COMPOSER/CONDUCTOR OLIVER KNUSSEN LEADS BSO IN PROGRAM FEATURING HIS OWN WHITMAN SETTINGS, WITH SOPRANO CLAIRE BOOTH, AND VIOLIN CONCERTO, WITH SOLOIST PINCHAS ZUKERMAN, APRIL 12-13

PROGRAM ALSO INCLUDES MIASKOVSKY’S SYMPHONY NO. 10 AND STOKOWSKI’S ARRANGEMENT OF MUSSORGSKY’S PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

BSO AND COLEY SOCIETY OF ART EXHIBITING 32 NEW PAINTINGS AT SYMPHONY HALL UNTIL APRIL 13, INSPIRED BY MUSSORGSKY’S PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

Performances to take place Friday, April 12, and Saturday, April 13, at 8 p.m.; for press tickets, email dmccadden@bso.org or call 617-638-9286

The distinguished British composer/conductor Oliver Knussen leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra in music of his own in two concerts Friday, April 12, and Saturday, April 13. For his Violin Concerto (2002), he and the BSO are joined by veteran virtuoso Pinchas Zukerman as soloist, for whom the piece was written. Then, making her BSO debut, English soprano Claire Booth takes center stage for Knussen’s 1992 Whitman Settings, for soprano and orchestra. The program opens with the Symphony No. 10 by the early 20th-century Russian composer Nikolai Miaskovsky (who wrote twenty-six symphonies in all), and closes with Mussorgsky’s Pictures at an Exhibition in a rarely heard orchestration by Leopold Stokowski.

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

BSO AND COLEY SOCIETY OF ART EXHIBIT 32 NEW PAINTINGS AT SYMPHONY HALL, INSPIRED BY “PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION,” MARCH 6-APRIL 13

The Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Copley Society of Art have joined forces to curate an exhibit of 32 new paintings throughout Symphony Hall, March 6-April 13. Inspired by Mussorgsky’s Pictures at an Exhibition, in collaboration with BSO performances of the work April 12 and 13, the paintings were unveiled at a special reception in honor of the artists in the O’Block/Kay Room at Symphony Hall on March 6. The artwork will be on view for all visitors attending concerts at Symphony Hall, March 6-April 13.
John Kirby of Boston Art, Inc. and Ron Della Chiesa of WGBH selected the 32 works for the Symphony Hall exhibit from a field of 125 entries by Copley Society Artists. The paintings can be viewed at [www.bso.org](http://www.bso.org) and visitors to the site can select which painting best captures the spirit of Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The best-in-show painting, chosen by Mr. Kirby and Mr. Della Chiesa, with input from online participation, will be announced at a reception in the Cabot-Cahners Room at Symphony Hall, from 6 to 8 p.m., on April 12, prior to the BSO’s first performance of the work this season. Those interested in attending the April 12 reception and concert can purchase a $60 ticket for both events at [www.bso.org/copleysocietyartists](http://www.bso.org/copleysocietyartists); these tickets are also available by calling 888-266-1200 or visiting the Symphony Hall Box Office at 301 Massachusetts Avenue.

**PROGRAM DETAILS**

British composer Oliver Knussen was born in Glasgow and grew up in a musical family. Encouraged in his musical pursuits from an early age, he studied composition with Gunther Schuller and Tanglewood, where he eventually held the position of Head of Contemporary Music Activities between 1986 and 1993. Knussen is Artist in Association with the BBC Symphony Orchestra and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, and is Conductor Laureate of the London Sinfonietta. Though the titles of the three movements of his Violin Concerto ("Recitative"—"Aria"—"Gigue") reveal a Baroque influence, Knussen is careful to point out that “the expressive world is sometimes wildly at odds with expectations thus suggested, or so it seems to me. At times the violinist resembles a tightrope walker progressing along a (decidedly unstable) high wire strung across the span that separates the opening and closing sounds of the piece.” *Whitman Settings*, a set of four “characteristically powerful but unusually short poems by Walt Whitman,” the composer explains, “muse on things in space or the sky, and all four songs grow from the short idea heard at the outset.” Graceful and light on their feet, these songs are serious and profound but never self-conscious.

Opening the program is the Symphony No. 10 by Nikolai Miaskovsky (1881–1950), a work completed in 1927 that is remarkable for its concision, compressing the familiar elements of the traditional four-movement symphony into a single movement of approximately 15 minutes. The composer described the brash and blaring work as being “filled with the deafening racket of four trumpets, eight horns, and so on.” Also making use of the power and tonal palette of a large orchestra is Leopold Stokowski’s orchestration of Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*, which concludes these programs. Completed in 1939, Stokowski’s interpretation strives for a more Slavic sound and seeks to remove the French accent the great conductor heard in Ravel’s more famous orchestration.

