EMINENT CONDUCTOR CHARLES DUTOIT LEADS TWO WEEKS OF BSO PROGRAMS FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 7, FEATURING GERMAN, FRENCH, AND RUSSIAN MASTERPIECES AS WELL AS SZYMANOWSKI’S COMPLETE KING ROGER

VIOLIN SOLOIST JULIA FISCHER PERFORMS BRAHMS’S VIOLIN CONCERTO ON THE FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 3 PROGRAM, WHICH ALSO FEATURES MUSIC BY STRAVINSKY AND DEBUSSY; THIS PROGRAM IS PART OF A THREE-PROGRAM SERIES, FEBRUARY 12-MARCH 3, FOCUSING ON MUSIC CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE BALLET RUSSES

ON MARCH 5 AND 7, MR. DUTOIT LEADS THE BSO, TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL CHORUS, VOICES BOSTON, AND ACCLAIMED VOCAL SOLOISTS, INCLUDING BARITONE MARIUSZ KWIĘCIEN, IN THE BSO’S FIRST PERFORMANCES OF KAROL SZYMANOWSKI’S OPERA KING ROGER

Performances to take place Thursday, February 26, Saturday, February 27, and Tuesday, March 3, at 8 p.m., and Friday, February 27 at 1:30 p.m.; Thursday, March 5 and Saturday, March 7 at 8 p.m.

TICKETS FOR THE 2014-15 BSO SEASON, PRICED FROM $30 TO $145, ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH WWW.BSO.ORG OR BY CALLING 888-266-1200

Swiss maestro Charles Dutoit, a frequent collaborator with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, joins orchestra for two wide-ranging programs, February 26-March 7. For the February 26-March 3 program, part of the BSO’s three-program series focused on music closely associated with the Ballet Russes, Mr. Dutoit and the orchestra welcome acclaimed German violinist Julia Fischer, who is featured as soloist in Brahms’s beloved Violin Concerto, and also perform Stravinsky’s neoclassical Concerto in E-flat, Dumbarton Oaks, and
Debussy’s vibrant and colorful *Images*, for orchestra. Then, on March 5 and 7, Maestro Dutoit will lead the BSO’s first performances of great Polish composer Karol Szymanowski’s complete opera *King Roger*, composed between 1918 and 1924. Mr. Dutoit and the BSO are joined for the occasion by a host of vocalists, including the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, Voices Boston, and distinguished soloists, among them Metropolitan Opera star baritone Mariusz Kwiecien, who plays the title role.

These programs are part of a multi-year survey that began during the 2012-13 season, featuring Maestro Dutoit conducting major works from the first half of the 20th century, repertoire for which he is a foremost interpreter.

**CHARLES DUTOIT AND THE BSO, FEBRUARY 26, 27, AND 28, AND MARCH 3**

In four concerts Thursday, February 26-Tuesday, March 3—the third consecutive week of programs featuring music by Stravinsky—eminent Swiss conductor Charles Dutoit leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the Russian composer’s Concerto in E-flat, *Dumbarton Oaks*, commissioned by the owners of the Dumbarton Oaks estate in Washington, DC, and the last piece Stravinsky wrote in Europe before emigrating to America in 1939. To conclude the program, highly acclaimed German violinist Julia Fischer teams up with Mr. Dutoit and the orchestra for Brahms’s Romantic yet refined Violin Concerto, and in between are Debussy’s *Images*, for orchestra, which sparkle with color and evocative orchestral effects and in some ways even surpass his earlier, better-known masterpieces for sheer vividness of sound painting. These will be the first BSO performances of the complete *Images* since 1975.

These concerts are part of a series of three programs, February 12-March 3, presenting influential works from the first three decades of the 20th century, many of which share the common thread of association with the Ballets Russes. Many are also works that represent a key component of the BSO’s history, having been written by composers whom Serge Koussevitzky championed during his twenty-five-year tenure as BSO music director from 1925 to 1949.

**CHARLES DUTOIT AND THE BSO, MARCH 5 AND 7**

Audiences have two rare opportunities Thursday, March 5, and Saturday, March 7, to hear the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s first ever performances of the opera *King Roger* by early-20th-century Polish composer Karol Szymanowski, one of Poland’s greatest composers after Chopin. For these complete concert performances, sung in Polish with English supertitles, the orchestra is once again conducted by Charles Dutoit and is joined by the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and Voices Boston, as well as a distinguished case of vocal soloists, headlined by Polish baritone and Metropolitan Opera star Mariusz Kwiecien in the title role and also featuring soprano Olga Pasichnyk; mezzo-soprano Yvonne Naef; tenors Edgaras Montvidas, Rafał Majzner, and Alex Richardson; and bass Raymond Aceto. The melodic and lush three-act opera, composed between 1918 and 1924, is based on the life of 12th-century Sicilian monarch King Roger II. Loosely based on Euripides’ *The Bacchae*, it addresses the universal struggles between paganism and intellect, intellect and wisdom, darkness and light.

