FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
September 14, 2015

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND MUSIC DIRECTOR ANDRIS NELSONS 
CELEBRATE THEIR SECOND SEASON TOGETHER WITH 
SEPTEMBER 26 SYMPHONY GALA

ELEGANT BLACK TIE EVENT TO TAKE PLACE INSIDE SYMPHONY HALL, 
TRANSFORMED TO RESEMBLE AN ORNATE CANOPY-LIT OUTDOOR GARDEN 
WITH GOURMET CUISINE FROM RENOWNED BOSTON CHEF AND RESTAURATEUR 
JEREMY SEWALL, OF ROW 34, LINEAGE, AND ISLAND CREEK OYSTER BAR

GALA PARTY PERFORMANCES TO FEATURE ANDRIS NELSONS WITH MEMBERS OF 
THE BSO BRASS AND PERCUSSION SECTIONS, VIRTUOSO ORGANIST CAMERON 
CARPENTER, AND BOSTON YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA VIOLINIST AND 
CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNER SAMMY ANDONIAN

MR. NELSONS AND THE BSO KICK OFF THE 2015-16 SEASON OCTOBER 1-3 WITH AN ALL-
RUSSIAN PROGRAM FEATURING SHOSTAKOVICH’S SYMPHONY NO. 9, TCHAIKOVSKY’S PIANO 
CONCERTO NO. 1 WITH EVGENY KISSIN, AND RACHMANINOFF’S SYMPHONIC DANCES

To view an online press kit with complete programs, concert listing, ticket information, 
photos, and artist bios, click here: www.bso.org/presskit

The Boston Symphony Orchestra celebrates the opening of its 2015-16 season (October 1, 2015-April 23, 2016) with a Saturday, September 26 gala celebration featuring performances by Andris Nelsons and members of the BSO, virtuoso American organist Cameron Carpenter, and Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition winner Sammy Andonian. The elegant black tie event begins at 6 p.m.
in Symphony Hall, transformed to resemble an ornate outdoor garden party and featuring a menu created by James Beard Award-nominated chef Jeremy Sewall, Chef Owner of Row 34, Lineage, and Island Creek Oyster Bar.

Andris Nelsons and members of the BSO brass and percussion sections will kick off the performance portion of the evening with an arrangement of Shostakovich’s Festive Overture. Mr. Andonian will then perform Kreisler’s Tambourin Chinoise and Elgar’s Salut d’amour with pianist Vytas Baksys. Cameron Carpenter will close the program with a selection of organ works from his diverse repertoire, which ranges from J.S. Bach and César Franck to transcriptions and arrangements, to film scores and original works.

Andris Nelsons and the BSO are joined by pianist Evgeny Kissin to open the 2015-16 subscription season on Thursday, October 1, with an all-Russian program featuring Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 9, Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1, and Rachmaninoff’s Symphonic Dances.

DETAILS OF THE BSO’S OPENING GALA PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 26
The evening begins at 6 p.m. with hors d’oeuvres and cocktails in festively decorated event rooms throughout Symphony Hall. At 7 p.m., guests will be invited into Symphony Hall proper for an evening of great food and music.

The elegant gala dinner, created by Jeremy Sewall, chef and owner of Row 34, Lineage, and Island Creek Oyster Bar, will feature a first course of a baby green and herb salad with corn pudding and charred tomato vinaigrette; a main course of Bell Farm steelhead trout, lentil and apple pilaf, and arugula pesto; and butterscotch pudding with Chantilly cream and caramelized pecans for dessert. Hors d’oeuvres include a raw oyster bar, smoked salmon crepe with pickled onion and caviar, grilled wild mushroom Camembert sandwiches with truffle oil, lobster “BLT” with garden basil, pickled beet toast with oregano and whipped ricotta, and roasted shallot and duck confit tart with pears.

Symphony Hall will be decorated to resemble an outdoor garden in a palette of gold, green, and white. White orchids and hydrangeas will create arrangements dispersed throughout the Hall, provided by Winston Flowers. The Hall will be filled with circular tables covered in hemp and gold damask patterned linens, and serpentine white wooden tables for guest seating will snake around the space. All of these tables will feature textured cylindrical vases, clear etched glass, and gold votives, with hydrangea and orchids at the center. Place settings will feature art deco plates, gold gilded flatware, and gold rimmed and clear etched stemware. In addition to the Hall’s existing chandeliers, a canopy of twinkle lights, provided by High Output, will add to the festival and intimate atmosphere. Rentals will be provided by Be Our Guest, New England Country Rentals, Nuage, Peterson Party Center, and Rentals Unlimited.

