FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
DATE: January 10, 2018

UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ANDRIS NELSONS, BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA (BSO) AND LEIPZIG'S GEWANDHAUSORCHESTER (GHO) LAUNCH FIVE-YEAR ALLIANCE UNPRECEDENTED IN WORLD OF ORCHESTRAL MUSIC; OFFICIAL KICKOFF CELEBRATION TO TAKE PLACE AT BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY ON FEBRUARY 5, PRIOR TO THE BSO’S FIRST “LEIPZIG WEEK IN BOSTON,” FEBRUARY 6-11

HIGHLIGHTS OF BSO/GHO ALLIANCE LAUNCH WEEK, FEBRUARY 5-11:
“LEIPZIG WEEK IN BOSTON” AT SYMPHONY HALL, FEBRUARY 8-10, TO FEATURE ANDRIS NELSONS LEADING THE BSO IN BACH’S CONCERTO IN D MINOR FOR THREE KEYBOARDS, WITH THOMAS ADÈS, KIRILL GERSTEIN, AND JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET, SCHUMANN’S NACHTLIED AND NEUJAHRSLIED, THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A NEW WORK BY SEAN SHEPHERD, AND MENDELSSOHN’S “SCOTTISH” SYMPHONY, IN HONOR OF THE FAMED COMPOSER WHO SERVED AS LEADER OF THE GEWANDHAUS ORCHESTRA 1835-1847

BOSTON SYMPHONY CHAMBER PLAYERS AND GEWANDHAUS ORCHESTRA MUSICIANS COME TOGETHER FOR SPECIAL JOINT PERFORMANCES OF LUKAS FOSS’S FOR AARON AND MENDELSSOHN’S STRING OCTET IN E-FLAT, ON A PROGRAM WITH WORKS BY HAYDN AND LIGETI, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, AT 3 P.M. AT SYMPHONY HALL

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY KICK-OFF EVENT ON FEBRUARY 5, 6-8 P.M., TO CELEBRATE THE LAUNCH OF THE BSO/GHO ALLIANCE WITH AN EVENING OF MUSIC, FOOD, AND DRINK, AND SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR ANDRIS NELSONS, LEIPZIG’S CULTURAL MAYOR SKADI JENNICKE, GEWANDHAUS MANAGER ANDREAS SCHULZ, BSO CHAIR SUSAN PAINE, BSO MANAGING DIRECTOR
MARK VOLPE, AND BPL DIRECTOR DAVID LEONARD; GEWANDHAUS-QUARTETT AND KIRILL GERSTEIN TO BE FEATURED IN TWO MOVEMENTS FROM SCHUMANN’S PIANO QUINTET IN E-FLAT, OP. 44

ADDITIONAL BSO/GHO ALLIANCE EVENTS AT THE BPL, FEBRUARY 6 AND 7, PAIR PERFORMANCES BY GEWANDHAUS QUARTET AND TALKS LED BY CHRISTOPH WOLFF:
ON FEBRUARY 6, PERFORMANCE OF MUSIC FROM MENDELSSOHN’S STRING QUARTET IN D TO BE FOLLOWED BY MULTIMEDIA PRESENTATION ON MUSIC, ARCHITECTURE, AND ACOUSTICS, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE SIMILARITIES/INFLUENCES BETWEEN THE SECOND GEWANDHAUS (1884) AND SYMPHONY HALL (1900), WITH SPEAKERS TO INCLUDE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN DAVID GREISINGER, BSO PRINCIPAL OBOE JOHN FERRILLO, AND CONDUCTOR FEDERICO CORTESE; ON FEBRUARY 7, PERFORMANCE OF MUSIC FROM MENDELSSOHN’S STRING QUARTET IN F MINOR TO BE FOLLOWED BY TALK WITH HARVARD PROFESSOR ALEXANDER REHDING ABOUT BACH, SCHUMANN, AND MENDELSSOHN AND THEIR IMPORTANCE DURING THE PERIOD OF THE FIRST (1781) AND SECOND (1884) GEWANDHAUS HALLS

