HORROR AT THE POPS ON HALLOWEEN WEEKEND:
KEITH LOCKHART, THE BOSTON POPS ESPANADE ORCHESTRA, AND BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC COLLABORATE TO PRESENT A NEW TAKE ON ONE OF THE GREATEST SILENT FILMS OF ALL TIME, F.W. MURNAU’S NOSFERATU: A SYMPHONY OF HORROR, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, AT 8 P.M.

EIGHT OF BERKLEE’S FINEST STUDENT FILM COMPOSERS, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SHELDON MIROWITZ, PROFESSOR OF FILM SCORING, TO COMPOSE NEW FILM SCORE FOR THIS ICONIC HORROR FILM, AS PART OF BERKLEE’S SIGNATURE SERIES

BOSTON POPS, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF KEITH LOCKHART, PRESENT SCREENING OF NOSFERATU AND WORLD PREMIERE OF NEW SCORE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE BOSTON POPS/NOSFERATU PROJECT, A BLOOD DRIVE WILL BE HOSTED BY BRIGHAM AND WOMEN’S HOSPITAL FROM 2-7 P.M. AT SYMPHONY HALL ON SAINT STEPHEN STREET

PRESS TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE BY EMAILING TLOTT@BSO.ORG OR CALLING 617-638-9283

Over Halloween weekend, on Friday, October 30, at 8 p.m., the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and conductor Keith Lockhart, in collaboration with Berklee College of Music, will bring the classic 1922 silent horror film Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror to the Symphony Hall
stage, with an entirely new full symphonic score composed by Berklee’s finest student film composers. *Nosferatu on Halloween* is a groundbreaking, unprecedented collaborative project in which eight of Berklee’s finest student film composers will write a full-length symphonic score, under the direction of Professor of Film Scoring Sheldon Mirowitz, for what is widely considered the greatest silent honor film of all time, F.W. Murnau’s *Nosferatu* (1922). The Boston Pops, under the direction of Keith Lockhart, will perform the score live-to-picture the night before Halloween. Tickets for *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror*, ranging from $37 to $47, are available at [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org) or by calling 888-266-1200. Performance starts at 8 p.m.

The eight composers featured in the *Nosferatu* project are among the very best Film Scoring majors studying at Berklee College of Music today; they are students in college’s *Scoring Silent Films* course taught by Sheldon Mirowitz (*Outside Providence, Missing in America*): Amit Cohen (Israel), Wani Han (South Korea), Emily Joseph (United States), Victor Kong (Malaysia), Matthew Morris (Canada), Hyunsoo Nam (South Korea), Elena Nezhelskaya (Russia), and Joy Ngiaw Jing Yi (Malaysia). The student composers have worked closely with their teacher/adviser, Mr. Mirowitz, who began the project by composing the basic themes and superstructure for the work; each student composer then uses these themes to compose the music for the section of the movie they have been assigned (seven sections in all, each about 12-15 minutes in length). This approach—with all the sections (written by eight different composers) sharing the same themes—is how the score has coherence and integrity and comes across as a unified film score.

Video clip highlights of the October 30 performance will be featured on [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org) shortly after the performance takes place. In addition, Berklee College of Music is creating a short documentary entitled “The Making of *Nosferatu,*” which will include excerpts from the rehearsal and performance and will be featured at [www.berklee.edu](http://www.berklee.edu).

**QUOTE FROM KEITH LOCKHART, BOSTON POPS CONDUCTOR**

“*Nosferatu* is universally acknowledged not only as the greatest silent horror film, but also as one of the most influential films of all time, so creating a new full symphonic score to this iconic cinematic masterpiece is definitely a daunting undertaking,” said Boston Pops Conductor Keith Lockhart. “We at the Boston Pops are excited to embark on this new collaboration with Berklee College of Music and are thrilled that it represents the most significant project in Boston Pops history in the area of presenting student-composed work.

Our hope is to offer a new dimension to the film for fans of *Nosferatu* and to introduce this amazing motion picture to movie lovers who might not otherwise be aficionados of the silent film genre. The project will also put a spotlight on the special role a film score plays in the silent movie genre—reinforcing how the music conveys not just mood and atmosphere, but supports the entire narrative of the film, making the score feel even more essential than in modern day film. And the timing couldn’t be better ... setting the mood for a perfectly fantastic Halloween in 2015.”

