ANDRIS NELSONS AND BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCE 2017-18 SEASON, SEPTEMBER 22-MAY 4; SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE BEGINNING TOMORROW, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, AT 10 A.M. BY CALLING 888-266-1200 OR VISITING WWW.BSO.ORG; SINGLE TICKETS GO ON SALE JULY 31

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE ACT II OF WAGNER’S TRISTAN UND ISOLDE IN CONCERT WITH JONAS KAUFMANN SINGING TRISTAN FOR THE FIRST TIME ANYWHERE; THE KICK-OFF OF THE BSO/GHO ALLIANCE WITH “LEIPZIG WEEK IN BOSTON”; THE CONTINUATION OF THE AWARD-WINNING DEUTSCHE GRAMMOPHON SHOSTAKOVICH CYCLE; WORLD AND AMERICAN PREMIERES BY SEAN SHEPHERD AND JÖRG WIDMANN; THE APPOINTMENT OF JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET AS THE BSO’S FIRST-EVER ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE; THE FIRST ANDRIS NELSONS-LED TOUR TO JAPAN; AND AN IMPRESSIVE LINEUP OF GUEST ARTISTS AND CONDUCTORS, AS WELL AS A SEASON OPENER LAUNCHING A YEAR-LONG TRIBUTE TO LEONARD BERNSTEIN ON THE CENTENNIAL OF HIS BIRTH

TO VIEW 2017-18 BSO ANDRIS NELSONS PROGRAMS, CLICK HERE
TO VIEW 2017-18 GUEST CONDUCTOR PROGRAMS, CLICK HERE

HIGHLIGHTS OF BSO 2017-18 CONCERTS UNDER ANDRIS NELSONS
BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR ANDRIS NELSONS OPENS 2017-18 SEASON ON SEPTEMBER 22 WITH AN ALL-BERNSTEIN PROGRAM, LAUNCHING A YEAR-LONG TRIBUTE DURING WORLDWIDE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF BERNSTEIN’S BIRTH, FEATURING FREDERICA VON STADE AS SOLOIST AND HOST
ANDRIS NELSONS TO LEAD ACT II OF WAGNER’S TRISTAN AND ISOLDE, WITH JONAS KAUFMANN SINGING HIS FIRST TRISTAN AND CAMILLA NYLUND AS ISOLDE

BSO LAUNCHES BSO/GHO ALLIANCE WITH LEIPZIG WEEK IN BOSTON (LINK TO PRESS RELEASE) SPOTLIGHTING THE GEWANDHAUS ORCHESTRA’S MUSICAL TRADITIONS THROUGH SPECIAL PROGRAMMED ORCHESTRA CONCERTS, MUSICIAN EXCHANGES, CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERTS, ARCHIVAL EXHIBITS, AND LECTURE SERIES; OFFICIAL BOSTON KICKOFF TO TAKE PLACE AT BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY WITH GALA EVENT ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018

BSO AND NELSONS CONTINUE GRAMMY-AWARD WINNING SHOSTAKOVICH CYCLE WITH PERFORMANCES AND RECORDINGS OF SYMPHONIES 4 AND 11, AND SYMPHONY 14 WITH KRISTINE OPOLAI AND BRYN TERFEL AS SOLOISTS (LINK TO GRAMMY PRESS RELEASE)

JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET APPOINTED FIRST-EVER BSO ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE, MAKING THREE DIFFERENT APPEARANCES WITH THE ORCHESTRA PERFORMING WORKS BY BACH AND RAVEL, AS WELL AS BERNSTEIN’S AGE OF ANXIETY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANDRIS NELSONS AT BOTH SYMPHONY HALL AND CARNEGIE HALL, AND JOINING THE BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS FOR WORKS BY SAINT-SAËNS AND DVORÁK

MAJOR SYMPHONIC WORKS UNDER ANDRIS NELSONS’ DIRECTION INCLUDE MAHLER’S SYMPHONIES NO. 1 AND NO. 3 WITH SUSAN GRAHAM AS SOLOIST; BRUCKNER’S SYMPHONY NO. 4, ROMANTIC, AS PART OF MULTI-SEASON SURVEY OF COMPOSER’S SYMPHONIES; RACHMANINOFF’S SYMPHONY NO. 2; STRAUSS’S AN ALPINE SYMPHONY AND DON QUIXOTE WITH YO-YO MA AND STEVEN ANSELL AS SOLOISTS; WORLD PREMIERE OF A NEW WORK BY SEAN SHEPHERD AND AN AMERICAN PREMIERE BY JÖRG WIDMANN; PLUS APPEARANCES WITH NELSONS AND THE BSO BY GUEST ARTISTS INCLUDING PAUL LEWIS (BEETHOVEN PIANO CONCERTO 4); GIL SHAHAM (TCHAIKOVSKY); RUDOLF BUCHBINDER (BEETHOVEN PIANO CONCERTO 1); AND LEONIDAS KAVAKOS (PROKOFIEV VIOLIN CONCERTO 2)

THOMAS ADÈS CONTINUES AS BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER, LEADING THE BSO IN A PROGRAM OF WORKS BY BEETHOVEN, LIGETI, AND STRAVINSKY, AS WELL AS THE SUITE FROM HIS OWN POWDER HER FACE (LINK TO RELEASE ANNOUNCING ADÈS AS BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER); APPEARING WITH THE BSO AND ANDRIS NELSONS AS ONE OF THREE PIANISTS IN BACH’S D MINOR CONCERTO FOR THREE PIANOS; AND MAKING A RETURN APPEARANCE WITH THE BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS

BSO WELCOMES JAMES BURTON—THE NEWLY APPOINTED TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL CHORUS CONDUCTOR—TO HIS FIRST FULL SEASON IN HIS NEW ROLE (LINK TO PRESS RELEASE)

NELSONS AND BSO EMBARK ON FIRST JAPAN TOUR TOGETHER, NOVEMBER 3-9, 2017: 4-CITY, 6-CONCERT TOUR TO INCLUDE PERFORMANCES IN NAGOYA (11/3), OSAKA (11/4), AND KAWASAKI (11/5), AS WELL AS THREE CONCERTS IN TOKYO, PRESENTED BY SUNTORY HALL (11/7, 8, & 9)

ANDRIS NELSONS TO LEAD BSO AT CARNEGIE HALL APRIL 11-13 (LINK TO PRESS RELEASE)

TO VIEW GUEST CONDUCTOR PROGRAMS/PRESS RELEASE CLICK HERE: HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE CONCERTS LED BY BSO CONDUCTOR EMERITUS BERNARD HAITINK, LONGTIME AUDIENCE FAVORITES CHARLES DUTOIT AND CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI, A WELCOME APPEARANCE
BY HERBERT BLOMSTEDT AS PART OF A YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY, AND SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES BY ALAN GILBERT, GUSTAVO GIMENO, GIANCARLO GUERRERO, FRANÇOIS-XAVIER ROTH, AND TUGAN SOKHIEV; BSO ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR KEN-DAVID MASUR AND BSO ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR MORITZ GNANN ALSO TO LEAD BSO PERFORMANCES

BSO’S RECENTLY LAUNCHED NEW TABLET APP—NOW AVAILABLE FOR IPADS—OFFERS ENHANCED REALITY FEATURES, AS WELL AS CONCERT-ACCOMPANYING CONTENT, INCLUDING PROGRAM NOTES AND AUDIO AND VIDEO PODCASTS AND INTERVIEWS

CASUAL FRIDAYS WILL CONTINUE FOR THE THIRD SEASON, WITH PRE- AND POST-CONCERT RECEIPTIONS, SPOKEN INTROS BY BSO MEMBERS, AND SPECIAL CONCERT-RELATED CONTENT AVAILABLE VIA NEW MEDIA; BSO’S HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL $20 TICKETS FOR PEOPLE UNDER 40, COLLEGE CARD, HIGH SCHOOL CARD, AND RUSH TICKETS PROGRAMS—ALL OFFERING SIGNIFICANTLY DISCOUNTED TICKETS TO CONCERTGOERS—TO CONTINUE IN 2017-18 SEASON

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

THE 2017-18 BSO SEASON IS SPONSORED BY BANK OF AMERICA

The 2017-18 Boston Symphony Orchestra season, under the direction of Andris Nelsons, September 22-May 4, promises a wealth of musical riches, including a continuing commitment to opera with concert performances of Act II of Wagner’s Tristan and Isolde with Jonas Kaufmann in his role debut as Tristan; the kick-off of the BSO/Gewandhausorchester Alliance with “Leipzig Week in Boston”; the appointment of Jean-Yves Thibaudet as the first-ever BSO Artist-in-Residence; the launch of a year-long Leonard Bernstein tribute celebrating the centennial of his birth; and the first-ever Andris Nelsons-led BSO tour to Japan. Additional highlights include the continuation of the award-winning Deutsche Grammophon Shostakovich recording and performance cycle; the incomparable Thomas Adès in his second year as BSO Artistic Partner, spotlighting his extraordinary talents as conductor, pianist, and composer; premieres by Sean Shepherd and Jörg Widmann; and programs featuring guest appearances by today’s most highly sought-after performers and conductors, including returning favorites and highly anticipated debuts. (Click here for details about the BSO programs led by guest conductors during the 2017-18 season.) Marking his fourth year as BSO Music Director, Mr. Nelsons leads 12 weeks of programs in the 2017-18 BSO season.

Subscriptions to the 2017-18 BSO season are available beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 31, by calling 888-266-1200 or visiting www.bso.org; single tickets go on sale July 31.

