FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
DATE: May 13, 2019

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
APPOINS ANNA RAKITINA AS NEW ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

The Boston Symphony Orchestra has appointed Russian-born Anna Rakitina as the orchestra’s new assistant conductor beginning with the 2019–20 season for a two-year term. She will join the Boston Symphony Orchestra for her first podium appearance as assistant conductor during the 2020 Tanglewood season, followed by subscription concerts at Symphony Hall during the 2020–21 season. She succeeds Associate Conductor Ken-David Masur who leaves the BSO to assume his new position as music director of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, effective this fall.

Rakitina will become only the second woman assistant conductor in the Boston Symphony’s history. From 2007 through 2010, the position was held by South Korean conductor Shiyeon Sung, the current artistic director and chief conductor of the Gyeonggi Philharmonic Orchestra since January 2014.

“I feel very lucky to become a part of such a wonderful musical ensemble,” said Rakitina. “I am honored and look forward to begin work with the fabulous Maestro Andris Nelsons and all the amazing musicians of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.”

In addition to her upcoming responsibilities with the BSO, Rakitina will be a 2019–20 Dudamel Fellow with the Los Angeles Philharmonic (soon to be officially announced). Under the supervision of the orchestra’s music director, Gustavo Dudamel, she will conduct Los Angeles Philharmonic youth concerts at Walt Disney Concert Hall and develop her craft through involvement in the LA Phil’s orchestral, educational, and community programs such as Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA).

ANNA RAKITINA

Recent second-prize winner at the Malko Conducting Competition in Denmark, Anna Rakitina has degrees from the Moscow Conservatory in both musicology and conducting, with a graduate diploma in conducting from the Hochschule Hamburg, received in 2018. She won third prize in both the Taipei and Deutscher Dirigentenpreis (Cologne) competitions, and participated in a 2016 master class with Alan Gilbert in Lucerne.
and a 2017 master class with Bernard Haitink. Since 2015 she has conducted a number of orchestras, including the WDR Sinfonieorchester, Danish National Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra di Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Lucerne Festival Strings, Gürzenich-Orchester Köln, Radio France Philharmonic Orchestra, Bucharest George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra, Lucerne Festival Academy Orchestra, Hamburger Symphoniker, Meiningen Court Orchestra, National Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia, Das Kritische Orchester, Concert Symphony Orchestra of Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory, Taipei Symphony Orchestra, National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra, and Royal Northern College of Music Chamber Orchestra, among others.

PRESS CONTACTS:
Bernadette Horgan, Director of Public Relations (bhorgan@bso.org) 617-638-9285
Matt Erikson, Senior Publicist (merikson@bso.org) 617-638-9284