**FURTHER DETAILS ON THE BOSTON POPS/BERKLEE NOSFERATU PROJECT**
The October 30 concert presentation of *Nosferatu* will present a new take on a relatively recent Boston Pops tradition of presenting movies at Symphony Hall with lush soundtracks performed live by the virtuosic musicians of the **Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra**; this is the first time in the history of the Boston Pops that the orchestra will accompany the presentation of a full-length silent film. The new score to *Nosferatu* will be the longest, continuous piece of music the Pops has ever performed. It is certainly the most extensive performance of a student-composed work by the Pops in its history. The presentation is part of Berklee's **Signature Series** of concerts, in addition to being a featured event on the **Boston Pops** calendar.

Most major Silent Films had original scores performed live by an orchestra at their premieres, and *Nosferatu* is not exception—Hans Erdmann's has been lost and what remains now is a modern reconstitution of his score. But, with all Silent Films, the attraction for composers is great to compose new scores for these classic films, and over the decades many composers and musicians have written or improvised their own soundtracks to accompany *Nosferatu*. Few, however, have harnessed the power of a full symphonic orchestra to accomplish this task, much less augmented it with the signature sounds of classic electronic instruments like the Theremin and the Moog Modular Synthesizer, and brought the whole experience to the concert hall.

The film being used for the Boston Pops/Berklee collaboration is a recent, high-definition digital transfer of the best source material, from the Murnau estate. It will be projected by two of the finest 4K Christie projectors available.

**FROM BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC: WHY SILENT FILMS?**

Silent film presentation, whether by collaboration with the Boston Pops, or in a performance by the Berklee Silent Film Orchestra, is the most direct, visceral means of experiencing the power of the film composer’s craft. Silent film is the ultimate challenge for a film composer. A silent film score must, in concert with the actors and staging, convey the narrative and emotional messages of the film. Scoring for silent film exercises and builds the film composer’s skills in a way that exceeds the task of composing for projects that employ dialogue and other sound. These are some of the greatest films of any era, whether sound or silent. The act of composing and performing a new score reinterprets and renews these classics for each succeeding generation. The computer technology employed in composing, and performing them live-to-picture, is completely up-to-the-minute. The only thing *old* about the art form of silent film music presentation is the date on the film. As a learning exercise, silent films, and Berklee’s **Scoring Silent Films** course, represent a rigorous and demanding test of those who would compose for film, television, video games, or any other long-form film/video form. It is superb means of explaining and demonstrating to young musicians the film composer’s task, while showing the heft of Berklee’s own film composition program.

**TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror*, ranging from $37 to $47, are available at [www.bostonpops.org](http://www.bostonpops.org) or by calling 888-266-1200. Performance starts at 8 p.m.
In general, tickets may be purchased online at www.bostonpops.org or by phone through SymphonyCharge at 617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200, Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturday from 12 noon to 6 p.m. (with a $6.25 handling fee for each ticket ordered online or by phone). Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Symphony Hall box office, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, and noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday. Most major credit cards and cash are accepted at the box office. For group sales of 25 or more, please call 617-638-9345 or 800-933-4255.

The Boston Symphony has a dedicated line for disabled patrons who would like to purchase tickets to BSO, Boston Pops, or Tanglewood concerts, or who need information about disability services at Symphony Hall or Tanglewood. This line can be reached by dialing 617-638-9431. For access via TDD/TTY, please call 617-638-9289. Patrons with disabilities can access Symphony Hall through the Cohen Wing on Huntington Avenue or through the Massachusetts Avenue entrance.

Founded in 1885, the Boston Pops performs at world-famous Symphony Hall, where Pops patrons enjoy the atmosphere of music and entertainment presented by the one and only Boston Pops

**Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror**

Friday, October 30, 8 p.m.

Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra

Keith Lockhart, conductor

**Composers:**

Amit Cohen
Wani Han
Emily Joseph
Victor Kong
Matthew Morris
Hyunsoo Nam
Elena Nezhelskaya
Joy Ngiau Jing Yi