**OLIVER KNUSSN**

Oliver Knussen last led the BSO in Symphony Hall in a performance of his *Where the Wild Things Are* and Copland’s *Appalachian Spring* on November 4-6, 1999. Mr. Knussen was a Tanglewood Music Center Fellow in 1970-71 and 1973 and was Head of Contemporary Music Activities with the TMC between 1986 and 1993. In 2012, he directed the Festival of Contemporary Music, including the East Coast premiere performance of his *Higglety Pigglety Pop!,* based on Maurice Sendak’s children’s book of the same name.

Oliver Knussen’s music occupies a respected place in concert and opera programs worldwide. As an acclaimed and much-invited conductor, his influence on contemporary music has been felt in many parts of the world. Oliver Knussen is Artist-in-Association with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. He has enjoyed long and close collaborations with many distinguished composers, including Elliott Carter, Alexander Goehr, Hans Werner Henze, Mauricio Kagel, Toru Takemitsu, Magnus Lindberg, George Benjamin and Mark-
Anthony Turnage, as well as encouraging many younger composer-colleagues through his work at Tanglewood and the Contemporary Composition and Performance courses (which he co-founded with Colin Matthews) at the Britten-Pears school in Snape, Suffolk. He also curated the Stockhausen Memorial Festival 'Klang' at Southbank Centre in 2008, and in 2009 he was appointed Artist-in-Association with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, this three-year position consolidating his long relationship with them as composer and conductor. Knussen is an Honorary Member of the Royal Philharmonic Society and of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He holds an Honorary Doctorate from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. He was made a CBE in 1994 and was recipient of the 2005 ABO Award; the 2007 British Composer Award for Requiem - Songs for Sue; and most recently the 2010 Royal Philharmonic Society Conductor Award.

PINCHAS ZUKERMAN

Pinchas Zukerman last performed with the BSO on August 10, 2012, conducting and playing violin on an all-Bach program. He last joined the BSO at Symphony Hall on October 21-26, 2010, performing Beethoven’s Violin Concerto. Mr. Zukerman made his debut with the orchestra on July 20, 1969.

Pinchas Zukerman has remained a phenomenon in the world of music for four decades. His musical genius, prodigious technique and unwavering artistic standards are a marvel to audiences and critics. Devoted to the next generation of musicians, he has inspired younger artists with his magnetism and passion. His devotion to teaching has resulted in innovative programs in London, New York, China, Israel and Ottawa. The name Pinchas Zukerman is equally respected as violinist, violist, conductor, pedagogue and chamber musician. Currently in his 13th season as Music Director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, Mr. Zukerman is recognized for heightening the ensemble’s caliber and reputation, inaugurating the prestigious National Arts Centre Summer Music Institute, and expanding the ensemble's repertoire to include large-scale works. Mr. Zukerman is deeply committed to enriching the National Arts Centre Orchestra's cultural involvement within the region, and since his appointment has taken an interest in virtually every aspect of Ottawa's artistic community. He led enormously successful Canadian tours in 1999, 2002, 2004 and 2005, as well as critically acclaimed tours to the Middle East and Europe in 2000 and the United States and Mexico in 2003, all highlighted by hundreds of unprecedented outreach activities with an innovative internet component.

CLAIRE BOOTH

A finalist in the 2004 Kathleen Ferrier Competition and a recipient of numerous scholarships and awards, Claire Booth has gone on to establish an international reputation as one of the most talented and versatile singers of her generation both in opera and concert in repertoire ranging from the operas of Handel and Mozart to complex scores written in the 20th and 21st centuries. She made her professional debut at the Royal Festival Hall singing Oliver Knussen's Océan de Terre for the composer's 50th birthday celebrations concert. This proved the basis of a productive association with Knussen, including numerous appearances with the London Sinfonietta and BBC Symphony Orchestra and at the BBC Proms; his Whitman Settings in 2005 and his Requiem—Songs for Sue in 2007, written for Claire. This latter performance earned her a nomination at the 2008 South Bank Awards. Her busy concert career has included appearances with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the BBC Symphony and BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestras, Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, London Sinfonietta, Ensemble Intercontemporarin, Academy of Ancient Music, The Kings Consort and Birmingham Contemporary Music Group.

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 (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 became available in a phone/mobile device format. Patrons can 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 an Irving W. and Charlotte F. Rabb 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:**

Bernadette Horgan, Director of Public Relations (bhorgan@bso.org) 617-638-9285

**BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM LISTING, APRIL 12 & 13, 2013**

Friday, April 12, 8 p.m.
Saturday, April 13, 8 p.m.
Oliver Knussen, conductor
Pinchas Zukerman, violin
Claire Booth, soprano*
MIASKOVSKY Symphony No. 10
KNUSSEN Violin Concerto
KNUSSEN Whitman Settings, for soprano and orchestra
MUSSORGSKY arr. STOKOWSKI Pictures at an Exhibition