SPECIAL SYMPHONY HALL ARCHIVAL EXHIBIT TO EXPLORE HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE BSO AND GHO, INCLUDING A FOCUS ON MAJOR MUSICAL FIGURES SHARED BETWEEN THE TWO ORCHESTRAS THROUGHOUT THEIR HISTORIES, AND THE ARCHITECTURAL INFLUENCE OF THE SECOND LEIPZIG GEWANDHAUS (1844-1944) ON THE DESIGN OF SYMPHONY HALL (1900)

OVERVIEW OF BSO/GHO ALLIANCE:
BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA/GEWANDHAUSORCHESTER ALLIANCE—TO TAKE PLACE OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD—FEATURES CO-COMMISSIONING PROGRAM, EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES, SHARED AND COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMMING, AND RESIDENCIES AND TOUR STOPS BY THE BSO IN LEIPZIG AND GHO IN BOSTON; NEW ALLIANCE ALSO TO INCLUDE MUSICIAN EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO ORCHESTRAS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ACADEMIES FOR ADVANCED MUSIC STUDIES

TICKETS FOR THE 2017-18 BSO SEASON ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH WWW.BSO.ORG OR BY CALLING 888-266-1200

CLICK HERE TO VIEW A PRESS RELEASE WITH DETAILS OF FIVE-YEAR BSO/GHO ALLIANCE, ANNOUNCED IN FEBRUARY 2017

Under the direction of Andris Nelsons, Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) and Gewandhaus Orchestra (GHO) will launch the unique BSO/GHO Alliance with a special gala celebration at the Boston Public Library on Monday, February 5, 6-8 p.m., followed by the Boston Symphony’s first “Leipzig Week in Boston,” February 6-11. Complete details about the launch events appear below.

Brief Description of BSO/GHO Alliance
Unprecedented in the classical music world, the BSO/GHO Alliance is a new five-year multidimensional collaboration designed to explore each ensemble’s unique world of music-making and the great traditions and historic accomplishments that have influenced their reputations as two of the world’s great orchestras, bringing a fascinating new perspective their respective audiences. The programs of the BSO/GHO Alliance will also celebrate the mutual heritage of these two orchestras, will create opportunities for their respective academies of advanced music studies, and will shed light on their overall cultures and the cities they are proud to call home, by way of lecture series, archival exhibits, and residencies and tour stops by the BSO in Leipzig and GHO in Boston.

In addition to his long-term commitment as Boston Symphony Orchestra Music Director through 2022 and beyond, Mr. Nelsons takes on his new title as Gewandhauskapellmeister as of February 22, 2018. As the central figure in bringing the BSO and GHO together, Andris Nelsons is intricately involved in the planning and implementation of all the programming initiatives of the BSO/GHO Alliance, which was announced in
September 2015. Though many orchestra music directors take on more than one leadership post at the same time, it is rare, or perhaps unprecedented, for a conductor to go beyond the traditional model of keeping the positions separate from each other. Along with the management teams at the BSO and GHO, Mr. Nelsons is bringing his two orchestras together and creating a unique approach to programming with the goal of enriching the lives of both the musicians involved in the alliance and the audiences who so deeply cherish their home orchestras.

**Statement from Andris Nelsons, BSO Music Director**

“All of us at the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Gewandhausorchester are thrilled to launch the BSO/GHO Alliance and introduce this new initiative to our treasured audiences after the many months of planning since the announcement of the partnership in September 2015. We hope music lovers from far and wide will come to experience the many wonderful programs of the first ‘Leipzig Week in Boston,’ taking place at both the Boston Public Library and Symphony Hall, February 5-11.

