the popular Symphony Café. Symphony Café offers buffet-style dining from 5:30 p.m. until concert time for all evening Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts. In addition, Symphony Café is open for lunch prior to Friday-afternoon concerts. Patrons enjoy the convenience of pre-concert dining at the Café in the unique ambiance of historic Symphony Hall. The cost of dinner is $39 per person; the cost of lunch is $25. The Café is located in Higginson Hall; patrons enter through the Cohen Wing entrance on Huntington Avenue. Please call 617-638-9328 for reservations.

Additionally, appetizers will be available at the bars in Symphony Hall’s Cabot-Cahners Room and O’Block-Kay Room. Patrons can purchase appetizers at the bars or order in advance a pre-concert package that features an appetizer and half-bottle of wine and they can also take advantage of the hall-wide beverage service by purchasing beverage coupons in advance through the BSO’s website at www.bso.org/dining.

SYMPHONY HALL SHOP AND TOURS
The Symphony Shop, located in the Cohen Wing on Huntington Avenue, is open Thursdays and Saturdays from 3pm to 6pm, and from one hour before concert time through intermission. A satellite shop, located on the first-balcony level, is open only during concerts. Merchandise may also be purchased by visiting the BSO website at www.bso.org. The shop can be reached at 617-638-9383.

The Boston Symphony Association of Volunteers offers weekly public and private tours of Symphony Hall during the BSO and Pops seasons. For more information on taking a Symphony Hall tour, please visit us at www.bso.org. You may also email bsav@bso.org, or call 617-638-9390 to confirm specific dates and times. Schedules are subject to change.

SPONSORSHIPS
Bank of America and EMC Corporation are proud to be the Season Sponsors of the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2012-13 season. The Fairmont Copley Plaza Boston, celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2012, together with Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, is the Official Hotel of the BSO. Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation is the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the BSO.

PRESS CONTACTS:
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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM LISTING, OCTOBER 4-9, 2012

Thursday, October 4, 8 p.m.
Friday, October 5, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 6, 8 p.m.
Marcelo Lehninger, conductor
Joshua Bell, violin
TCHAIKOVSKY Romeo and Juliet, Fantasy-overture
BERNSTEIN Serenade (after Plato’s Symposium) for violin and orchestra
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8

Tuesday, October 9, 8 p.m.
Marcelo Lehninger, conductor
Hawthorne String Quartet
TCHAIKOVSKY Romeo and Juliet, Fantasy-overture
SCHULHOFF Concerto for String Quartet and Wind Orchestra
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8