The BSO at Home at Symphony Hall in Boston and at Tanglewood in Lenox and Stockbridge, MA

The Boston Symphony Orchestra, founded by Henry Lee Higginson in 1881, performs late September through early May in internationally acclaimed Symphony Hall (301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA), which opened in 1900 and is widely regarded as one of the top three concert halls in the world. The orchestra’s summer season takes place at Tanglewood—this country’s preeminent music festival and the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 1937—located in the Berkshire Hills between Stockbridge and Lenox, MA; details of the 2017 Tanglewood season are available at www.tanglewood.org.
Click here for the complete 2017-18 season concert listing

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF 2017-18 BSO SEASON UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANDRIS NELSONS

The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2017-18 season opens on Friday, September 22, with a special concert devoted to the music of Leonard Bernstein, marking the beginning of a season-long celebration of the centennial of the legendary American composer/conductor’s birth. The program, led by Mr. Nelsons and hosted by Frederica von Stade, includes the popular Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, vocal selections featuring Ms. von Stade and American soprano Julia Bullock*, and more. Following several highly successful operatic programs in his first three years as BSO Music Director, Andris Nelsons once again brings opera to Symphony Hall with an exciting pair of concerts April 5 and 7, 2018, featuring the complete Act II of Wagner’s Tristan und Isolde, with the electrifying tenor Jonas Kaufmann in a rare U.S. appearance making his role debut as Tristan, and esteemed soprano Camilla Nylund* making her BSO debut as Isolde. (*Indicates a BSO Debut; **Indicates a BSO Subscription Debut at Symphony Hall.)

The Boston Symphony Orchestra welcomes renowned French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet as its first-ever BSO Artist-in-Residence, a partnership that will feature Mr. Thibaudet in three BSO programs of music by Ravel, Bach, and Bernstein; Mr. Thibaudet also will perform works of Saint-Saëns and Dvořák with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players (Click here for a listing of Jean-Yves Thibaudet’s 2017-18 BSO programs). Now in his second year as BSO Artistic Partner, composer-conductor-pianist Thomas Adès returns in all three capacities, leading the BSO in his own Suite from Powder Her Face on a program with works by Beethoven, Ligeti, and Stravinsky; performing music by Janáček and Schubert with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players; and making his first appearances as piano soloist with the BSO and Mr. Nelsons (Click here for a listing of Thomas Adès’s 2017-18 BSO programs). The Boston Symphony Orchestra is also pleased to present the American premiere of a BSO co-commissioned work by Jörg Widmann (March 30-April 3) and the world premiere of a BSO co-commissioned work by Sean Shepherd (February 8-10), both to be conducted by Andris Nelsons. The BSO welcomes to Symphony Hall a new member of its musical family, BSO Choral Director and Tanglewood Festival Chorus Conductor James Burton, who will prepare the chorus in six programs during the 2017-18 season (click here for a listing of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus’s 2017-18 BSO programs).

Mr. Nelsons and the BSO also embark on an unprecedented partnership with the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra in 2017-18, with “Leipzig Week in Boston” February 8-10, during which the BSO presents three performances of a program highlighting Leipzig’s musical traditions, including works by Bach and Schumann, and Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3, Scottish; the week will also feature musician exchanges, chamber music concerts, archival exhibits, and lecture series. This propitious kick-off of the BSO/GHO Alliance will open with a gala special event to take place at the Boston Public Library on Monday, February 5, 2018. (Click here for further details.) In addition, the BSO and Maestro Nelsons’ exciting recording collaboration with Deutsche Grammophon, to include the complete symphonies of Shostakovich, continues in the 2017-18 season with performances and live recordings of symphonies 4, 11, and 14, featuring Kristine Opolais and Bryn Terfel in Symphony No. 14, following upon the back-to-back 2015 and 2016 Grammy Awards for Best Orchestral Performance for the last two installments of the series. (Click here for further details.)
QUOTE FROM ANDRIS NELSONS, THE RAY AND MARIA STATA BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR

“It’s an incredible joy to announce the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2017-18 season, as the anticipation creates such an exciting sense of all the great music-making we will share together. From Act II of Tristan und Isolde with Jonas Kaufmann and Camilla Nylund, to the start of our innovative project with the Gewandhaus Orchestra, the continuation of our Grammy award-winning Shostakovich cycle, premieres by Sean Shepherd and Jörg Widmann, and our season-opening concert launching our tribute to Leonard Bernstein on the centennial of his birth, the 2017-18 season promises to bring our audiences many memorable performances.

“I really look forward to working with Jean-Yves Thibaudet as the BSO’s first Artist-in-Residence and James Burton in his first season as Tanglewood Festival Chorus Conductor, as well as Thomas Adès continuing in his special role as BSO Artistic Partner. In addition to all these extraordinary highlights, the BSO will present many of the finest performers and conductors of our time, including Bernard Haitink, Charles Dutoit, Christoph von Dohnányi, Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Kristine Opolais, Bryn Terfel, Frederica von Stade, and Susan Graham, as well as our own Steven Ansell, John Ferrillo, and Elizabeth Rowe, and Jan Lisiecki and Tugan Sokhiev in their BSO debuts—just a few highlights among a season of amazing stars and, of course, genius composers.

“These last three years with the BSO have been an amazing journey of discovering the extraordinary gifts the orchestra brings to a wide range of music-making, with each passing season being its own fantastic musical exploration that we are so happy to share with our absolutely wonderful audiences. We are looking forward to welcoming our loyal fans and newcomers to join us for the orchestra’s upcoming 137th season—when we will open our hearts and minds together continuing our great musical journey!"

Additional 2017-18 BSO Highlights under the Direction of Andris Nelsons

Maestro Nelsons also leads the BSO in a number of major symphonic works, including Mahler’s symphonies 1 (September 23-26) and 3, with Susan Graham and the women of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus featured in No. 3 (January 18-20); Bruckner’s Symphony No. 4, Romantic, as part of a multi-season survey of the composer’s symphonies (November 21-25), Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2 (October 5-7), and Richard Strauss’s An Alpine Symphony (November 30-December 2) and Don Quixote, featuring Yo-Yo Ma and BSO principal Steven Ansell in the solo cello and viola parts (March 30-April 3). Mr. Nelsons and the BSO will also be joined by such illustrious guest artists as Paul Lewis in Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4 (September 28-October 3), Gil Shaham in Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto (October 5-7), Rudolf Buchbinder in Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 1 (November 21-25), and Leonidas Kavakos in Prokofiev’s Violin Concerto No. 2 (November 30-December 2).

Andris Nelsons will lead his first tour to Japan as Music Director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, conducting the BSO in a 4-city, 6-concert tour with performances in Nagoya City Hall (11/3), Osaka’s Festival Hall (11/4), Muza Kawasaki Symphony Hall (11/5), and Tokyo’s Suntory Hall (11/7, 8, and 9). Returning to Japan with Andris Nelsons is a particularly special occasion for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, which has toured the country eight times, including six highly acclaimed tours under BSO Music Director Laureate Seiji Ozawa (BSO Music Director 1973-2002). Later in the season, Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra will perform three concerts at Carnegie Hall on April 11, 12, and 13, 2018, bringing several of the 2017-18 BSO season highlights to the orchestra’s New York audiences: Bernstein’s Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety; Shostakovich’s monumental Symphony No. 4; a concert performance of the second act of Wagner’s Tristan und Isolde; the new Jörg Widmann work; and Richard Strauss’s Don Quixote. (Click here for further details.)
2017-18 Guest Conductors and Performers
The BSO’s 2017-18 season will include guest appearances by many of today’s great conductors including BSO Conductor Emeritus Bernard Haitink, longtime audience favorites Charles Dutoit and Christoph von Dohnányi, and Herbert Blomstedt, as part of a year-long celebration of his 90th birthday, as well as Alan Gilbert, Gustavo Gimeno**, Giancarlo Guerrero, François-Xavier Roth, and Tugan Sokhiev*. BSO Associate and Assistant Conductors Ken-David Masur and Moritz Gnann will also lead BSO performances. This impressive list of guest conductors will lead the BSO in programs featuring such illustrious performers as Hilary Hahn in Dvořák’s Violin Concerto (October 12-14); Pierre-Laurent Aimard in Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 1 (January 11-13); Augustin Hadelich in Ligeti’s Violin Concerto (January 25-27); Leila Josefowicz in John Adams’s Scheherazade.2 (March 1-3); Jan Lisiecki* in Chopin’s Piano Concerto No. 1 (April 19-24); Vadim Gluzman** in Brahms’ Violin Concerto (April 26-28); BSO Principal Oboe John Ferrillo in Marcello’s Concerto in D minor (May 4); and Emanuel Ax in Brahms’s Piano Concerto No. 2 (May 1-5). Click here for further information about the BSO 2017-18 season programs led by guest conductors.

FURTHER DETAILS OF MAJOR PROJECTS OF 2017-18 BSO SEASON:

BSO’s Season-Long Celebration of the Centennial of Leonard Bernstein’s Birth
The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2017-18 season opens on September 22 with a special concert devoted to the music of Leonard Bernstein, marking the beginning of a season-long celebration of the centennial of the legendary American composer and conductor’s birth. The program, led by Mr. Nelsons and hosted by Frederica von Stade, includes the beloved Symphonic Dances from West Side Story; Divertimento for Orchestra, a BSO Centennial Commission; vocal selections featuring Ms. von Stade and soprano Julia Bullock, and Halil, for flute and orchestra, with BSO Principal Flute Elizabeth Rowe. The celebration continues in March 2018 with two more weeks of BSO programs highlighting Bernstein’s music. The first, March 15-17, is led by conductor Giancarlo Guerrero and includes the Symphony No. 3, Kaddish; the second, conducted by Maestro Nelsons and featuring Mr. Thibaudet, includes the Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety. These concerts form the centerpiece of an educational “Insights Series” that explores the social, political, and religious questions posed by Bernstein and traces their parallels in current society. The series also includes panel discussions with Bernstein specialists, film screenings, an archival exhibit focusing on Bernstein’s relationship with the BSO and the Boston community, and a community chamber music concert in Bernstein’s hometown of Lawrence, MA.