“I am deeply grateful for this extraordinary opportunity to bring my two orchestras together to create programming that gives our musicians and audiences a whole new dimension of musical offerings, only made possible by a specific focus on the shared histories and unique gifts of these two distinctive, world-class orchestras. It is a dream come true for me to be involved in such a special partnership, involving shared programming highlighting each orchestra's great musical traditions, musician exchange programs, education initiatives for audiences and each orchestra's academy of music, residencies and tours by the BSO in Leipzig and GHO in Boston, and an impressive co-commissioning program beginning with a work by Sean Shepherd during the BSO’s first 'Leipzig Week in Boston.'

“I am so very grateful to the wonderful musicians and management teams at the BSO and GHO, led by Mark Volpe and Andreas Schulz, for all their support in helping to make the BSO/GHO Alliance something very special for all our extraordinary musicians and audiences alike.

“My hope is that the BSO/GHO Alliance will bring everyone involved a deeply joyful appreciation and inspiration for what these two orchestras give to the world of classical music both individually and collectively, whereby we all work closely together to bring something absolutely unique to our dear audiences on both sides of the Atlantic.”

**DETAILS OF BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA/GEWANDHAUS ORCHESTRA ALLIANCE LAUNCH, FEBRUARY 5-11**

**First "Leipzig Week in Boston" with the BSO Performing Works Strongly Associated with the GHO, Along with a World Premiere by Sean Shepherd**

The Boston Symphony Orchestra is pleased to launch the BSO/GHO Alliance with "Leipzig Week in Boston," February 5-11. Following a gala celebration kickoff event at the Boston Public Library on Monday, February 5, 6-8 p.m. (see below for details), Andris Nelsons will lead the Boston Symphony Orchestra, February 8, 9, and 10, in music by composers closely associated with the great legacy of the Gewandhaus Orchestra, founded in 1743. The program will open with Bach’s Concerto in D minor for Three Keyboards, with Thomas Adès (BSO Artistic Partner), Jean-Yves Thibaudet (BSO’s 2018 Artist in Residence), and Kirill Gerstein (Tanglewood’s 2018 Koussevitzky Artist), followed by Schumann’s Nachtlied, Op. 108, and Neujahrslied, Op. 144. The second half of the program will open with the world premiere performance of American composer Sean Shepherd’s *Express Abstractionism*—the first BSO/GHO co-commission, and close with Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3, *Scottish*, in honor of the famed composer who served as Gewandhauskapellmeister from 1835-1847. Details about additional “Leipzig Week in Boston” and “Boston Week in Leipzig” are outlined at the end of this press release. 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).
BSO and GHO Musicians Perform Together for the First Time as Part of New Alliance

On February 11, at 3 p.m., at Symphony Hall, the Gewandhaus-Quartett made up of members of the GHO, including Frank-Michael Erben, first violin, Conrad Suske, second violin, Anton Jivaev, viola, and Jürgjakob Timm, cello, will join musicians of the BSO for a program to include Haydn’s String Quartet, Op. 64, No. 5, “The Lark,” with the Gewandhaus-Quartett, and Ligeti’s Six Bagatelles for Wind Quintet, with BSO principal musicians Elizabeth Rowe, flute, John Ferrillo, oboe, William R. Hudgins, clarinet, Richard Svoboda, bassoon, and James Sommerville, horn. The BSO and GHO musicians will come together for performances of Foss’s For Aaron for chamber ensemble, led by BSO Assistant Conductor Moritz Gnann and featuring the Gewandhaus-Quartett along with BSO principal players Ed Barker, bass, Elizabeth Rowe, flute, John Ferrillo, oboe, William R. Hudgins, clarinet, Richard Svoboda, bassoon, James Sommerville, horn, Thomas Rolfs, trumpet, Toby Oft, trombone, and Timothy Genis, timpani. To close the program, the Gewandhaus-Quartett will be joined by BSO concertmaster Malcolm Lowe, associate concertmaster Elita Kang, principal viola Steven Ansell, and acting principal cellist Sato Knudsen for Mendelssohn’s String Octet in E-flat, Op. 20.

