FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
DATE: Wednesday, June 7, 2017

2017 TANGLEWOOD SEASON, JUNE 16-SEPTEMBER 3,  
WWW.TANGLEWOOD.ORG: BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
OPENING NIGHT CONCERT TO TAKE PLACE ON FRIDAY, JULY 7

ANDRIS NELSONS AND THE BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA OPEN THE BSO’S 2017  
TANGLEWOOD SEASON JULY 7 WITH MAHLER’S SYMPHONY NO. 2

THE PERFORMANCE FEATURES SOPRANO MALIN CHRISTENSSON AND MEZZO-SOPRANO  
BERNARDA FINK, AS WELL AS THE TANGLEWOOD FESTIVAL CHORUS

OPENING NIGHT GALA CONCERT AND DINNER HAS RAISED MORE THAN $400,000 TO DATE

TICKETS FOR THE 2017 TANGLEWOOD SEASON, PRICED FROM $12 TO $124, ON SALE  
AT 888-266-1200 AND WWW.TANGLEWOOD.ORG

For season press releases, downloadable photos, artist bios, and Tanglewood history and chronology, visit  
tanglewood.org/presskit; for press tickets, email tlott@bso.org or call 617-638-9280

Music Director Andris Nelsons leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra on Friday, July 7, at 8 p.m., opening the  
orchestra’s 2017 Tanglewood season with a gala performance of Mahler’s grand, deeply emotional, and  
ultimately triumphant Symphony No. 2, Resurrection, one of the most profound works in the symphonic canon  
as well as one of its great spectacles. At approximately 85 minutes in length and calling for an oversized  
orchestra in addition to the numerous vocal forces, the Second Symphony shakes the rafters and stirs the soul,  
demonstrating Mahler’s ultra-Romantic musical language as well as the intense spirituality ever-present at the  
core of his work. Soprano Malin Christensson (in her Tanglewood debut) and mezzo-soprano Bernarda Fink  
join Mr. Nelsons and the orchestra, along with the all-volunteer Tanglewood Festival Chorus, prepared by the  
recently appointed conductor James Burton, who actively takes up his new duties as Tanglewood Festival  
Chorus Conductor beginning with this program.

For complete programs, ticket information, and downloadable press photos, please visit Tanglewood’s  
online press kit at www.tanglewood.org.
2017 TANGLEWOOD OPENING NIGHT GALA DINNER PARTY

The Décor
This year’s Gala Dinner takes on a horticultural theme in connection with the BSO’s ongoing plans to revitalize and strengthen Tanglewood’s bucolic Berkshire landscape with new plantings, pedestrian circulation improvements, and the restoration of views of the Stockbridge Bowl. Dinner tables in the Hawthorne Tent will be decorated with centerpieces made of ferns and other floral delights, and modern arrangements of greenery will hanging throughout the tent. The wooden and white linen-covered tables will be decorated with sleek clear and white frosted glass wear with black napkins and china. The Opening Night Gala has raised more than $400,000 to date.

The Menu
The first course of the tasting menu features chilled snap pea and ginger soup, with basil oil and edible flowers, along with family-style add-ons, including chopped bacon, brioche croutons, and crispy shallots. The entree will be a choice between North Star Farms rack of lamb with Moroccan spiced eggplant, harissa, cipollini, stewed tomatoes, and charred baby fennel or vegetable, tofu, and polenta Napoleon with soba spinach noodles, spinach, cured tomatoes, shiitake mushrooms, and a ginger-soy dressing. Dessert will be a trio of kiwi pavlova, pistachio French macaroon, and basil-mint mousse. The hors d’oeuvres selection includes fresh house rolled "green" vegetable rolls, served with cilantro and a "14 carat” vinaigrette; sips of green gazpacho with cucumber, green tomatoes, and spinach; chicken lettuce wrap rolls; lemon and spinach gnocchi in a euro-spoon; and olive oil-poached Maine Lobster with avocado mousse, ruby grapefruit, and chervil.

Companies involved in providing goods and services for opening night include Boston Gourmet, High Output, Peak Event Services, Nuage, Be Our Guest, New England Country Rentals, and Winston Flowers.

Tickets for the 2017 Tanglewood Opening Night Gala Dinner are priced from $500 to $2500 and can be purchased by contacting Kathleen Pendleton at kpendleton@bso.org or (617) 638-9391. Tickets for the 2017 Tanglewood season, priced from $12 to $124, are available through Tanglewood’s website, www.tanglewood.org, through SymphonyCharge at 888-266-1200, at the Symphony Hall Box Office at 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA, and, beginning Wednesday, June 14, at the Tanglewood Box Office at Tanglewood’s Main Gate on West Street in Lenox, MA. 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 2017 Tanglewood season, June 16-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.