ANDRIS NELSONS, EVGENY KISSIN, AND THE BSO OPEN THE 2015-16 SEASON, OCTOBER 1-3
The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2015-16 season begins with three performances Thursday, October 1-Saturday, October 3 with Music Director Andris Nelsons leading the orchestra in an all-Russian program of Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, and Rachmaninoff. The centerpiece of the program features
soloist Evgeny Kissin in Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1, one of the most popular and familiar works in all of music, and a piece for which Mr. Kissin has a special affinity. The program opens with Shostakovich’s concise and jovial Symphony No. 9, last performed by the Boston Symphony Orchestra over 50 years ago, in 1962. Composed toward the end of World War II, it was criticized for being insufficiently solemn. Closing out the program is Rachmaninoff’s *Symphonic Dances*. A musical homage to his lost, beloved Russia, which he had left more than two decades earlier in 1917 amid the Bolshevik Revolution, and a summation of his compositional career, it was Rachmaninoff’s final, valedictory composition.

**RADIO BROADCASTS AND STREAMING**

BSO concerts are broadcast regularly on 99.5 WCRB, a service of WGBH. Saturday evening concerts are broadcast live on WCRB 99.5 in Boston and WJMF 88.7 in Providence, on HD radio at 89.7 HD2 in Boston, and online—both live and archived—at [www.classicalwcrb.org](http://www.classicalwcrb.org). Live and archived BSO concerts can also be streamed online at [www.bso.org](http://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 90.3 FM in Albany, NY, WMNR 88.1 FM in Monroe, CT, Vermont Public Radio, New England Public Radio, and WCNH 91.5FM in Concord, NH. BSO broadcasts on 99.5 WCRB begin at 8 p.m. on Saturday nights, and are repeated at 8 p.m. on Monday evenings.

Click here to view the complete 2015-16 BSO concert schedule.

**TICKET INFORMATION IN BRIEF**

Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2015-16 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](http://www.bso.org/subscriptions)). Single tickets, priced from $25-$, 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.

The BSO’s <40=$20 program allows patrons under the age of 40 to purchase tickets for $20. 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. 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. The Boston Symphony Orchestra offers groups advanced ticket reservations and flexible payment options for BSO concerts at Symphony Hall. Further ticket information is available at the end of this release.

**BSO.ORG—THE LARGEST AND MOST VISITED ORCHESTRA WEBSITE IN THE COUNTRY**

The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s extensive website, [BSO.org](http://www.bso.org), is the largest and most-visited orchestral website in the country, receiving approximately 8 million visitors annually and generating over $104 million in revenue since its launch in 1996. The site’s Media Center consolidates its numerous new media initiatives in one location, including audio concert preview podcasts; Emmy Award-winning interviews with guest artists and BSO musicians; concert program notes; [WGBH radio broadcast streams](http://www.bso.org) of select BSO, Boston Pops, and Tanglewood performances; and all self-produced albums by the BSO, Boston Pops, Boston Symphony Chamber Players, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Tanglewood Music...
Center Fellows. BSO.org is now accessible in a smart phone-/mobile device-friendly format, where patrons can access performance schedules, purchase tickets and pre-performance food and beverages, access the BSO’s new media content, and make donations to the BSO – all in the palm of their hand. BSO.org also launched eTicketing and Print-at-Home tickets, making it easier for patrons attending a concert to access their tickets at home or on their smartphones. 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.

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SPONSORSHIPS
Longstanding major corporate partners Bank of America and EMC Corporation return as the BSO Season Sponsors for the 2015-16 Season. The BSO is proud to announce that the Arbella Insurance Foundation, a longtime sponsor, will continue its support this season with its sponsorship of the BSO College Card and BSO Youth and Family Concerts. Fairmont Copley Plaza begins its 14th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO, and Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation begins its 13th season as the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the BSO.

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