Boston Public Library Kick-Off Gala Celebration on February 5, 6-8 P.M.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra will celebrate the launch of the BSO/GHO Alliance in the Guastavino Room at the Boston Public Library with an evening of music, food, and drink, along with special appearances by BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons, Leipzig's Cultural Mayor Skadi Jennicke, Gewandhaus Manager Andreas Schulz, BSO Chair Susan Paine, BSO Managing Director Mark Volpe, BPL Director David Leonard (the evening’s host), and Professor Christoph Wolff, Artistic Advisor to the BSO/GHO Alliance. Attendees of this special event will get to hear the first BSO/GHO Alliance performance by Gewandhaus-Quartett (made up of members of the GHO), who will be joined by Kirill Gerstein in two movements from Schumann’s Piano Quintet in E-flat, Op. 44. Tickets, priced at $100, can be purchased on the BSO’s website at www.bso.org/leipzigweekgala.

Additional BSO/GHO Alliance Activities at the BPL

Additional BSO/GHO Alliance events in Rabb Hall at the Boston Public Library will pair performances by the Gewandhaus-Quartett and talks led by Christoff Wolff on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 6 and 7, at 6 p.m.; admission is free for all attendees. On February 6, a performance of music from Mendelssohn’s String Quartet in D will be followed by a multimedia talk on music, architecture, and acoustics in connection with the famed Boston and Leipzig halls. Entitled “Gewandhaus and Symphony Hall: Spaces for Music” the talk will focus on Symphony Hall and the second Gewandhaus—an architectural inspiration for Symphony Hall that opened in 1884 and was destroyed by fire in 1944—and how the two halls are connected architecturally, historically, and spiritually; featured speakers will include architectural historian David Greisinger, BSO Principal Oboe John Ferrillo, and Federico Cortese, Music Director of the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra. A short film presentation, featuring BSO Associate Conductor Ken-David Masur as host, will acquaint attendees with the second Gewandhaus (1884).

On February 7, a performance of Mendelssohn’s String Quartet in F minor will be followed by a talk entitled “Bach, Mendelssohn, and Schumann at the Early Gewandhaus”—with special attention being paid to the BSO’s “Leipzig Week in Boston” program—that will illustrate the relationships of J.S. Bach, Mendelssohn, and Schumann to the first (1781) and second (1884) Gewandhaus concert halls, and to the Gewandhausorchester, which performs today in the third Gewandhaus (1881) in Leipzig. Harvard Professor Alexander Rehding will join Mr. Wolff for this lively discussion shedding light on these essential composers of the classical music canon.

Special Archival Exhibit Focusing on BSO/GHO Shared Heritage

The BSO will also put together a special display case in the Symphony Hall main entranceway corridor that will explore some of the historical connections between the BSO and the GHO. The display will focus on Charles Munch (BSO Music Director, 1949-62; concertmaster of GHO 1926-1933); Arthur Nikisch (BSO Music Director 1889-93; GHO Music Director 1895-1922 and teacher at the Leipzig Conservatory starting...
in 1902); and George Henschel (first BSO Music Director, 1881-84; student at the Leipzig Conservatory),
among other musicians who were affiliated with the GHO and BSO as conservatory students, musicians,
or conductors (including former BSO music directors Karl Muck, 1906-08 and 1912-18; Emil Paur, 1893-98;
Max Fiedler 1908-12; and Wilhelm Gericke 1884-89 and 1898-1906). Architectural similarities/influences
between the second Leipzig Gewandhaus (1884-1944) and Symphony Hall (1900) will also be touched
upon in the Symphony Hall archival exhibit.