BSO and Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra Officially Embark on Historic Partnership in February 2018 with “Leipzig Week in Boston”
In the official start to a unique, five-year multidimensional collaboration between the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Andris Nelsons—BSO Music Director and Gewandhauskapellmeister Designate—leads the inaugural “Leipzig Week in Boston” February 8-10, 2018. An unprecedented partnership in the world of orchestral music, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Gewandhausorchester Alliance explores the many historic connections between these two world-famous orchestras, inspires new cultural exchanges, and creates a wide spectrum of performance and educational programs designed to bring a new dimension of concert experience to each of the orchestra’s respective audiences. The official kickoff of the BSO/GHO Alliance in Boston takes place at the Boston Public Library with a gala celebration on Monday, February 5, 2018, prior to the Boston Symphony’s first “Leipzig Week in Boston,” February 8-11. The program for these special concerts focuses on repertoire that highlights the musical traditions of Leipzig: Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3,
which was premiered by the GHO when the composer was its music director; the Concerto in D minor for three keyboard instruments, BWV 1063, by Bach, who spent the last 27 years of his life in Leipzig; Schumann’s Nachtlied and Neujahrslied, for chorus and orchestra, and the world premiere of a new work by Sean Shepherd co-commissioned by the BSO and GHO. On February 11, the Gewandhaus-Quartett, made up of members of the GHO, will join musicians of the BSO for a program to include Mendelssohn’s Octet, among other works to be announced. In connection with these programs, a distinguished group of specialists, including Christoph Wolff, Adams University Professor at Harvard, who is serving as an artistic advisor to the Alliance, Harvard Professor Alexander Rehding, and Gewandhaus archivist Claudius Bohm, among others, will be featured in lectures and panel discussions about the history of the Gewandhausorchester and its hall; Mendelssohn and Schumann; and concert hall acoustics.

French Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet Becomes First-Ever BSO Artist-in-Residence
Outstanding French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet becomes the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s first-ever Artist-in-Residence for the 2017-18 season, joining the orchestra for three programs. In three performances February 8-10, he joins fellow pianists Thomas Adès and Kirill Gerstein for Bach’s Concerto in D minor for three keyboard instruments, BWV 1063, as part of the BSO’s first “Leipzig Week in Boston.” The following week, February 15-17, he performs Ravel’s Piano Concerto for the left hand, as soloist in the composer’s Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety. He also makes an appearance with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players on March 11, joining the ensemble for Saint-Saëns’s Caprice on Danish and Russian Airs, Op. 79, for flute, oboe, clarinet, and piano, and piano, and Dvořák’s Quintet in A for piano and strings, Op. 81. Mr. Thibaudet has appeared with the BSO nearly 40 times since his debut with the orchestra at Tanglewood in 1992. Equally at home in Baroque, Romantic, and modern music, he is especially renowned for his interpretations of the great French repertoire.

Thomas Adès Returns for Second Season as Deborah and Philip Edmundson BSO Artistic Partner
English composer/conductor/pianist Thomas Adès—one of the most respected and sought-after composers and performers in the field of classical music—returns for the second of three seasons as the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s first-ever BSO Artistic Partner. Mr. Adès’s rich commitment to the BSO as Artistic Partner spans a wide range of activities reflecting his many gifts as one of the greatest musical minds of the 21st century, making him an integral figure at the BSO—both in Symphony Hall and at Tanglewood—as composer, conductor, performer, and teacher. Mr. Adès conducts the orchestra in three performances (January 25-27) of a program that demonstrates his expertise across a broad range of repertoire. The concerts begin with Beethoven’s Symphony No. 8, the first Classical work to be conducted by Mr. Adès with the orchestra; continues with a late-20th-century work in Ligeti’s Violin Concerto (featuring Mr. Adès’s own cadenza), concludes with Stravinsky’s neoclassical The Fairy’s Kiss, and also includes the Suite from Adès’s own opera Powder Her Face. He appears again with the BSO as piano soloist February 8-10 for Bach’s Concerto in D minor for three keyboard instruments, BWV 1063, and he joins the Boston Symphony Chamber Players for the fourth time (following performances in 2012, 2013, and 2016) on January 21, as pianist for Janáček’s Concertino for piano and ensemble and Schubert’s Notturno, D. 897.

An Ongoing and Expanded Relationship with Deutsche Grammophon After 2015 and 2016 Grammy Wins
Following back-to-back Grammy Awards for Best Orchestral Performance in 2016 and 2017 for the first two installments of the BSO and Andris Nelson’s recordings of Shostakovich symphonies on Deutsche Grammophon, the collaboration continues in the 2017-18 season with performances and live recordings
of three more of the composer’s symphonies. Originally focused primarily on symphonies 5-10 (works composed during the period of Shostakovich’s difficult relationship with Stalin and the Soviet regime, mid-1930s to 1953), the partnership was expanded in 2016 to include live recordings of the composer’s entire canon of 15 symphonies, his operatic masterpiece Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, and other works. Following recordings in 2015-16 and 2016-17 of symphonies 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, Mr. Nelsons and the BSO in 2017-18 add symphonies 4 (March 22-27), 11 (September 28-October 3), and 14 (February 1-3), the last featuring soprano Kristine Opolais and bass-baritone Bryn Terfel. This recording will be the fourth in the series. The third release, including symphonies 6 and 7, is scheduled for international release in October.

James Burton, Newly Appointed BSO Choral Director and Conductor of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, to Lead TFC in his First Full Season in his New Role
The 2017-18 season marks James Burton’s first full season in the dual role of conductor of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and as the first-ever BSO Choral Director, in which role he will explore new opportunities to enhance the orchestra’s choral activities. This first complete season with the organization, following his appointment in February 2017, is a busy one, as the Tanglewood Festival Chorus joins the BSO for six weeks of programs featuring major choral works: Mahler’s Symphony No. 3 (January 18-20) and Schumann’s Nachtlied and Neujahrslied (February 8-10) with Andris Nelsons; Berlioz’s The Damnation of Faust (October 26-28) and Ravel’s complete Daphnis et Chloé (February 15-17) with Charles Dutoit; a special staged version of Grieg’s incidental music to Peer Gynt with Ken-David Masur (October 19-24); and Bernstein’s Symphony No. 3, Kaddish, with Giancarlo Guerrero (March 15-17). James Burton will hold the Alan J. and Suzanne W. Dworsky chair.

Andris Nelsons and BSO Embark on First Japan Tour Together, November 3-9
Andris Nelsons will lead his first tour to Japan as Music Director of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, conducting the famed ensemble in a 4-city, 6-concert tour with performances in NTK Hall (Nagoya City Hall, 11/3), Osaka’s Festival Hall (11/4), and Muza Kawasaki Symphony Hall (11/5), as well as three concerts in Tokyo, presented by Suntory Hall (11/7, 8, and 9). Returning to Japan is also a particularly momentous occasion for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, which has toured the country eight times, including six highly acclaimed tours under BSO Music Director Laureate Seiji Ozawa (BSO Music Director 1973-2002). For their upcoming tour to Japan, Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra are pleased to present Gil Shaham as soloist in Tchaikovsky’s beloved violin concerto on a program with Mahler’s Symphony No. 1 in Nagoya and Kawasaki on November 3 and 5, and with Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 11, The Year 1905, in Osaka and Tokyo on November 4 and 7. The BSO’s second program in Tokyo on November 8 will open with a program spotlighting BSO principal players Elizabeth Rowe and Jessica Zhou in Mozart’s Concerto for Flute and Harp and close with Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2; an open rehearsal of this program will take place earlier in the day. The final Tokyo concert on November 9 will be an orchestral showcase pairing Haydn’s Symphony 103, Drumroll, with Mahler’s Symphony No. 1. In addition, a masterclass with a member of the Boston Symphony Orchestra will take place at Suntory Hall on Monday, November 6. Further details about the open rehearsal and master class will be announced at a later date. This Boston Symphony Orchestra’s Japan Tour is being organized by SUNTORY HALL, Suntory Foundation for the Arts, which has announced KDDI Corporation—one of Japan’s major telecommunication companies—as the main sponsor. The Japan tour is entitled the “KDDI Special Andris Nelsons and Boston Symphony Orchestra 2017 Japan Tour.” The Japan Tour is also supported by the United States Embassy in Japan.
Andris Nelsons and BSO Perform Three Concerts at Carnegie Hall, April 11, 12 and 13

Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra will perform three concerts at Carnegie Hall on April 11, 12, and 13, 2018. Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet joins Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra for the first performance of their three-night 2018 engagement at Carnegie Hall on Wednesday, April 11, for Bernstein’s Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety. The piece—based on W.H. Auden’s 1947 poem of the same name, which Bernstein called “one of the most shattering examples of pure virtuosity in the history of English poetry”—is being performed by the BSO in 2018 as part of the celebration of Bernstein’s centennial. Serge Koussevitzky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra gave the world premiere performances of the piece, with Bernstein himself as the piano soloist, in 1949. Mr. Nelsons also leads the BSO in Shostakovich’s monumental Symphony No. 4, continuing Andris Nelsons and the BSO’s survey of the composer’s complete symphonies, being recorded live for release by Deutsche Grammophon. On Thursday, April 12, Andris Nelsons and the BSO present a highly anticipated, complete concert performance of Act II of Wagner’s Tristan und Isolde featuring tenor Jonas Kaufmann in his New York role debut as Tristan and soprano Camilla Nylund as Isolde, along with mezzo-soprano Mihoko Fujimura (Brangäne), bass Georg Zeppenfeld (King Marke), tenor Andrew Rees (Melot), and baritone David Kravitz (Kurwenal). Closing out the BSO’s three-night residency at Carnegie Hall on April 13, Andris Nelsons leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the New York premiere of a new BSO co-commission by German composer Jörg Widmann; Richard Strauss’s virtuosic orchestral tone poem Don Quixote with cellist Yo-Yo Ma and BSO principal violist Steven Ansell, and Mozart’s rarely heard Symphony No. 23.

