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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND ANDRIS NELSONS’ WIN 2016 GRAMMY AWARD FOR BEST ORCHESTRAL PERFORMACE, FOR SHOSTAKOVICH UNDER STALIN’S SHADOW: SYMPHONIES 5, 8, AND 9, ON THE DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON LABEL

Music Director Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s latest Deutsche Grammophon recording, Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow—featuring Shostakovich’s Symphonies 5, 8, and 9, as well as incidental music from Hamlet—won the Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance today (February 12, 2016) at the 59th annual Grammy Awards. This marks the second consecutive year in which the BSO has garnered a Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s recording of Shostakovich’s Symphonies 5, 8, and 9—released in May 2016—is part of an ambitious collaboration between the BSO, Andris Nelsons, and Deutsche Grammophon to record Dmitri Shostakovich’s entire canon of 15 symphonies, plus the composer’s masterpiece opera, Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk. This year’s Grammy award follows upon the success of the first live recorded album of the BSO/DG collaboration—Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow: Symphony No. 10, also featuring the Passacaglia from Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk—which won the Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance at the 58th annual Grammy Awards in February 2016. The Boston Symphony now holds a total of 9 Grammy Awards.

QUOTE FROM ANDRIS NELSONS, RAY AND MARIA STATA BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR
“All of us at the Boston Symphony Orchestra are incredibly honored, thrilled, and grateful to win the 2017 Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance for our recording of Shostakovich's Symphonies 5, 8, and 9.

“This prestigious recognition from The Recording Academy, along with last year's Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance for Symphony No. 10, is particularly gratifying as it acknowledges the
tremendous commitment of everyone on the team — our exceptional BSO musicians, engineers, and the dedicated staff at the BSO and Deutsche Grammophon, who all believe so deeply in conveying the magnificent and complex beauty of Shostakovich's music, which so powerfully communicates such great depth of emotion.

“We hope these live concert recordings continue to inspire both the orchestra's loyal fans and welcome newcomers to the BSO to discover the incredibly transcendent qualities of Shostakovich's music, performed by these world-class musicians in the astounding acoustics of Symphony Hall. The great pride we feel in winning these second and third Grammy awards is certain to serve as an inspiration as we move forward with our Shostakovich project with our wonderful partner, Deutsche Grammophon.”

QUOTE FROM DR. CLEMENS TRAUTMANN, PRESIDENT, DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON

“It is a very rare occasion that an album is nominated for both its artistic and its sonic qualities. And we are thoroughly grateful and excited to actually receive a Grammy for Best Orchestral Performance, particularly after last year’s win for the first installment of our Shostakovich project. This underlines Andris Nelsons’ and the Boston Symphony Orchestra's commitment to the highest quality standards – an aspiration that DG has shared with the BSO since the outset of our collaboration half a century ago. For each recording project DG attempts to find the ideal constellation of musicians, producers and engineers. We could not have hoped for a better team to revivify the oeuvre of Shostakovich whose music is more contemporary and moving than ever in the precarious state of our cultural and political affairs across the globe.”

The BSO’s recording of Shostakovich’s Symphonies 5, 8, and 9, along with the incidental music from Hamlet was produced and engineered by Shawn Murphy, with Recording Engineer Nick Squire, and Assistant Engineers Joel Watts and John Morin. The album was edited by Nick Squire, Robert Wolff, and Tim Martyn. Silas Brown and Brian Losch were Production Assistants. Tim Martyn of Phoenix Audio was the Mastering Engineer. The Executive Producer was Sid McLauchlan from Deutsche Grammophon.

Details about the release date of the third installment in Andris Nelsons and the BSO’s Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow recording series—a 2-album set including Shostakovich’s Symphony Nos. 6 and 7, incidental music from the Suite from King Lear, and the composer’s Festive Overture—will be announced at a later date. Further details about additional recordings in the BSO’s Shostakovich cycle on the Deutsche Grammophon label will also be announced at a later date.

Boston Symphony Orchestra and Andris Nelsons’ Partnership with Deutsche Grammophon

Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow is an ambitious multi-year recording partnership between Deutsche Grammophon, Andris Nelsons, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The recording initiative began by focusing on works composed during the period of Shostakovich’s difficult relationship with Stalin and the Soviet regime—starting with his fall from favor in the mid-1930s and the composition and highly acclaimed premiere of his Fifth Symphony, and through the premiere of the composer’s Tenth Symphony, one of the composer’s finest, most characteristic orchestral works, purportedly written as a response to Stalin’s death in 1953. In addition to Symphonies 5-10, and the Passacaglia from Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, the project will also include performances and recordings of the incidental music
from *King Lear* and *Hamlet*, as well as the *Festive* Overture. In May 2016, the orchestra and Deutsche Grammophon announced that the scope of this project will also include a full survey of all of Shostakovich’s 15 symphonies. The recordings of these works take place at Symphony Hall—one of the world’s most renowned halls for acoustical excellence.

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**BSO Grammy Award Wins**

**2016: Best Orchestral Performance**
*Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow: Symphonies Nos. 5, 8, and 9*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with Andris Nelsons, conductor
  Released on Deutsche Grammophon

**2016: Best Engineered Album, Classical**
*Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow: Symphonies Nos. 5, 8, and 9*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with Andris Nelsons, conductor
  Released on Deutsche Grammophon

**2015: Best Orchestral Performance**
*Shostakovich Under Stalin’s Shadow: Symphony No. 10 and the Passacaglia from Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with Andris Nelsons, conductor
  Released on Deutsche Grammophon

**2010: Best Orchestral Performance**
*Ravel: Daphnis etChloé*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with James Levine, conductor
  Released on BSO Classics

**1966: Best Classical Performance, Orchestra**
*Mahler: Symphony No. 6*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with Erich Leinsdorf, conductor
  Released on RCA Victor

**1966: Best Chamber Music Performance, Instrumental or Vocal**
*Works of Mozart, Brahms, Beethoven, Fine, Copland, Carter, and Piston*

  - Boston Symphony Chamber Players
  Released on RCA Victor

**1964: Best Classical Performance, Orchestra**
*Mahler: Symphony No. 5 and Berg, “Wozzeck” excerpts*

  - Boston Symphony Orchestra with Erich Leinsdorf, conductor
  Released on RCA Victor
1963: Best Classical Performance, Orchestra
Bartok: *Concerto for Orchestra*
  Boston Symphony Orchestra with Erich Leinsdorf, conductor
  Released on RCA Victor

1961: Best Classical Performance, Orchestra
Ravel: *Daphnis etChloé*
  Boston Symphony Orchestra with Charles Munch, conductor
  Released on RCA Victor

1959: Best Classical Performance, Orchestra
Debussy: *Images for Orchestra*
  Boston Symphony Orchestra with Charles Munch, conductor
  Released on RCA Victor