In addition, Emmanuel Music’s “Mendelssohn/Wolf Chamber Series” includes an all-Mendelssohn
program in the Parish Hall of Emmanuel Church at 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 4; and Emmanuel Music
presents “Music of the Mendelssohns” (Felix and Fanny) at the Boston Athenaeum on Thursday, February
8, at 6 p.m. For more information, please visit bso.org.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra and Gewandhausorchester Leipzig Alliance is supported by a leadership
gift from the Gregory E. Bulger Foundation/Gregory Bulger & Richard Dix.

NEW AND UPDATED DETAILS OF BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND GEWANDHAUSORCHESTER
ALLIANCE

Boston Symphony Orchestra /Gewandhaus Orchestra Musician Exchange Program
Starting in fall 2018, another highlight of the BSO/GHO Alliance will be a musician exchange program
offering musicians from each orchestra a rare opportunity to spend three months performing with its
partner orchestra in the latter’s home city. BSO associate concertmaster Elita Kang, violinist Catherine
French, cellist Blaise Déjardin, and bass Todd Seeber will each take part in the program, with two
musicians spending three months in Leipzig in the fall and two in the spring. These BSO musicians
participating in the exchange program will immerse themselves in the many activities of the
Gewandhausorchester, including weekly subscription concerts, regular concerts with the Leipzig
Opera, and Sunday performances of Bach cantatas at St. Thomas Church, where Bach served as
 Thomaskantor, composing weekly cantatas from 1723 through 1750, the year of his death at age 65. Four
Gewandhausorchester musicians will also participate in the exchange program during the 2018-19 season,
with two musicians participating in the fall and two in the spring. They will perform with the BSO during
their weekly subscription concerts, and also take part in performances with the Boston Pops during the
holiday and spring seasons. Initially, the musician exchange program will be offered to strings of each
orchestra, but will expand to include wind, brass, and percussion players at a later date.

BSO and GHO to Partner on Impressive Co-Commissioning Program
The BSO/GHO Alliance, under the leadership of Andris Nelsons, will feature a series of co-commissions,
with new works presented each year of the alliance, starting with works by German composer Jörg
Widmann and American composer Sean Shepherd to be premiered in Boston and Leipzig in the 2017-18
season (as mentioned earlier in this press release, Shepherd’s Express Abstractionism to receive its world
premiere during “Leipzig Week in Boston,” February 8-10). During the 2018-19 season, additional
composers to be featured in the BSO/GHO Alliance co-commissioning program include American
composer Sebastian Currier, who will compose a violin concerto to feature Baiba Skride as soloist, and
Latvian composer Andris Dzenitis, who will compose an orchestral work in honor of Latvia’s centenary
year of 2018. The co-commissioning program will also feature new works by several other prominent
composers in subsequent seasons, details of which will be announced at a later date.

Major Tour Performances by BSO in Leipzig and GHO in Boston
A highlight of the BSO/GHO Alliance—sure to be greatly anticipated by Boston and Leipzig audiences
alike—is an opportunity for Boston audiences to hear the Gewandhausorchester live in Symphony Hall
and for Leipzig audiences to hear the BSO in Leipzig’s Gewandhaus. To that end, major touring and
performance initiatives will include a performance of Mahler’s Symphony No. 3 by the Boston Symphony
Orchestra in Leipzig in September 2018 as part of a late-summer European tour, and a residency by the
Leipzig Gewandhausorchester in Boston in October 2019. The latter will include a special joint concert
featuring the combined orchestras in a large-scale symphonic work, as part of the BSO's 2019-20 subscription season.

Additional European touring activities and shared presentations are being developed for spring 2022.

First-ever Musician Exchange Program Between Tanglewood's and Leipzig's Acclaimed Music Academy programs
One of the major highlights of the BSO/GHO Alliance will be a musician exchange program between the Tanglewood Music Center (TMC) and the Mendelssohn-Orchesterakademie (MOA), two of the world’s most acclaimed training programs for classical musicians. This first-ever exchange program between the TMC and MOA will be initiated in summer 2018, with several instrumentalists from the famed Leipzig academy becoming Fellows at the Tanglewood Music Center, where they will participate in all TMC activities including master classes, orchestral concerts, and chamber performances.

