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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
APPOINTS KEN-DAVID MASUR AS NEW ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

The Boston Symphony Orchestra has appointed Ken-David Masur as the orchestra’s new assistant conductor beginning with the 2014-15 season for a two-year term. Mr. Masur will join the Boston Symphony Orchestra for his first podium appearance as assistant conductor during the 2015 Tanglewood season. He will then make his BSO subscription series debut during the 2015-16 season. Ken-David, a 2011 and 2012 Tanglewood Music Center Conducting Fellow, made his BSO conducting debut in July 2012, sharing the podium on a concert with his father Kurt Masur, leading Mozart’s Eine kleine Nachtmusik and Piano Concerto in C minor, K.491, with Gerhard Oppitz as soloist.

KEN-DAVID MASUR

Conductor and Grammy-nominated producer Ken-David Masur has been critically hailed as “fearless, bold” and a “life-force” [U-T San Diego] and “a brilliant and commanding conductor with unmistakable charisma” [Leipzig Volkszeitung]. His recent engagements include the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Dresden Philharmonic, Russian National Philharmonic, Israel Philharmonic, Orchestre National de Toulouse, Hiroshima Symphony, Japan Philharmonic, and the San Diego, Memphis and Portland Symphony Orchestras. He currently serves as Principal Guest conductor of the Munich Symphony as well as Associate Conductor of the San Diego Symphony. In the summer of 2013 he made returns to Tanglewood and the Colmar Festival in France conducting the Russian National Philharmonic at their summer home.

Between 2004 and 2006 he was an assistant conductor for Orchestre National de France in Paris before being appointed resident conductor of the San Antonio Symphony in 2007. In 2010 Masur was one of three finalists in the London Symphony Orchestra’s Donatella Flick Conducting Competition and in 2011 was the recipient of the Seiji Ozawa Conducting Fellowship at Tanglewood. He returned once again upon invitation as a Fellow in 2012 to conduct several concerts with the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, including the Schoenberg piano concerto with pianist Emanuel Ax.

Ken-David Masur received his B.A. from Columbia University in New York City. There he served from 1999-2002 as the first music director of the Bach Society Orchestra and Chorus, which toured Germany and released a critically acclaimed recording of symphonies and cantatas by W.F. Bach, C.P.E. Bach and J.S.
Bach. He pursued further music studies at the Leipzig Conservatory, the Detmold Academy, the Manhattan School of Music and the “Hanns Eisler” Conservatory in Berlin, where he was a five-year master student of bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff. Through his vocal background, Masur was also a frequent guest conductor of the French Radio Choir and the Children’s Chorus of Radio France; he has prepared choirs for such ensembles as the London Philharmonic, New York’s 92nd St. Y, and the Academy of Choral Arts in Moscow. He studied conducting primarily with his father, Kurt Masur.

Together with his wife, pianist Melinda Lee Masur, he serves as artistic director of the Chelsea Music Festival (www.chelseamusicfestival.org), an annual summer music festival in New York City lauded as “a gem of a series” by The New York Times. It introduces multi-sensory, innovative programs by fusing performing, visual, and culinary arts in many different venues throughout Manhattan and features the world’s leading musicians and exciting newcomers on both the classical and jazz music stage.

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