For further information about the Boston Symphony Orchestra, visit [www.bso.org](http://www.bso.org) or click here for [complete programs](http://www.bso.org), [ticket information](http://www.bso.org), [photos](http://www.bso.org), [press documents](http://www.bso.org), and [artist bios](http://www.bso.org).
TICKET, SPONSORSHIP, AND OTHER PATRON INFORMATION

TICKET INFORMATION
Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2014-15 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, priced from $30-$145, 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, Thursday, and Friday 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 enhance its patrons’ awareness and knowledge of the music being performed, the Boston Symphony Orchestra continues to offer a variety of adult education initiatives at Symphony Hall for the 2014-15 season.
UnderScore Fridays is a uniquely formatted concert series. At all Friday-evening performances, members of the BSO introduce the concerts from the stage. Selected concerts also include comments from the stage by guest artists appearing in the program. Tickets for UnderScore Fridays range from $32 to $130.

“BSO 101: Are You Listening?” returns in 2014-15. In this popular Wednesday-evening series, BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel is joined by members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra for presentations designed to enhance one’s 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 2014-15, offering three Tuesday-evening sessions focusing on behind-the-scenes activities at Symphony Hall with BSO musicians and administrative staff, including player perspectives on performing with the orchestra. All “BSO 101” sessions take place from 5:30-6:45 p.m. at Symphony Hall, and each is followed by a reception. Though the “BSO 101” sessions are free, please note that there is a nominal charge for the reception.

The popular Friday Preview Talks continue to take place from 12:15-12:45 p.m. before each Friday-afternoon subscription concert; the Symphony Hall doors open at 11:30am. Given by BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel, Assistant Director of Program Publications Robert Kirzinger, and occasional guest speakers, these informative half-hour talks incorporate recorded examples from the music to be performed. The BSO also offers talks before each of the season’s four Thursday-morning Open Rehearsals at Symphony Hall. These take place from 9:30-10 a.m. The Symphony Hall doors open at 9 a.m., and the Open Rehearsal itself begins at 10:30 a.m. Admission to the Friday Preview Talks and Open Rehearsal Talks is free of charge free to ticket holders for the Friday-afternoon subscription concerts and Thursday-morning Open Rehearsals.

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 $95 million in revenue since its launch in 1996. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is on Facebook at Facebook.com/BostonSymphony on Twitter at Twitter.com/BostonSymphony, and on Google+ at Google.com/+bostonsymphony. Video content from the BSO is also available at YouTube.com/BostonSymphony.

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; free live music steams for select seasonal offerings including the recent Holiday Pops music stream (December 2013); 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. The BSO Media Center is available by visiting BSO.org/mediacenter.
BSO.org is mobile device compatible. Patrons can visit BSO.org on their mobile device 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 99.5 WCRB, 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 in Boston, and online—both live and archived—at www.classicalwcrb.org. Live and archived BSO concerts can also be streamed online at www.bso.org. Listeners can enjoy the “BSO Concert Channel” online, a continuous high-quality audio stream of live BSO performances from Symphony Hall and Tanglewood. In addition, BSO concerts are now heard throughout New England and upstate New York, on a network of stations including WAMC in Albany, NY, WMNR in Monroe, CT, Vermont Public Radio, New England Public Radio, and the Maine Public Broadcasting Network. BSO broadcasts on 99.5 WCRB begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday nights, and are repeated at 8 p.m. on Monday evenings.

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 $41 per person; the cost of lunch is $27, tax included. 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, casual pre-concert and intermission dining, including sandwiches, light appetizers, and desserts, is available at the bars in Symphony Hall’s Cabot-Cahners Room and O’Block-Kay Room. Light appetizers and sandwiches can also be ordered and picked up at the snack bar outside the O’Block-Kay Room. A tapas style menu is available in the Symphony Café Lounge area alongside Huntington Avenue. Reservations for the Lounge can be made by calling 617-638-9328. Patrons can 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 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., 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
Longstanding major corporate partners Bank of America and EMC Corporation return as the BSO Season Sponsors for the 2014-15 Season. The BSO is proud to announce that longtime sponsor Arbella Insurance
Foundation will continue its support this season with its sponsorship of the BSO College Card and BSO Youth and Family Concerts. The Fairmont Copley Plaza, together with Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, begins its 13th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO, and Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation begins its 12th season as the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the BSO.

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