In spring 2019, Tanglewood Music Center conducting Fellows, chosen from a recent TMC class, will have the opportunity to travel to Leipzig to work closely with Andris Nelsons in residencies with the Gewandhaus Orchestra, which will include leading a performance with musicians from the Mendelssohn-Orchesterakademie and Gewandhaus Orchestra. A TMC Composition Fellow will be commissioned to write a work for chamber orchestra to be performed by the Mendelssohn-Orchesterakademie at that concert.

Further details: The BSO Explores Music Associated with the GHO and Vice Versa with "Leipzig Weeks in Boston" and "Boston Weeks in Leipzig"
The first “Boston Week in Leipzig,” June 21, 22, and 24, 2018, will feature the Gewandhaus Orchestra in performances of works by Stravinsky, Copland, Carter, and Bernstein, all of whom are very closely tied to the BSO's musical tradition. An iconic BSO commission, Stravinsky’s Symphony of Psalms, opens the program, followed by Copland’s Old American Songs with acclaimed American baritone Thomas Hampson. Elliott Carter's Clarinet Concerto with composer/clarinetist Jörg Widmann as soloist and Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, a BSO signature work, make up the second half of the program. The Mendelssohn Octet chamber music program in Boston will be repeated in Leipzig on June 24. These concerts will also feature a film presentation about the history of the Boston Symphony and Symphony Hall. A distinguished group of specialists, including Christoph Wolff, Ken-David Masur, Harvard Professor Anne Shreffler, BSO Artistic Administrator and Director of Tanglewood Anthony Fogg, and BSO Archivist Bridget Carr will be featured speakers.

The second “Leipzig Week in Boston” (November/December 2018) will feature the BSO in a performance of Bach's Christmas Oratorio, in celebration of the great musical traditions of Bach cantata and oratorio performances in Leipzig, where Bach's own musical activities were centered for many years. These performances will be accompanied by displays of historic materials from the Leipzig Bach Archive and panel discussions on the traditions of Bach performance in the United States.

With a special focus on Tanglewood, the BSO’s summer home in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts, the second “Boston Week in Leipzig” (August/September 2018), will feature music of Leonard Bernstein, who was a major presence at Tanglewood throughout his career. In celebration of the 100th anniversary year of his birth, programming will include Three Meditations from his Mass, with cellist Yo-Yo Ma as soloist. Accompanying exhibits and panel discussions will focus on the Tanglewood experience to help familiarize Leipzig concertgoers with the BSO’s acclaimed music festival. Additional repertoire to be performed by the GHO includes Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra, commissioned by Serge Koussevitzky for its BSO premiere, and the European premiere of a BSO/GHO co-commission by Sean Shepherd. Mr. Ma will also be soloist in Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1.
OVERVIEW OF THE BSO/GHO ALLIANCE

Under the direction of Andris Nelsons, the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) and Gewandhaus Orchestra (GHO) Alliance is a new multidimensional collaboration designed to create opportunities for these two orchestras and their respective audiences to explore each ensemble’s unique world of music-making and discover the great traditions and historic accomplishments that have played an important role in building their reputations as two of the world’s great orchestras. In addition, the programs of the BSO/GHO Alliance will celebrate the shared mutual heritage of these two orchestras, while also shedding light on the overall culture of each ensemble and the cities they are proud to call home.

