BSO MUSIC DIRECTOR ANDRIS NELSONS TO LEAD ORCHESTRA IN TRADITIONAL SEASON-ENDING TANGLEWOOD PERFORMANCE OF BEETHOVEN’S SYMPHONY NO. 9, SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, AT 2:30 P.M.; THIS WILL BE THE FIRST TIME MAESTRO NELSONS LEADS THE BSO IN BEETHOVEN’S "ODE TO JOY" SYMPHONY, THE UNIVERSAL ANTHEM OF PEACE AND SHARED HUMANITY

THE PROGRAM OPENS WITH COPLAND’S QUIET CITY, FEATURING BSO PRINCIPALS THOMAS ROLFS ON TRUMPET AND ROBERT SHEENA ON ENGLISH HORN

Music Director Andris Nelsons will lead the Boston Symphony Orchestra in its traditional season-ending performance of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9 on Sunday, August 28, at 2:30 p.m. Conductor Christoph von Dohnányi, who was scheduled to lead the Ninth Symphony, has been forced to withdraw from the concert due to recent health challenges, and advice from his doctors to avoid any long distance flights for the next four months.

The Sunday, August 28, performance of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony features the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and vocal soloists including soprano Rachel Willis-Sørensen, mezzo-soprano Ruxandra Donose, tenor Joseph Kaiser, and bass Günther Groissböck. The program will open with Copland’s Quiet City, featuring BSO principals Thomas Rolfs on trumpet and Robert Sheena on English horn.

Before the Sunday, August 28, performance, Maestro Nelsons returns to Tanglewood on Saturday, August 20, and Sunday, August 21, for two programs with the BSO. On Saturday, August 20, at 8 p.m., he leads the orchestra and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus in Acts I and II of Verdi’s Aida, featuring soprano Kristine Opolais in the title role, along with mezzo-soprano Violeta Urmana as Amneris, tenor
Andrea Carè as the male lead and love interest Radamès, tenor Alfredo Nigro as the Messenger, baritone Franco Vassallo as Amonasro, bass Morris Robinson as The King, and bass Kwangchul Youn as Ramfis. On Sunday, August 21, at 2:30 p.m., Maestro Nelsons leads a program largely made up of music influenced by Shakespeare, honoring the 400th anniversary of the Bard’s death. The program includes the overture to Berlioz’s *Béatrice et Bénédict* (based on Shakespeare’s *Much Ado About Nothing*), American composer George Tsontakis’s *Sonnets*, a Shakespeare-inspired concerto for English horn and orchestra commissioned by the BSO and featuring BSO English horn player Robert Sheena; Prokofiev’s *Romeo and Juliet*; and Saint-Saëns’s Piano Concerto No. 5, *Egyptian*, featuring Croatian pianist Dejan Lazić, making his BSO and Tanglewood debuts, as soloist.

Following the close of the BSO’s season, Tanglewood will host a series of performances, including NPR’s oddly informative weekly hour-long news quiz program, *Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me!*, live at Tanglewood on Thursday, September 1, at 8 p.m.; The B-52s—dubbed “The World’s Greatest Party Band” and known worldwide for hits such as “Love Shack,” “Rock Lobster,” and “Roam”—on Friday, September 2; and Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops Swing Orchestra performing “Dancing Under the Stars,” a festive, toe-tapping performance, to close out the 2016 season in style, on Saturday, September 3.

One of the premier summer music festivals in the world and the famed summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 1937, Tanglewood is located in the beautiful Berkshire Hills between Stockbridge and Lenox, Massachusetts. The 2016 Tanglewood season, June 17–September 3, features concerts by the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, visiting ensembles, and many of the greatest classical musicians of our time; recital and chamber music concerts in the intimate setting of Ozawa Hall; programs highlighting the young musicians of the Tanglewood Music Center, the BSO’s prestigious summer music academy; and performances by some of today’s leading popular artists. For complete details about the 2016 Tanglewood season, please visit [www.tanglewood.org](http://www.tanglewood.org).

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**Sunday, August 28 Program Listing**

^Tanglewood debut
^^BSO and Tanglewood debuts

**Sunday, August 28, 2:30 p.m. Shed**
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Thomas Rolfs, trumpet
Robert Sheena, English horn
Rachel Willis-Sørensen, soprano^^
Ruxandra Donose, mezzo-soprano^
Joseph Kaiser, tenor
Günther Groissböck, bass^
Tanglewood Festival Chorus
COPLAND *Quiet City*
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9