TO VIEW 2017-18 BSO ANDRIS NELSONS PROGRAMS, CLICK HERE
TO VIEW 2017-18 GUEST CONDUCTOR PROGRAMS, CLICK HERE

OVERVIEW OF NEW BSO APP, POPULAR DISCOUNTED TICKET PROGRAMS, SEASON SPONSORSHIPS, AND MEDIA OFFERINGS AT BSO.ORG

BSO Launches New Tablet App

The new BSO tablet app—available now on the iPad, and soon to be released for Android tablets—offers users an array of concert-enhancing content, including program notes, audio podcasts and interviews with the musicians, and videos. The new tablet app’s enhanced reality feature allows patrons to access additional content through image recognition software and beacons. Using the “discover what my camera sees” feature, patrons can point their tablet’s camera at certain landmarks around Symphony Hall to unlock audio and video content about the orchestra including biographical information about the BSO’s musicians and conductors. By using the “discover what is near me” feature, the tablet leverages beacons and push notifications to connect patrons’ tablet devices with content relevant specifically to different areas of Symphony Hall. The app also features an integrated social media experience, as well as a meme generator, allowing users to take a photo at Symphony Hall and post it as a meme to social media. Users can purchase single tickets or new subscriptions through the tablet app, save content to “my music,” and search for parking, dining, and lodging near Symphony Hall. The My Wallet feature keeps track of patrons’ ticket and purchase history, and allows users who’ve selected the “print at home” option to scan their tickets digitally when they arrive for a concert. The BSO’s tablet app is free and available for download and installation on iPad devices via the iTunes App Store.

The BSO also offers an iPhone and Android app, which provides users with such new media content as concert program notes and multimedia video podcasts relating to specific concerts, as well as practical
information including maps of Symphony Hall, details about available dining options, and a complete schedule of special events.

**BSO Offers “Casual Fridays” Concerts, $20 tickets for people under 40, College Card, High School Card, and Rush Ticket Programs**

“Casual Fridays,” a new audience initiative introduced in the 2015-16 BSO season, will continue in 2017-18 with programs designed to make concerts more affordable and accessible. These programs will be offered on four Friday evenings during the season, including February 9 and April 6 with Andris Nelsons conducting, October 20 with BSO Associate Conductor Ken-David Masur conducting, and January 5 with François-Xavier Roth conducting. This lower-priced “Casual Fridays” series, which encourages concertgoers to wear their favorite casual attire to Symphony Hall, includes free pre- and post-concert receptions for all concertgoers, and an opportunity for audience members to hear from BSO musicians offering program introductions from the Symphony Hall stage. This lower-priced series also features a special section for Conductor Cam seating, which allows patrons to watch the conductor from the orchestra’s perspective.

The BSO’s highly successful $20 tickets for people under the age of 40, College Card, High School Card, and Rush Ticket programs—all offering significantly discounted tickets to concertgoers—will continue in the 2017-18 season.

**Sponsorships**

Longstanding major corporate partner Bank of America returns as the BSO Season Sponsor for the 2017-18 Season. Bank of America believes that arts have a unique capability to connect people, communities and cultures and help economies thrive. “Our support of the arts engages individuals, organizations and cultures in creative ways to help build mutual respect and insight,” said Miceal Chamberlain, Massachusetts President, Bank of America. “Investing in the arts, we help create experiences that challenge, educate, inspire and motivate. We hope audiences at Symphony Hall share in our passion and enthusiasm for the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2017-18 Season.”

The BSO is proud to announce that the Arbella Insurance Foundation, a longtime sponsor, is continuing its major sponsorship for the 12th season, expanding its support of new audience development initiatives. In addition to once again sponsoring the BSO College Card and Youth & Family Concerts, Arbella is also sponsoring the BSO’s popular Casual Fridays series and the BSO Young Professionals (YoPro) program.

Delta Air Lines has returned as the Official Airline of the BSO. Fairmont Copley Plaza begins its 16th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO, and Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation begins its 15th season as the Official Chauffeured Transportation of the BSO.

**Media Offerings at BSO.ORG**

The Boston Symphony Orchestra’s extensive website, BSO.org, is one of the world’s largest and most-visited orchestral websites, receiving approximately 10 million visitors annually and generating over $128 million in revenue since its launch in 1996; BSO.org is also mobile-device compatible. 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. 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

The BSO at Home in Boston and at Tanglewood
The Boston Symphony Orchestra performs September through May in internationally acclaimed Symphony Hall (301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA), which is widely regarded as one of the top three concert halls in the world. Detailed information about the BSO and the 2017-18 season can be found at www.bso.org. The orchestra’s summer season takes place at Tanglewood—this country’s preeminent summer music festival and the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 1937—located in the Berkshire Hills between Stockbridge and Lenox, MA; details of the 2017 Tanglewood season are available at www.tanglewood.org.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS AN OVERVIEW OF 2017-18 BSO CONCERTS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF GUEST CONDUCTORS, FOLLOWED BY A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EACH PROGRAM OF THE BSO’S 2017-18 SEASON, COMPLETE TICKET INFORMATION, AND INFORMATION ABOUT BSO.ORG AND MEDIA OFFERINGS
IN ADDITION TO THE TWELVE PROGRAMS LED BY ANDRIS NELSONS DURING HIS THIRD SEASON AS BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR (CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS), THE BSO'S 2017-18 SEASON, SEPTEMBER 22, 2017-MAY 5, 2018, ALSO FEATURES AN ARRAY OF RENOWNED GUEST CONDUCTORS AND LEGENDARY SOLOISTS, AS WELL AS HIGHLY ANTICIPATED DEBUTS

BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER THOMAS ADÈS JOINS THE BSO AS CONDUCTOR, COMPOSER, AND SOLOIST DURING THE 2017-18 SEASON; BSO CONDUCTOR EMERITUS BERNARD HAITINK RETURNS TO LEAD THE BSO IN BRAHMS'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2 WITH SOLOIST EMANUEL AX

CHARLES DUTOIT CONDUCTS THE ORCHESTRA IN TWO PROGRAMS: BERLIOZ'S THE DAMNATION OF FAUST, FEATURING SUSAN GRAHAM (MARGUERITE) AND PAUL GROVES (FAUST), AND A PROGRAM CELEBRATING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAURICE RAVEL'S 1928 CONDUCTING PERFORMANCE WITH THE BSO, FEATURING BSO ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET; CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI LEADS THE ORCHESTRA IN MUSIC BY JANÁČEK, BACH, BEETHOVEN, AND BARTÓK; HERBERT BLOMSTEDT LEADS AN ALL-MOZART PROGRAM

GIANCARLO GUERRERO CONDUCTS BERNSTEIN'S SYMPHONY NO. 3, KADDISH, AS PART OF THE BERNSTEIN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION; FRANÇOIS-XAVIER ROTH IS JOINED BY PIANISTS BENJAMIN GROSVENOR AND PIERRE-LAURENT AIMARD FOR TWO PROGRAMS; AND ALAN GILBERT IS JOINED BY VIOLINIST LEILA JOSEFOWICZ FOR JOHN ADAMS’ SCHEHERAZADE.2, FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR TUGAN SOKHIEV MAKES HIS LONG-AWAITED BSO DEBUT IN TWO PROGRAMS FEATURING PIANIST JAN LISIECKI (IN HIS BSO DEBUT) AND VIOLINIST VADIM GLUZMAN (IN HIS BSO SUBSCRIPTION SERIES DEBUT); SPANISH CONDUCTOR GUSTAVO GIMENO MAKES HIS BSO SUBSCRIPTION SERIES DEBUT WITH A PROGRAM OF MUSIC BY LIGETI, DVOŘÁK, AND SCHUMANN, FEATURING VIOLINIST HILARY HAHN IN HER FIRST BSO PERFORMANCE SINCE 2010

BSO ASSOCIATE CONDUCTOR KEN-DAVID MASUR LEADS THE BSO IN A SEMI-STAGED PRODUCTION OF THE INCIDENTAL MUSIC TO GRIEG’S PEER GYNT FEATURING SOPRANO CAMILLA TILLING AND A CAST OF ACTORS; BSO ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR MORITZ GNANN LEADS A CHAMBER PROGRAM SHOWCASING SOLOISTS AND SECTIONS OF THE BSO

BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS PERFORM FOUR CONCERTS DURING THE 2017-18 SEASON, IN ADDITION TO A JOINT CHAMBER CONCERT WITH THE GEWANDHAUS-QUARTETT IN SYMPHONY HALL

TO VIEW THE PORTION OF THE BSO’S 2017-18 SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT THAT OUTLINES ANDRIS NELSONS’ PROGRAMS, CLICK HERE

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE BSO’S 2017-18 SEASON ARE AVAILABLE ON FRIDAY, MARCH 31, AT 10 A.M. BY CALLING 888-266-7575 OR VISITING www.bso.org; SINGLE TICKETS GO ON SALE JULY 31

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

THE 2017-18 BSO SEASON IS SPONSORED BY BANK OF AMERICA

In addition to the programs detailed separately that Andris Nelsons will lead during his fourth season as BSO Music Director (click here for details), the BSO’s 2017-18 season also features an impressive array
of renowned guest conductors and legendary soloists, as well as highly anticipated debuts by prestigious artists.

