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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA STRINGS, WINDS, AND BRASS SECTIONS SHINE IN MUSIC OF BRITTEN, DVOŘÁK, MOZART, AND TIPPET, APRIL 18-23

TO CLOSE THE PROGRAM, BSO ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR ANDRIS POGA LEADS BRITTEN’S YOUNG PERSON’S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA

Performances to take place Thursday, April 18, Saturday, April 20, and Tuesday, April 23, at 8 p.m., and Friday, April 19, at 1:30 p.m.; for press tickets, email dmccadden@bso.org or call 617-638-9286

Following the great success of the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s “members-only” concerts in January 2012, the individual sections of the orchestra again take the stage conductor-less in four concerts Thursday, April 18-Tuesday, April 23, with a program featuring Britten’s Fanfare for St. Edmundsbury, Mozart’s Serenade No. 11 in E-flat for winds, K.375, Dvořák’s Serenade for Strings, and Tippett’s Praeludium for brass, bells, and percussion. Led by BSO Assistant Conductor Andris Poga, in his BSO debut, the full ensemble then performs Britten’s well-known Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra, which—in keeping with the program’s overall spirit—shines a spotlight on each section of the orchestra in turn.

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

PROGRAM DETAILS

Bookending the program are two works by great 20th-century English composer Benjamin Britten, whose birth centenary is being celebrated in 2013. Opening the program is the little-known Fanfare for St. Edmundsbury, for three trumpets (or multiples of three). Written in 1959, this brief fanfare begins with three distinct solo passages, one for each player or group of players, then combines the three seemingly widely disparate passages into a single cohesive whole. Britten’s most famous work, The Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra, brings these concerts to a close. A set of variations based on a theme by the English Baroque composer Henry Purcell, The Young Person’s Guide is a charming combination of lighthearted fun and virtuoso display. Though it was originally commissioned for an education film, it has taken on a life of its own and is now frequently performed in concert, for children and adults alike, around the world.
At the heart of the program is Dvořák’s elegant five-movement Serenade for Strings, written by the composer at breakneck speed in just two weeks. A relatively early work dating from 1875, right around the time the composer was becoming well known, it emerged from a happy and productive period of Dvořák’s life, when he was recently married, had a newborn son, and had a steady income for the first time. The music reflects these joyful circumstances and, despite a few wistful moments, rarely strays from its uplifting, contented mood.

Surrounding Dvořák’s work for strings are two pieces featuring none: Mozart’s Serenade No. 11 in E-flat for winds, K.375, and Michael Tippett’s *Praeludium* for brass, bells, and percussion. Scored for two oboes, two clarinets, two horns, and two bassoons, Mozart’s Serenade No. 11 was written in 1781 (with the oboe parts added in 1782) and was given its premiere in the company of one of the Austrian emperor’s musical advisors, whom Mozart hoped to impress. Though that hope proved to be in vain, the work was popular with Viennese music lovers and is now regarded as one of the earliest masterpieces for wind ensemble.

Commissioned for the 40th anniversary of the BBC, Tippett’s *Praeludium* shares the separate-then-together progression of the Britten fanfare that opens these concerts, but greatly broadens the color palette through the use of a full complement of brass and a brilliant array of percussion.

**ANDRIS POGA**

Appointed assistant conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra beginning with the 2012-2013 season, Andris Poga graduated from the Jazeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music in 2004 with a degree in conducting. He also studied philosophy at the University of Latvia, and from 2004 to 2005 studied conducting with Uroš Lajovic at the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts. While still a student, he took part in master classes of conductors including Mariss Jansons, Seiji Ozawa, and Leif Segerstam. Since 2007, he has been a regular conductor of the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra and has led performances of Beethoven, Brahms, and Mahler symphonies, as well as works by Weber, Richard Strauss, Hindemith, Messiaen, and Alban Berg, among others. From 2007 to 2010 he was music director and chief conductor of the Riga Professional Symphonic Band. Mr. Poga founded the Konsonanse Chamber Orchestra and has conducted concert tours in Latvia, Germany, Finland, and Spain. Winner of the Latvia Great Music Award in 2007, he was also awarded First Prize in the 2010 Evgeny Svetlanov International Conducting Competition in Montpellier. Since then, he has conducted Orchestre National de Bordeaux, Orchestre National de Montpellier, Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire at the “La Folle Journée” Festival, and the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra. He was the assistant to Maestro Myung-Whun Chung for a concert of the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France in October 2010. His engagements for the 2011-12 season included a tour with the Orchestre de Rouen; concerts with the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, Latvian National Opera, Israel Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre National de Lille, Orchestre National de Montpellier and Boris Berezovsky, Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, Orchestre National de Bordeaux, and Orchestre de Paris, and a tour of Japan with the Sendai Philharmonic, the New Japan Philharmonic, and the Kyoto Symphony Orchestra. Andris Poga became assistant conductor to Paavo Järvi at the Orchestre de Paris in 2011. As a BSO assistant conductor, he will lead the orchestra in programs during the Boston Symphony’s subscription season at Symphony Hall and during the Tanglewood Music Festival.
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
Thursday, April 18, 8 p.m.
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Saturday, April 20, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23, 8 p.m.

Members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra

Andris Poga, conductor (Britten’s The Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra)

BRITTEN Fanfare for St. Edmundsbury
MOZART Serenade No. 11 in E-flat for winds, K.375
DVOŘÁK Serenade for Strings
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