MAESTRO CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI RETURNS TO THE PODIUM, FEBRUARY 14-16, FOR HIS SECOND PROGRAM OF THE BSO’S 2012-13 SEASON, LEADING BRUCKNER’S FOURTH SYMPHONY AND MOZART’S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 23, K. 488, WITH PIANIST RADU LUPU

Performances to take place Thursday, February 14, and Saturday, February 16, at 8 p.m., and Friday, February 15, at 1:30 p.m.; for press tickets reply to this email or call 617-638-9286

In three concerts Thursday, February 14-Saturday, February 16, revered Romanian pianist Radu Lupu—known for his individual and inimitable interpretations of the great masterpieces of the piano repertoire—joins maestro Christoph von Dohnányi and the Boston Symphony Orchestra for Mozart’s elegantly soft-spoken Piano Concerto No. 23, completed in 1786 when Mozart was at the height of his popularity in Vienna. Also on the program is Bruckner’s expansive Symphony No. 4, Romantic, marked by the soaring grandeur and long-breathed melodies so characteristic of that composer.

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

PROGRAM DETAILS

Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 23 in A, K. 488, which begins these concerts, was written and premiered—probably with Mozart himself as soloist—in 1786, around the time of the premiere of Le nozze di Figaro. And Figaro, which became his first operatic smash hit thanks to its tremendous success with audiences in Prague that year, is not far away in this concerto. As well as demonstrating Mozart’s complete mastery of the concerto form, K. 488 makes plain the composer’s love for and recent work in the theater in its episodic and conversational nature, and is one of many examples of Mozart’s ability to infuse other musical genres with the drama and speech-like rhythms of opera. All of his many concertos are different from one another; this is one of his most delicate and chamber-music-like.

Though appropriate for Valentine’s Day, on which the first of these concerts occurs, the nickname of Bruckner’s Symphony No. 4 refers not to romantic love but rather to the heroic and adventurous narrative style of chivalric romance—a genre of written and spoken tales popular in medieval Europe and typically characterized by knights, castles, quests, distressed damsels, and so on. Originally written in 1874 but
continually revised (like almost all of his music) until 1888, the Fourth is one of Bruckner’s most accessible and beautiful symphonies, full of sweeping melody, rousing chorales, and stirring fanfares, including a multitude of famous passages for French horn that depict, among other things, the rising sun and the thrill of the hunt. The work was tremendously popular with the public upon its premiere in 1880 and a professional breakthrough for its composer. It is now generally considered the first of his mature symphonies, and certainly the earliest to frequent the modern concert hall.

CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI

Christoph von Dohnányi last led the BSO in three programs during the 2012 Tanglewood season, including an all-Beethoven program on Opening Night, July 6; a program of Schumann and Brahms on August 4, and a program of Beethoven, Mozart, and Strauss on August 12. He last led the BSO at Symphony Hall April 5-7, 2012, in Brahms’s A German Requiem. This is the second of two programs Maestro von Dohnányi leads this season, in additional to the February 7-12 program featuring Brahms’s Variations on a Theme by Haydn, Sibelius’s Violin Concerto with soloist Renaud Capuçon, and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5.

Christoph von Dohnányi is recognized as one of the world’s pre-eminent orchestral and opera conductors. In addition to guest engagements with the major opera houses and orchestras of Europe and North America, his appointments have included opera directorships in Frankfurt and Hamburg, principal orchestral conducting posts in Germany, London and Paris, and his legendary 20-year tenure as Music Director of the Cleveland Orchestra. In the 2011/2012 season, Maestro von Dohnányi returned to North America to lead subscription concerts with the Boston Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, the Kansas City Symphony, and the Cleveland Orchestra. He conducted the Brahms German Requiem with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London, and returned to Israel several times for concerts with the Israel Philharmonic. He appeared with the Zurich Opera to conduct Strauss’s Salome, and spent an orchestral week with Zurich Tonhalle. In July, he returned to open the Boston Symphony's 75th Tanglewood season. Maestro von Dohnányi's longstanding partnership with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London, where he is Honorary Conductor for Life and has served as Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser from 1997 onwards, began when he was appointed Principal Guest Conductor in 1994. Christoph von Dohnányi has made many critically acclaimed recordings for London/Decca with the Cleveland Orchestra and the Vienna Philharmonic.

RADU LUPU

Radu Lupu last performed with the BSO February 3-8, 2011, when he joined Sakari Oramo and the orchestra for Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3. He made his BSO debut on December 8, 1977.

Radu Lupu is firmly established as one of the most important musicians of his generation and is widely acknowledged as a leading interpreter of the works of Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart and Schubert. Since winning the prestigious Van Cliburn (1966) and Leeds Piano Competitions (1969), Mr. Lupu has regularly performed as soloist and recitalist in the musical capitals and major festivals of Europe and the United States. He has appeared many times with the Berlin Philharmonic since his debut with that orchestra at the 1978 Salzburg Festival under Herbert von Karajan, and with the Vienna Philharmonic, including the opening concert of the 1986 Salzburg Festival under Riccardo Muti. He is also a frequent visitor to the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and all of the major London orchestras. Radu Lupu's first major American appearances were in 1972 with the Cleveland Orchestra under Daniel Barenboim in New York and with the Chicago Symphony led by Carlo Maria Giulini. Concerts with the New York Philharmonic soon followed and Mr. Lupu has since appeared with all of the foremost American orchestras. This season, his annual winter tour will include concerts with the orchestras of Cleveland, Boston, National Arts Centre (Ottawa) as well as National Symphony and the New York Philharmonic in addition to recitals for Friends of Chamber Music in Kansas City and Gilmore Keyboard Festival in Michigan.
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 (http://www.bso.org/subscriptions). 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**, 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. 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.

In the Fall 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 http://www.bso.org/shop. 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, FEBRUARY 14-16, 2013

Thursday, February 14, 8 p.m.
Friday, February 15, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 16, 8 p.m.
Christoph von Dohnányi, conductor
Radu Lupu, piano
MOZART Piano Concerto No. 23 in A, K.488
BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4, Romantic