The 137th season of the Boston Symphony Orchestra takes place September 22, 2017-May 4, 2018. Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2017-18 season are available beginning at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 31, by calling 888-266-7575 or visiting www.bso.org. Single tickets go on sale Monday, July 31 at 10 a.m.

2017-18 BSO Guest Conductor Program Highlights
Highlights of the BSO’s 2017-18 season include return appearances by three of the BSO’s most frequent and favorite guest conductors: LaCroix Family Fund BSO Conductor Emeritus Bernard Haitink (May 1-5), Charles Dutoit (October 26-28 and February 15-17), and Christoph von Dohnányi (November 16-18). François-Xavier Roth, who has become one of the BSO’s most prominent guest conductors in recent years, also returns for two weeks (January 4-13), and eminent American-born Swedish conductor Herbert Blomstedt (February 22-27) and New York Philharmonic Music Director Alan Gilbert (March 1-3) return for one program each. Tugan Sokhiev makes his eagerly anticipated BSO debut in two weeks of performances (April 19-28). BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès leads the BSO in a diverse program of music by Beethoven, Stravinsky, Ligeti, and himself (January 25-27); Giancarlo Guerrero joins the orchestra to conduct a program celebrating the Bernstein centennial (March 15-17); and BSO Associate Conductor Ken-David Masur (October 19-24) and BSO Assistant Conductor Moritz Gnann (May 4) take the podium for one program each.

This season also sees the return of world-renowned guests including cellist Yo-Yo Ma (March 30-April 3); violinists Hilary Hahn (October 12-14), Gil Shaham (October 5-7), and Leonidas Kavakos (November 30-December 2); pianists Paul Lewis (September 28-October 3), Pierre-Laurent Aimard (January 11-13), and Emanuel Ax (May 1-5); and mezzo-soprano Susan Graham (October 26-28).

2017-18 BSO SEASON OVERVIEW: GUEST CONDUCTOR PROGRAMS

BSO Family Ties
The BSO 2017-18 season will feature four programs led by BSO family members. BSO Conductor Emeritus Bernard Haitink returns for the last week of the subscription season May 1-5 to lead Brahms’s mercurial, four-movement Piano Concerto No. 2, featuring pianist Emanuel Ax, and Dvořák’s Symphony No. 7.

BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès takes the podium January 25-27 to conduct Beethoven’s Symphony No. 8, Ligeti’s Violin Concerto, with soloist Augustin Hadelich, the suite from Mr. Adès’s own 1995 opera Powder Her Face, and Stravinsky’s Divertimento from The Fairy’s Kiss. As a pianist, Mr. Adès makes his soloist debut with the BSO in Symphony Hall February 8-10 as one of the soloists in Bach’s Concerto in D minor for three keyboard instruments, BWV 1063, conducted by Andris Nelsons. Finally, he appears with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players January 21, for Janáček’s Concertino for piano and ensemble and Schubert’s Notturno in E-flat for piano, violin, and cello, D. 897.

BSO Associate Conductor Ken-David Masur leads four very special performances October 19-24 of a new stage adaptation by director Bill Barclay, set designer Cristina Todesco, and costume designer Kathleen Doyle of the incidental music Edvard Grieg wrote for Henrik Ibsen’s play Peer Gynt, featuring actors, soprano Camilla Tilling, and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus. To open the program, Mr. Masur leads the orchestra in Beethoven’s incidental music to Egmont.
BSO Assistant Conductor Moritz Gnann is on the podium for the BSO’s final performance of the 2017-18 season, a one-afternoon-only chamber orchestra concert on May 4 that highlights the virtuosity of the orchestra’s constituent sections. The program includes Gabrieli’s Canzonas for brass; Alessandro Marcello’s Concerto for Oboe and Strings, featuring BSO principal oboist John Ferrillo; Wenzel Sedlak’s arrangement for wind ensemble of excerpts from Rossini’s comic masterpiece Il barbiere di Siviglia; and Mozart’s seminal Symphony No. 40.

Returning Favorites
Esteemed Swiss conductor and frequent BSO guest Charles Dutoit will lead two weeks of programs with the BSO, one in October 2017 and another in February 2018, both continuing his multi-season series of programs with the BSO featuring the pinnacles of the French repertoire. He first conducts three performances October 26-28 of Berlioz’s The Damnation of Faust, featuring mezzo-soprano Susan Graham as Marguerite, tenor Paul Groves as Faust, baritone David Kravitz as Brander, and bass-baritone John Relyea as Méphistophélés, along with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and a children’s chorus. Then, February 15-17, he leads a program in honor of the 90th anniversary of Maurice Ravel’s appearances as a guest conductor with the orchestra in January 1928, including the composer’s Piano Concerto for the left hand, with BSO Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet, and the complete music from Daphnis et Chloé, as well as Debussy’s Sarabande et Danse, in an arrangement by Ravel.

Another favorite BSO guest conductor, Christoph von Dohnányi returns to the BSO with pianist Martin Helmchen November 16-18. Mr. Helmchen performs as soloist in Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3, and Maestro von Dohnányi also leads Janáček’s brilliant Sinfonietta, Webern’s arrangement of the six-part Ricercar from Bach’s The Musical Offering, and Bartók’s Two Portraits, Op. 5. Herbert Blomstedt, who made his BSO debut at Tanglewood in 1980 and has appeared with the orchestra several times in the last decade, leads an all-Mozart program February 22-27, which includes the symphonies 34, 36, and 41.

Two frequent BSO collaborators of recent years, François-Xavier Roth and Giancarlo Guerrero, return for important engagements in the 2017-18 season. Mr. Roth leads two weeks of performances in January 2018. The first, January 4-9, features young English pianist Benjamin Grosvenor in Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 21 in C, K.467, the overture to Étienne Méhul’s The Amazons, or the Founding of Thebes, and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5. The second, January 11-13, also features an outstanding virtuoso pianist, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, who plays the solo part in Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 1. The program also includes Webern’s 1908 Passacaglia and Stravinsky’s complete music for The Firebird. Mr. Guerrero joins the BSO March 15-March 17 as part of the orchestra’s celebration of the Leonard Bernstein Centennial Year, with a program that includes Bernstein’s Symphony No. 3, Kaddish—featuring the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, the American Boychoir, and a narrator and soprano soloist, and Tchaikovsky’s powerfully tragic Symphony No. 6, Pathétique.

American violinist Hilary Hahn, who has not appeared with the BSO since 2010, returns October 12-14 for three performances of Dvořák’s Violin Concerto. The concerts, conducted by Gustavo Gimeno in his subscription series debut, also include music by Ligeti and Schumann.

New Faces Performing with the BSO
The 2017-18 season features a number of notable performers making their BSO or subscription series debuts. Young Russian-Ossetian conductor Tugan Sokhiev makes his long-awaited BSO debut with two consecutive weeks of programs in April 2018. For the first week of concerts, April 19-24, Mr. Sokhiev is
joined by another exciting young artist making his BSO debut, Canadian-Polish pianist Jan Lisiecki, who joins the orchestra as soloist in the Piano Concerto No. 1 by Chopin, music for which Lisiecki has received widespread acclaim. Britten’s *Simple Symphony* begins the program and Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 4, *Italian*, brings it to a close. For Mr. Sokhiev’s second week on the Symphony Hall podium, April 27-28, he and the orchestra welcome Israeli violinist Vadim Gluzman, in his BSO subscription series debut, who performs Brahms’s Violin Concerto on a program that also includes Prokofiev’s Symphony No. 5.

Sensational young English pianist Benjamin Grosvenor makes his BSO debut as soloist in Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 21 in C, K.467, in a January 4-9 program conducted by François-Xavier Roth that also includes music by Beethoven and Étienne Méhul.

**Boston Symphony Chamber Players 2017-18 Season**
The Boston Symphony Chamber Players open their 2017-18 season, Sunday, October 15, 2017, with a program dominated by works by living composers: Lowell Lieberman’s *Night Music*, Op. 109, for flute clarinet, and piano; Kevin Puts’s *Seven Seascapes*, for flute, horn, viola, cello, bass, and piano; and André Previn’s Trio for oboe, bassoon, and piano. The program also includes Mozart’s String Quintet in G minor, K.516. For the second program of the season, on January 21, 2018, BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès joins the Chamber Players for Janáček’s Concertino for piano and ensemble and Schubert’s *Notturno* in E-flat for piano, violin, and cello, D. 897, and the concert opens with Ligeti’s Six Bagatelles for wind quintet. The Chamber Players welcome another member of the BSO family on March 11 as Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet teams up with the ensemble for Saint-Saëns’s Caprice on Danish and Russian Airs, Op. 79, for flute, oboe, clarinet, and piano and Dvořák’s Quintet in A for piano and strings, Op. 81. In between is Berwald’s Grand Septet in B-flat, for winds and strings. To close the 2017-18 season on April 22, the Chamber Players present a wide-ranging program that includes Mozart’s String Quartet in C, K.515, selections from Bruch’s Eight Pieces for clarinet, viola, and piano, Op. 83, Lili Boulanger’s Nocturne and Cortège, for cello and piano, and the world premiere of a new BSO-commissioned work by Elena Langer.

