FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
DATE: January 9, 2018

BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER THOMAS ADÈS JOINS BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS FOR PERFORMANCE AT JORDAN HALL, JANUARY 21, AT 3 P.M.

PROGRAM TO INCLUDE WORKS BY REICHA, SCHUBERT, LIGETI, AND JANÁČEK

Brilliant English composer, conductor, and pianist Thomas Adès, the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s Artistic Partner, joins the Boston Symphony Chamber Players as pianist for the group’s second performance of the 2017-18 season on Sunday, January 21, 2018, at 3 p.m. in Jordan Hall on the campus of New England Conservatory. To open the program, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players will perform Reicha’s Quintet in E-flat for winds, Op. 88, No. 2. Mr. Adès joins the ensemble for two works: Schubert’s Notturno in E-flat for piano, violin, and cello, D.897, and Janáček’s Concertino for piano, two violins, viola, clarinet, horn, and bassoon, which concludes the concert. The program also includes György Ligeti’s Six Bagatelles for wind quintet.

One of the world’s most distinguished chamber music ensembles sponsored by a major symphony orchestra and made up of that orchestra’s principal players, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players feature first-desk string, woodwind, and brass players from the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The January 21 concert features Boston Symphony Orchestra players Malcolm Lowe, violin; Haldan Martinson, violin; Steven Ansell, viola; Sato Knudsen, cello; Elizabeth Rowe, flute; John Ferrillo, oboe; William R. Hudgins, clarinet; Richard Svoboda, bassoon; and James Sommerville, horn.

DETAILS FOR BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS JANUARY 21 PROGRAM
The Prague-born composer Antonín Reicha, an exact contemporary of Beethoven’s, lived for several years in Vienna but was more closely associated with Paris, where he lived most of his life. Although he was erroneously credited with inventing the chamber music genre of the woodwind quintet, he can certainly be
said to have elevated the medium’s repertoire to approach that of the more established string quartet. He published some two dozen substantial woodwind quintets in Paris in the late 1810s, including the classically elegant, four-movement Quintet in E-flat for winds, Op. 88, No. 2, that balances ensemble writing with the independence of each instrumental part. Schubert’s single-movement Notturno in E-flat for piano, violin, and cello, D.897 follows. Expansive and dark, it was possibly intended as the slow movement for the composer’s First Piano Trio.

The second half of the program features a pair of early- to mid-20th-century Central European works. The Hungarian-born György Ligeti’s Six Bagatelles for wind quintet date from 1953 and began their life as music for solo piano as part of the 11-part suite Musica ricercata. The Bagatelles span an extraordinary range of moods, from the mysterious and lugubrious to the charmingly frenetic and demand virtuosic levels of cooperation among the players. The concert concludes with the Czech composer Leoš Janáček’s Concertino for piano, two violins, viola, clarinet, horn, and bassoon. For this spirited work from 1925, the composer supplied descriptions of the moods of the four movements. The opening Moderato has the character of a “grumpy hedgehog,” the second movement can be compared to a “fidgety squirrel,” the Con moto third movement takes on the mood of the “night owl and other night animals,” and the Allegro finale is like a “scene from a fairy tale, in which everyone is arguing.”

**BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS 2017-18 SEASON**

On February 11, the Gewandhaus-Quartett, made up of members of the GHO, will join musicians of the BSO for a special Symphony Hall performance to include Haydn’s String Quartet in D, Op. 64, No. 5, “The Lark,” Ligeti’s Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet, Foss’s *For Aaron* for chamber ensemble; and Mendelssohn’s Octet. 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 Piano Quintet in A, 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, Stacy Garrop’s *Bohemian Café* for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon, and double bass, and Lili Boulanger’s Nocturne and Cortège, for cello and piano. The Chamber Players opened their 2017-18 season, Sunday, October 15, 2017, with a program featuring works by living American 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 included Mozart’s String Quintet in G minor, K.516.

**BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS**

One of the world’s most distinguished chamber ensembles sponsored by a major symphony orchestra and made up of principal players from that orchestra, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players include first-chair string and wind players from the BSO. Founded in 1964 during Erich Leinsdorf’s tenure as music director, the Chamber Players can perform virtually any work within the vast chamber music literature by calling upon other BSO members and collaborating with such distinguished artists as Thomas Adès and pianists Emanuel Ax, Paul Lewis, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. The ensemble’s activities include an annual four-concert series in Boston’s Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory, regular appearances at Tanglewood, and a busy touring schedule. Besides appearances throughout the United States, they have performed in Europe, Japan, South America, and the Soviet Union. In September 2008, sponsored by Cunard® Line, the Boston Symphony Chamber Players performed on the Queen Mary 2’s transatlantic crossing from New York to Southampton, England. Their recordings on BSO Classics include an album of Mozart chamber music for winds and strings; a disc of chamber music by American composers William Bolcom, Lukas Foss, Michael Gandolfi, and Osvaldo Golijov; “Profanes et Sacréées,” a Grammy-nominated disc of 20th-century French chamber music by Ravel,
Debussy, Tomasi, Françaix, and Dutilleux; and, most recently, arrangements for chamber ensemble of serenades written originally for orchestra by Brahms (his Serenade No. 1 in D, Opus 11) and Dvořák (his E major string serenade, Opus 22).

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Subscriptions to the Boston Symphony Chamber Players’ 2017-18 series are priced at $75, $95, and $132, and are available from the BSO’s Subscription Office by calling 617-266-7575. Single tickets for the individual concerts are priced at $22, $29, and $38, and can be purchased through SymphonyCharge at 617-266-1200, on [www.bso.org](http://www.bso.org), at the Symphony Hall Box Office, or at the Jordan Hall Box Office at 30 Gainsborough Street. On the day of the concert, tickets may only be purchased at Jordan Hall. Jordan Hall is wheelchair-accessible.

All programs are subject to change. For current program information, dial 617-CONCERT (617-266-2378).

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**PRESS CONTACT:**

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**Boston Symphony Chamber Players Program**

**Sunday, January 21, 3 p.m.**

New England Conservatory of Music’s Jordan Hall
30 Gainsborough St., Boston

with Thomas Adès, piano

REICHA Quintet in E-flat for winds, Op. 88, No. 2
   Elizabeth Rowe, flute; John Ferrillo, oboe; William R. Hudgins, clarinet; Richard Svoboda, bassoon;
   James Somerville, horn

SCHUBERT Notturno in E-flat for piano, violin, and cello, D.897
   Thomas Adès, piano; Malcolm Lowe, violin, Sato Knudsen, cello

LIGETI Six Bagatelles, for wind quintet
   Elizabeth Rowe, flute; John Ferrillo, oboe; William R. Hudgins, clarinet; Richard Svoboda, bassoon;
   James Somerville, horn

JANÁČEK Concertino for piano, two violins, viola, clarinet, horn, and bassoon
   Thomas Adès, piano; William R. Hudgins, clarinet; Richard Svoboda, bassoon, James Somerville, horn;
   Malcolm Lowe and Haldan Martinson, violin; Steven Ansell, viola
Upcoming Boston Symphony Chamber Players Programs

Sunday, February 11, 3 p.m.
Symphony Hall
Boston Symphony Chamber Players
Gewandhaus-Quartett
HAYDN Quartet in D for strings, Op. 64, No. 5, “The Lark”
LIGETI Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet
FOSS For Aaron, for chamber ensemble
MENDELSSOHN Octet in E-flat for strings, Op. 20

Sunday, March 11, 3 p.m.
New England Conservatory of Music’s Jordan Hall
Boston Symphony Chamber Players
with Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano
HAYDN Trio in G for flute, cello, and piano, Hob.XV:15
BERWALD Grand Septet in B-flat, for winds and strings
DVOŘÁK Quintet in A for piano and strings, Op. 81

Sunday, April 22, 3 p.m.
New England Conservatory of Music’s Jordan Hall
Boston Symphony Chamber Players
BRUCH Selection from Eight Pieces for clarinet, viola, and piano, Op. 83
BOULANGER Nocturne and Cortège, for cello and piano
Stacy GARROP Bohemian Café for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, bassoon, and double bass
MOZART String Quintet in C, K.515