Highlights will include a series of new works through a co-commissioning program; educational initiatives with a special focus on archival exhibits and lecture series; performances that shine a spotlight on each orchestra’s unique programming, with an additional focus on their shared and complementary musical heritages; and residencies and tour stops by the BSO in Leipzig and GHO in Boston. One of the major highlights of the BSO/GHO Alliance (described above and launching in February 2018), taking place annually over the five-year period of the collaboration (2018-22), will be a focus on complementary programming, whereby the BSO will celebrate “Leipzig Week in Boston” (February 2018 and November/December 2018) and GHO will celebrate “Boston Week in Leipzig” (June 2018 and August/September 2018), highlighting each other’s musical traditions through uniquely programmed concerts, chamber music performances, archival exhibits and lecture series. In addition to exploring the many historic connections between these two famed ensembles, the BSO/GHO Alliance will also help create memorable new associations through a musician exchange program involving the two orchestras and their respective academies for advanced music studies, the Mendelssohn Academie and the Tanglewood Music Center, beginning in summer 2018.

The Boston Symphony and Gewandhaus orchestras are fortunate to have Christoph Wolff, Adams University Professor at Harvard University, former Director of the Bach Archive in Leipzig (2001-13), and author of numerous acclaimed texts on the history of music from the 15th to 20th centuries, serving as an artistic advisor to the BSO/GHO Alliance. In that capacity, Mr. Wolff, working closely with archivists and historians at the BSO and GHO, will oversee the creation and presentation of multimedia/film presentations; he will also oversee panel discussions with musicians, historians, and archivists close to these organizations, offering fascinating insights into the stories and accomplishments that make these two institutions legendary.

The BSO/GHO Alliance was announced in September 2015 and began, informally, in May 2016 when the BSO, as part of a European tour to the major musical capitals of Austria, Germany, and Luxembourg, made its debut performance, under Andris Nelsons, in Leipzig’s Gewandhaus, one of the great European halls. Mr. Nelsons takes on his new title with the Gewandhausorchester in February 2018, in addition to his long-term commitment as Boston Symphony Orchestra Music Director through 2022 and beyond. As the central figure in bringing the BSO and GHO together, Andris Nelsons is intricately involved in the planning and implementation of all the programming initiatives between the two orchestras.

BSO/GHO MUTUAL HERITAGE: WORKS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH EACH ORCHESTRA

The history of close cultural connections between Boston and Leipzig began in 1881, when the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s founder, Henry Lee Higginson, appointed Leipzig Conservatory-trained Georg Henschel as the BSO’s first conductor. Subsequent conductors of the BSO, including Wilhelm Gericke, Emil Paur, Max Fiedler, Karl Muck, and particularly Arthur Nikisch, were either educated in Leipzig and/or held posts with the Gewandhaus Orchestra. In the mid-20th century, the Leipzig tie was reinforced when Charles Munch was BSO Music Director from 1949 to 1962; Munch studied in Leipzig and was concertmaster of the Gewandhaus Orchestra from 1926 to 1933.

Symphony Hall in Boston, which was inaugurated in 1900, is not simply a replica of the historically renowned second Gewandhaus building opened its doors in 1884 and was destroyed in 1944. Mr. Higginson had visited the Leipzig concert hall while touring Europe and had instructed his team of architects to design a larger version of the Gewandhaus, with as many as 2600 seats. Boston’s new hall also added the latest acoustic principles to the overall design of its Leipzig counterpart. These acoustical principles played a major role in determining the size of the stage and the placement of sound-absorbing statues in the auditorium, among other features. In 1974, the Gewandhaus Orchestra appeared in Boston’s Symphony Hall during its first tour of the United States. To date, Boston has welcomed the Gewandhaus Orchestra for ten guest performances, including its most recent appearance in the 2014-15 concert season. While the BSO made its debut appearance at the Gewandhaus in May 2016, the Leipzig hall featured the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra, affiliated with the BSO, in 2008 during its European tour.
Since its founding in 1743, the GHO has been associated with some of the greatest figures of music history, including Johann Sebastian Bach, who lived and worked in Leipzig from 1723 until 1750, the year of his death at age 65. In addition to the GHO's widely known reputation for performances of the works of Bach, the orchestra also gave the premieres of works by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. This tradition has continued into the 20th and 21st centuries with scores by such luminaries of classical music as Beethoven, Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Brahms.

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