[Click here for the complete 2017-18 season concert listing](#)

**WEEK-BY-WEEK PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS OF THE BSO’S 2017-18 SEASON**

2017-18 BSO SEASON BEGINS SEPTEMBER 22 WITH LEONARD BERNSTEIN CENTENNIAL SEASON CELEBRATION LED BY ANDRIS NELSONS AND FEATURING MEZZO-SOPRANO FREDERICA VON STADE AS HOST

Music Director Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra open the 2017-18 season on Friday, September 22, with the Leonard Bernstein Centennial Season Celebration, the first of the orchestra’s performances this season commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Boston-born conductor and composer’s birth in 1918. Legendary mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade serves as host for the all-Bernstein program, which includes the ebullient Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* and the Divertimento for Orchestra—the latter a BSO centennial commission premiered by the orchestra in 1980. BSO principal flutist Elizabeth Rowe is soloist in the composer’s introspective *Halil* for flute, percussion, and strings; and Ms. von Stade and Julia Bullock, a soprano acclaimed for her performances of Bernstein’s music (making her BSO debut) perform a selection of Bernstein’s vocal music.
ANDRIS NELSONS LEADS BSO IN MUSIC OF HAYDN AND MAHLER, SEPTEMBER 23 AND 26
In two concerts Saturday, September 23, and Tuesday, September 26, Andris Nelsons leads the BSO in works by two of music history’s greatest symphonists. Opening the program is the Symphony No. 103, *Drumroll*, one of the seminal “London” symphonies by Haydn, a composer for whose music Mr. Nelsons has shown a particular affinity. Following the Haydn is Mahler’s at times brooding, at times vigorously energetic First Symphony. Completed when the composer was in his late twenties, it already displays the expansiveness and innovation that would become increasingly heightened in his later symphonies.

PIANIST PAUL LEWIS JOINS ANDRIS NELSONS AND BSO FOR BEETHOVEN’S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 4; MAESTRO NELSONS LEADS THE ORCHESTRA IN SHOSTAKOVICH’S SYMPHONY NO. 11
Renowned English pianist Paul Lewis, who has released acclaimed recordings of Beethoven’s complete piano concertos and piano sonatas in recent years, joins Andris Nelsons and the BSO in four performances Thursday, September 28-Tuesday, October 3, for the composer’s expansive and lyrical Piano Concerto No. 4. The concerts also mark the continuation of the orchestra’s ongoing Shostakovich symphony cycle under Mr. Nelson’s direction, as he leads the BSO in the Symphony No. 11, *The Year 1905*, a crushing score memorializing Russia’s 1905 Revolution.

GIL SHAHAM PERFORMS TCHAIKOVSKY’S VIOLIN CONCERTO, OCTOBER 5-7, ON PROGRAM WITH MUSIC BY RACHMANINOFF AND ARLENE SIERRA, CONDUCTED BY ANDRIS NELSONS
Andris Nelsons and the BSO welcome American violinist Gil Shaham, who has been a frequent guest at Symphony Hall and Tanglewood since his debut with the orchestra in 1993, for three concerts Thursday, October 5-Saturday, October 7 featuring Tchaikovsky’s sweepingly passionate Violin Concerto. Opening the program is Moler by American composer and former Tanglewood Music Center fellow Arlene Sierra—a 2012 work inspired by the teeth-grinding habit brought out in a composer by a looming deadline. Closing the concerts is Rachmaninoff’s 20th-century, hyper-Romantic Symphony No. 2.

HILARY HAHN JOINS THE BSO AND CONDUCTOR GUSTAVO GIMENO FOR DVOŘÁK’S VIOLIN CONCERTO, OCTOBER 12-14
Outstanding American violinist Hilary Hahn returns to Symphony Hall for her first appearances with the BSO since 2010 in three performances of Dvořák’s Violin Concerto Thursday, October 12-Saturday, October 14. Conducting the concerts is Spanish-born maestro and music director of the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg Gustavo Gimeno, who makes his Symphony Hall debut. Mr. Gimeno opens the program with György Ligeti’s early, Bartók-influenced Concert Românesc, partly based on Romanian folk music. Robert Schumann’s Symphony No. 1, *Spring*, was inspired by the composer’s wife, Clara, who soon after their marriage encouraged him to write a symphony. It was premiered by his good friend Felix Mendelssohn.

KEN-DAVID MASUR CONDUCTS STAGE ADAPTATION OF GRIEG’S INCIDENTAL MUSIC TO PEER GYNT
OCTOBER 19-24
BSO Assistant Conductor Ken-David Masur leads four very special performances Thursday, October 19-Tuesday, October 24 of the incidental music Edvard Grieg wrote for Henrik Ibsen’s play *Peer Gynt*. Extremely popular and well-known in the context of the two concert suites Grieg constructed later, this music is rarely heard in its original, complete form. (Its last complete BSO performances were led by Mr. Masur’s father, Kurt, in 1985.) These concerts provide an even rarer opportunity for audiences to experience a new stage adaptation of the work by director Bill Barclay, set designer Cristina Todesco, and costume designer Kathleen Doyle, the same team behind the BSO’s concert-staged performances of
Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* in January 2016. In addition to Mr. Masur and the orchestra, the adaptation will include a cast of actors, soprano Camilla Tilling, and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, James Burton, conductor. To open the program, Mr. Masur leads the orchestra in Beethoven’s incidental music to *Egmont*.

CHARLES DUTOIT RETURNS TO THE BSO OCTOBER 26-28 TO LEAD BERLIOZ’S *THE DAMNATION OF FAUST*

Eminent Swiss conductor Charles Dutoit, music director of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and leading interpreter of French music, continues his multi-season series of programs with the BSO featuring the pinnacles of the French repertoire Thursday, October 26-Saturday, October 28 with three performances of Berlioz’s *The Damnation of Faust* (sung in French with English supertitles). Defying clear categorization, Berlioz’s work is equal parts opera, oratorio, and cantata, with text adapted from a French translation of Goethe’s *Faust*. The BSO is joined by an outstanding all-American quartet of vocal soloists: mezzo-soprano Susan Graham as Marguerite, tenor Paul Groves as Faust, baritone David Kravitz as Brander, and bass-baritone John Relyea as Méphistophélès; as well as the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and a children’s chorus.

CHRISTOPH VON DOHNÁNYI CONDUCTS BACH, BEETHOVEN, BARTÓK, AND JANÁČEK, NOVEMBER 16-18

In three performances Thursday, November 16-Saturday, November 18, German conductor and longtime BSO collaborator Christoph von Dohnányi leads a wide-ranging program of music spanning three centuries. The centerpiece of the program is Janáček’s brilliant *Sinfonietta*, which serves as a spectacular showcase for the BSO’s brass section in particular. At the heart of the program is Beethoven’s stormy Piano Concerto No. 3, featuring soloist Martin Helmchen, who last appeared with the orchestra in 2015. Opening the concerts is Anton Webern’s shimmering arrangement of the six-part Ricercar from Bach’s contrapuntal masterpiece *The Musical Offering*, and rounding out the program are Bartók’s *Two Portraits*, Op. 5, in part derived from a concerto he presented to the violinist Stefi Geyer, with whom he was infatuated. A theme he associated with her is at the heart of the first of the *Two Portraits*.

ANDRIS NELSONS CONDUCTS BEETHOVEN AND BRUCKNER, NOVEMBER 21-25

BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons returns to Symphony Hall for three concerts Tuesday, November 21-Saturday, November 25, in continuation of his survey of the complete symphonies of Bruckner with the orchestra. Having previously performed the composer’s Third, Sixth, and Seventh symphonies together, Maestro Nelsons and the BSO take on the Symphony No. 4, *Romantic*, in these concerts. Marked by the soaring grandeur and long-breathed melodies so characteristic of Bruckner, the Fourth is one of the composer’s most direct and approachable works. To open the program, Austrian pianist Rudolf Buchbinder, a frequent collaborator with Mr. Nelsons, joins the orchestra for Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 1.

ANDRIS NELSONS AND LEONIDAS KAVAKOS TEAM UP FOR PROKOFIEV’S VIOLIN CONCERTO NO. 2 ON A PROGRAM THAT ALSO INCLUDES MUSIC BY STRAUSS AND DEREK BERMEL, NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 2

In the first collaboration between two of classical music’s most prominent artists, BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons and Greek violinist Leonidas Kavakos come together November 30-December 2 for Prokofiev’s Violin Concerto No. 2, a melodious later work with audible influences from Russian and Spanish folk music. Maestro Nelsons also continues his exploration of the music of Richard Strauss, closing the program with the vivid tone poem *An Alpine Symphony*. The program begins with Derek
Bermeil’s 2006 Elixir, which the American composer describes as “a spectral love potion” and which calls on the distinctive and haunting theremin, one of the earliest electronic instruments. This is one of several works by younger American composers being presented during the BSO’s 2017-18 season.

FRANÇOIS-XAVIER ROTH LEADS TWO WEEKS OF PROGRAMS JANUARY 4-9 AND JANUARY 11-13
French conductor François-Xavier Roth leads the BSO in two weeks of concerts to kick off the new year. For the first program, Thursday, January 4-Tuesday, January 9, sensational young English pianist Benjamin Grosvenor joins the orchestra, making his BSO debut as soloist in Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 21 in C, K.467. Mr. Roth opens the concerts with the overture to the little-known composer Étienne Méhul’s 1811 opera The Amazons, or the Founding of Thebes, and closes with one of history’s best-known works, Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5.

Maestro Roth’s second week of BSO programs, Thursday, January 11-Saturday, January 13, also features an outstanding virtuoso pianist—the French pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard, who plays the tremendously difficult solo part in Bartók’s brilliant Piano Concerto No. 1, composed in 1926. The program, which focuses on music from the early 20th century, also includes Webern’s warm, expressive 1908 Passacaglia, his very first published work, and Stravinsky’s complete music for the Diaghilev ballet The Firebird, written in 1910, which rocketed the young composer to stardom.

ANDRIS NELSONS LEADS MAHLER’S SYMPHONY NO. 3, FEATURING SUSAN GRAHAM, JANUARY 18-20
Andris Nelsons returns to Boston for three performances Thursday, January 18-Saturday, January 20, of Mahler’s multi-faceted and emotionally wide-ranging Symphony No. 3, a work notable for its length, grandeur, and overwhelming emotional impact. For this performance, the expanded ranks of the BSO are joined by longtime favorite mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, women of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and a children’s chorus. Across its nearly 100-minute length, the broad musical canvas of Mahler’s Third Symphony moves through rousing fanfares, tender lyricism, and melancholy to the height of exaltation.

BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER THOMAS ADÈS LEADS MUSIC OLD AND NEW JANUARY 25-27, WITH VIOLINIST AUGUSTIN HADELICH
Composer, conductor, pianist and BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès takes the Symphony Hall podium for the only time during the 2017-18 season Thursday, January 25-Saturday, January 27 to lead a program featuring one of his own compositions, works from the 20th century, and, for the conductor’s first time with the BSO, a Classical selection. The program opens with Beethoven’s Symphony No. 8, the composer’s most jovial and jubilant work in the genre, followed by Ligeti’s five-movement Violin Concerto, which will feature soloist Augustin Hadelich and a cadenza composed by Mr. Adès. After intermission, the program continues with the suite from Mr. Adès’s stylistically eclectic 1995 opera Powder Her Face, and concludes with Stravinsky’s Divertimento from The Fairy’s Kiss, which draws on music and inspiration from Tchaikovsky.

ANDRIS NELSONS, KRISTINE OPOLAIS, AND BRYN TERFEL JOIN FORCES FOR SHOSTAKOVICH’S SYMPHONY NO. 14, FEBRUARY 1-3
The BSO and Andris Nelsons welcome two of opera’s biggest stars to Symphony Hall Thursday, February 1-Saturday, February 3, as soprano Kristine Opolaïs and bass-baritone Bryn Terfel lend their vocal talents to the orchestra’s ongoing Shostakovich symphony cycle in performances of the Symphony No. 14 for soprano, bass, string orchestra, and percussion, an unorthodox work in 11 movements with text from poems by four authors—most on the subject of death. The program also includes Mozart’s Serenade No. 10 in B-flat, K.361, Gran Partita. Scored for thirteen winds and double bass, the Gran
Partita stretches to 50 minutes and through its endless series of ingenious touches reveals the full extent of Mozart’s powers.

ANDRIS NELSONS OVERSEES INAUGURAL “LEIPZIG WEEK IN BOSTON,” FEBRUARY 8-10
As part of an unprecedented partnership with Leipzig’s Gewandhausorchester—of which Andris Nelsons becomes music director in the 2017-18 season, concurrent with his holding of the same position with the BSO—Mr. Nelsons and the BSO present the inaugural “Leipzig Week in Boston” program Thursday, February 8-Saturday, February 10, featuring music closely identified with the city of Leipzig alongside the world premiere of a new work by American composer Sean Shepherd co-commissioned by the two orchestras. To open the program, the BSO is joined by an outstanding trio of pianists: BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès, Kirill Gerstein, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet, in the Concerto in D minor for three keyboard instruments, BWV 1063, by J.S. Bach, who spent nearly thirty years of his life as music director of Leipzig’s St. Thomas Church. The Tanglewood Festival Chorus also joins the festivities, performing with the BSO in longtime Leipzig resident Robert Schumann’s Nachtlied and Neujahrslied, two works never performed by the BSO. The program concludes with Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3, Scottisch. Mendelssohn is legendary in Leipzig’s musical history as conductor of the famed Gewandhausorchester as well as the founder of the city’s conservatory.

CHARLES DUTOIT AND JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET JOIN BSO FOR ALL-FRENCH PROGRAM, FEBRUARY 15-17
In honor of the 90th anniversary of Maurice Ravel’s appearances as a guest conductor with the orchestra in January 1928, the BSO presents an all-French program Thursday, February 15-Saturday, February 17 featuring two of the world’s foremost interpreters of French music, conductor Charles Dutoit and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Two of Ravel’s own works form the lion’s share of the program as Mr. Thibaudet joins the orchestra for the composer’s Piano Concerto for the left hand and Mr. Dutoit leads a BSO specialty, the complete ballet Daphnis et Chloé. To begin the concerts, Mr. Dutoit follows in Ravel’s footsteps, conducting Debussy’s Sarabande et Danse, in an arrangement by Ravel, which was one of the works the composer led with the orchestra in 1928.

HERBERT BLOMSTEDT LEADS THREE SYMPHONIES BY MOZART, FEBRUARY 22-27
Massachusetts-born Swedish conductor Herbert Blomstedt—who has served lengthy terms as music director/chief conductor with the San Francisco Symphony, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, Staatskapelle Dresden, and other major orchestras—returns to the BSO to lead a program dedicated to symphonies by Mozart, Thursday, February 22-Tuesday, February 27. Before intermission, Mr. Blomstedt leads the orchestra in the Symphony No. 34, the last symphony Mozart wrote before leaving his native Salzburg, and the Symphony No. 36, Linz, written in a four-day flurry in the work’s namesake Austrian city. The program concludes with the great Symphony No. 41, Jupiter, the composer’s final work in the genre and a pinnacle of the Classical style.

ALAN GILBERT AND LEILA JOSEFOWICZ JOIN BSO FOR RECENT WORK BY JOHN ADAMS, MARCH 1-3
Conductor Alan Gilbert and violinist Leila Josefowicz bring Scheherazade.2—a major new work by American composer John Adams that received its world premiere in New York with Gilbert and Josefowicz in 2015—to the BSO for three performances, Thursday, March 1-Saturday, March 3. Labeled by the composer as a “dramatic symphony for violin and orchestra,” Scheherazade.2 is the composer’s response to the violence that lies at the heart of the story of the “Arabian Nights” and the brutality still visited upon women around the world today. (The work’s title refers to Rimsky-Korsakov’s symphonic poem Scheherazade, which also features an extensive solo violin role.) The program also includes Sibelius’s moody tone poem En saga and Debussy’s Jeux, music from a ballet about an imaginary tennis game and one of the composer’s most influential and innovative pieces.
BSO CONTINUES CELEBRATION OF LEONARD BERNSTEIN’S CENTENNIAL YEAR, MARCH 15-17
Costa-Rican conductor Giancarlo Guerrero, music director of the Nashville Symphony, joins the BSO Thursday, March 15-Saturday, March 17, to continue the orchestra’s celebration of the Leonard Bernstein Centennial Year. These concerts will feature Bernstein’s Symphony No. 3, Kaddish, a 1963 work for orchestra, chorus, boys’ choir, soprano, and narrator, which is inspired by the Jewish prayer chanted at services for the dead and is dedicated to the memory of John F. Kennedy. The symphony—commissioned by the BSO for its 75th anniversary—will feature the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and the American Boychoir, along with a narrator and soprano soloist to be announced at a later date. The program begins with Tchaikovsky’s powerfully tragic Symphony No. 6, Pathétique.

ANDRIS NELSONS LEADS SYMPHONIES BY BERNSTEIN AND SHOSTAKOVICH, MARCH 22-17
BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons takes the helm Thursday, March 22-Tuesday, March 27 to continue the orchestra’s celebration of Leonard Bernstein’s centennial. Artist-in-Residence Jean-Yves Thibaudet joins Andris Nelsons and the BSO at the piano for Bernstein’s Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety, a piece based on W.H. Auden’s 1947 poem of the same name, which Bernstein called “one of the most shattering examples of pure virtuosity in the history of English poetry.” Serge Koussevitzky and the Boston Symphony Orchestra gave the world premiere performances of the piece, with Bernstein on piano, in 1949. Maestro Nelsons and the orchestra also continue their Shostakovich symphony cycle in these concerts with the Symphony No. 4, one of the composer’s most original and inspired creations. In one of the most harrowing episodes of his career, Shostakovich withdrew this 1936 symphony prior to its first performance as a response to withering official criticism of his work, replacing it with the now-beloved Symphony No. 5. No. 4 had to wait 25 years for its premiere in 1961.

ANDRIS NELSONS LEADS PROGRAM FEATURING AMERICAN PREMIERE OF NEW WORK BY JÖRG WIDMANN, MARCH 29-APRIL 3
As another result of the new partnership between the BSO and the Leipzig Gewandhausorchester, on Friday, March 30-Tuesday, April 3, Andris Nelsons conducts the American premiere of a new work by German composer Jörg Widmann, co-commissioned by the two orchestras. The performances conclude with Strauss’s rollicking tone poem Don Quixote, featuring superstar cellist Yo-Yo Ma and BSO principal violist Steven Ansell. Opening the program is Mozart’s Symphony No. 23, a fascinating and rarely heard piece in three contrasting movements played without pause in the manner of an opera overture. The slow movement features a solo oboe passage akin to the “Dulcinea” theme in Strauss’s score.

ANDRIS NELSONS CONDUCTS ALL-WAGNER PROGRAM FEATURING ACT II OF TRISTAN UND ISOLDE, APRIL 5-7
In what is sure to be one of the highlights of the BSO’s 2017-18 season, Andris Nelsons leads two exciting performances of a program dedicated to the music of Wagner Thursday, April 5, and Saturday, April 7. At its heart is the complete Act II of Tristan und Isolde, featuring the title characters’ great love duet, some of the most mesmerizing and transcendent music ever written, and the heartbreaking confrontation between the bewitched Tristan and King Marke, the father figure he has betrayed. The performance features tenor Jonas Kaufmann as Tristan—making his debut in the role with these performances—and soprano Camilla Nylund as the Irish princess Isolde (in her BSO debut), along with mezzo-soprano Mihoko Fujimura as Brangäne (in her BSO debut), tenor Andrew Rees (in his BSO debut) as Melot, baritone David Kravitz as Kurwenal, and bass Georg Zeppenfeld as King Marke in his BSO debut. The program begins with the orchestral Siegfried Idyll, composed for Wagner’s wife, Cosima, upon the birth of their son.
RISING YOUNG CONDUCTOR TUGAN SOKHIEV MAKES HIS BSO DEBUT IN TWO WEEKS OF CONCERTS APRIL 19-24 AND APRIL 26-28

Young Russian-Ossetian conductor Tugan Sokhiev makes his long-awaited BSO debut with two consecutive weeks of programs, April 19-28. For the first week of concerts, Thursday, April 19-Tuesday, April 24, Mr. Sokhiev is joined by another exciting young artist making his BSO debut, Canadian-Polish pianist Jan Lisiecki, who joins the orchestra as soloist in the Piano Concerto No. 1 by Chopin, music for which Lisiecki has received widespread acclaim. Britten’s Simple Symphony, a charming work for string orchestra that the composer fashioned from piano music he had composed as a teenager, begins the program, and Mendelssohn’s breathless Symphony No. 4, Italian, brings it to a close.

For his second week on the Symphony Hall podium, Friday, April 27-Saturday, April 28, Mr. Sokhiev welcomes Israeli violinist Vadim Gluzman, who performs as soloist in Brahms’s serious but good-natured Violin Concerto, which moves from a rhapsodic opening movement to a pastoral and heart-melting Adagio, and concludes with an exuberant, toe-tapping finale. After intermission, Maestro Sokhiev leads the BSO in Prokofiev’s Symphony No. 5, which the composer wrote in 1944 amidst the chaos of World War II.

BERNARD HAITINK AND EMANUEL AX JOIN BSO FOR FINAL WEEK OF 2017-18 SUBSCRIPTION CONCERTS, MAY 1-5

Two of the BSO’s most important and beloved collaborators help the orchestra bring the 2017-18 subscription series to a close with three concerts, Tuesday, May 1-Saturday, May 5. BSO Conductor Emeritus Bernard Haitink and favorite guest pianist Emanuel Ax team up to open the program with Brahms’s mercurial, four-movement Piano Concerto No. 2, a monumental and ambitious work that nevertheless flies by due to its wealth of beautiful melody, rhythmic vitality, and endless invention. Mr. Haitink and the orchestra then conclude with Dvořák’s Symphony No. 7, the darkest and most Classically structured of his works in the genre.

MORITZ GNANN LEADS BSO MUSICIANS IN SPECIAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE, MAY 4

For one afternoon only, the BSO performs a special chamber orchestra concert highlighting the virtuosity of the orchestra’s constituent sections. Led by BSO Assistant Conductor Moritz Gnann, the program begins with Gabrieli’s Canzonas for brass, late-Renaissance/early-Baroque works filled with thrilling instrumental effects. BSO principal oboist John Ferrillo and the orchestra’s string section are featured in the Venetian composer and Vivaldi contemporary Alessandro Marcello’s Concerto for Oboe and Strings. The complete wind section has a chance to shine as a group, as well, with Wenzel Sedlak’s arrangement for wind ensemble of excerpts from Rossini’s comic masterpiece Il barbiere di Siviglia. The concert concludes with Mozart’s seminal Symphony No. 40, which demands the finest artistry from every player.

**Sponsorships**

Longstanding major corporate partner Bank of America returns as the BSO Season Sponsor for the 2017-18 Season. Bank of America believes that arts have a unique capability to connect people, communities and cultures and help economies thrive. “Our support of the arts engages individuals, organizations and cultures in creative ways to help build mutual respect and insight,” said Miceal Chamberlain, Massachusetts President, Bank of America. “Investing in the arts, we help create experiences that challenge, educate, inspire and motivate. We hope audiences at Symphony Hall share in our passion and enthusiasm for the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s 2017-18 Season.”
The BSO is proud to announce that the Arbella Insurance Foundation, a longtime sponsor, is continuing its major sponsorship for the 12th season, expanding its support of new audience development initiatives. In addition to once again sponsoring the BSO College Card and Youth & Family Concerts, Arbella is also sponsoring the BSO’s popular Casual Fridays series and the BSO Young Professionals (YoPro) program.

Delta Air Lines has returned as the Official Airline of the BSO. Fairmont Copley Plaza begins its 16th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO, and Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation begins its 15th season as the Official Chauffeured Transportation of the BSO.

**TICKET AND OTHER PATRON INFORMATION**

**Ticket Information**
Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2017-18 season will be available on March 31 by calling the BSO Subscription Office at 888-266-7575 or online through the BSO’s website (http://www.bso.org/subscriptions). Single tickets go on sale July 31 at 10 a.m. 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 $6.50 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, cash only, at the Symphony Hall Box Office. For Friday afternoon concerts Rush Tickets are available beginning at 10 a.m. For Tuesday and Thursday 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 for most performances. 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 has sold over 100,000 “$20 under 40” tickets since the program was created in 2008.

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 notifications of ticket availability. The orchestra has distributed over 135,000 College Cards since the program’s inception.

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 2017-18 season.

This season will continue the popular “Casual Fridays” program, which encourages both patrons and the orchestra to come dressed in comfortable clothing. The four evening “Casual Friday” concerts in on October 20, January 5, February 9, and April 6 will feature both a pre-concert reception and post-concert reception with live music until midnight. Each evening also features special Conductor Cam seating, which allows patrons to watch the conductor from the orchestra’s perspective on high definition screens.

BSO 101 returns in 2017-18, again offering the opportunity to increase your enjoyment of BSO concerts. These free Wednesday sessions with BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel joined by members of the BSO are designed to enhance your listening abilities and appreciation of music by focusing on upcoming BSO repertoire. These sessions take place from 5:30-7 p.m. at Symphony Hall; in addition, each session is followed by a free 1/2 hour tour of Symphony Hall. Dates and more information will be provided in patron subscription packages and at bso.org in the fall. RSVPs for the BSO 101 sessions will not be accepted until the fall. Full details of the 2017-18 “BSO 101” schedule will be announced at a later date.

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 11:30 a.m. Given by BSO Director of Program Publications Marc Mandel, Associate 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 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 one of the world’s largest and most-visited orchestral websites, receiving approximately 10 million visitors annually and generating over $128 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 Instagram at Instagram.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 media options. Offerings include WGBH radio broadcast streams of select BSO, Boston Pops, and Tanglewood performances (via www.bso.org/broadcast); free music streams for select seasonal offerings including the upcoming Spring Pops music stream (May 2017); 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. The BSO’s recent Grammy-winning albums from the Shostakovich: Under Stalin’s Shadow series are also available at www.bso.org.

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. BSO.org also features 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.

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. 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 Hampshire Public Radio, Maine Public Broadcasting Network, and New England Public Radio. 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 & Prelude Restaurant. Patrons enjoy the convenience of pre-concert dining at the Café and Prelude in the unique ambiance of historic Symphony Hall. Symphony Café offers buffet-style dinner from 5:30 p.m. until concert time for all evening Boston Symphony concerts. In addition, Symphony Café will be open for lunch at 11 a.m. prior to Friday-afternoon concerts. Prelude, the BSO’s newest dining experience, offers a delicious 3-course Prix Fixe Menu with elegant entrees and sensational flavors. Tables are available by reservation only, exclusively during Symphony season. The Café and Prelude are both located in Higginson Hall; near 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 snack bar outside the O’Block/Kay Room and Cabot-Cahners Room. Drink coupons, Light appetizers, entrees, desserts, and packages that features an appetizer and half-bottle of wine can also be ordered on the BSO’s Website at www.bso.org/dining. On the night of the concert, all pre-orders can be picked up at the Cabot-Cahners Room during.
There are two lounges in Symphony Hall. The O'Block/Kay Room on the Orchestra level and Cabot-Cahners Room on the first balcony level serve drinks starting one hour prior to each performance. For the Friday afternoon concerts, both rooms open at 11:00 a.m., with sandwiches available until concert time. Drink coupons may be purchased in advance online or through SymphonyCharge for all performances.

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 during concerts through intermission. 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 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.

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Click here for the complete 2017-18 season concert listing