BSO OPENING NIGHT PROGRAM DETAILS
Mahler’s Symphony No. 2, cast in five movements, is a monumental work that addresses equally weighty subjects: life, suffering, death, and the uncertainty of what comes after. Like Beethoven before him, Mahler uses sung text in his symphony to directly explore some of these ideas. Completed in 1894, the Symphony No. 2 is the first of three consecutive symphonies to contain vocal elements with text taken from Des Knaben
Wunderhorn (The Youth’s Magic Horn), a collection of German folk poems that was a popular source of inspiration for musicians and artists throughout the 19th century. In the case of the Resurrection Symphony, Mahler bases the fourth movement, a spellbinding number for mezzo-soprano and orchestra, on a poem called “Urlicht” (“Primal Light”), which tells of a child’s soul longing to escape earthly pain.

The fifth and final movement—at more than 30 minutes, the longest of the five—is an emotionally exhausting tour de force, both apocalyptic and serene. Finally calling upon the chorus, the finale is based on an amalgamated text, partially taken from Friedrich Gottlieb Klopstock’s “Resurrection Ode” and partially Mahler’s own, and provides an earth-shaking conclusion to the symphony as well as a window into the composer’s personal spiritual convictions. Explaining the events depicted in the final glorious moments, Mahler wrote, “Rise again, yes, rise again thou wilt … Lo and behold: There is no judgment, no sinners, no just men, no great and no small; there is no punishment and no reward. A feeling of overwhelming love fills us with blissful knowledge and illuminates our existence.”

The Opening Night Committee
The 2017 Opening Night Gala Chairs are Liliana and Hillel Bachrach from Boston and Great Barrington, MA, and Martha and Todd Golub from Newton and Great Barrington, MA. Members of the event’s Gala Committee include Gregory E. Bulger and Richard J. Dix, Bonnie and Terry Burman, Yumin and Amy Choi, Susan and Gerald Cohen, Charles Cooney and Peggy Reiser, Ranny Cooper and David Smith, Cynthia and Oliver Curme, Jerry and Joanne Dreher, Nancy Edman Feldman and Mike Chefetz, Beth and Richard Fentin, Sanford and Isanne Fisher, Cora and Ted Ginsberg, Nathan and Marilyn Hayward, Ricki Tigert Helfer and Michael S. Helfer, Susie and Stuart Hirshfield, Jackie and Larry Horn, Valerie and Allen Hyman, Carol and George Jacobstein, Margery and Everett Jassy, Joyce Linde, Jay and Shirley Marks, Jane and Robert J. Mayer, M.D., Wendy Philbrick and Edward Baptiste Lina S. Plantilla, M.D. and Eduardo R. Plantilla, M.D., Mary Ann and Bruno A. Quinson, Dr. Robin S. Richman and Dr. Bruce S. Auerbach, Dan Schrager and Ellen Gaies, Arlene and Donald Shapiro, Hannah and Walter Shmerler, Scott and Robert Singleton, Lauren Spitz, Lynn and Ken Stark, Margery and Lewis Steinberg, Jacqueline and Albert Togut, Stephen and Dorothy Weber, and June Wu.

TICKET INFORMATION AND BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TANGLEWOOD
Tickets for the 2017 Tanglewood, season, $12-$124, are available through Tanglewood’s website, www.tanglewood.org, through SymphonyCharge at 888-266-1200, and at the Symphony Hall Box Office at 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston MA. Tickets will also be available for purchase in person at the Tanglewood Box Office at Tanglewood’s Main Gate on West Street in Lenox, MA, in June 2017. American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Diners Club, Discover, and cash are all accepted. For further information and box office hours, please call the Boston Symphony Orchestra at 617-266-1492 or visit www.tanglewood.org. $20 tickets for attendees under 40, one of the BSO’s most popular discount ticket offers, will be available for select BSO and Boston Pops performances in the Shed. In addition, Tanglewood continues to offer free lawn tickets to young people age 17 and under, as well as a variety of special programs for children, including Kids’ Corner, Watch and Play, and the annual Family Concert, this year to take place July 22. Additional ticket information appears near the end of this press release.

2017 TANGLEWOOD SEASON BRIEF OVERVIEW
The 2017 Tanglewood season, June 16-Labor Day Weekend, offers visitors an exceptional lineup of performances and musical activities for music lovers of every age, highlighted by 10 programs led by Boston Symphony Orchestra Music Director Andris Nelsons and major new initiatives, including Summer Sundays designed to give patrons a wide spectrum of musical, entertainment, and educational activities to enjoy before and after Sunday-afternoon BSO concerts (2:30 p.m.), starting when the gates open at noon. In his most significant commitment yet to Tanglewood, Mr. Nelsons will lead both the opening and closing BSO concerts, Mahler’s Symphony No. 2, “Resurrection,” and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9; an
afternoon concerts are broadcast on WFCR 88.5FM in Amherst; in New Hampshire on WCNH 91.5FM.

Concerts from the Shed are broadcast across New England throughout the Tanglewood season in summer and throughout the year.

In addition, Sunday afternoon concerts are broadcast on WFCR 88.5FM in Amherst; in New Hampshire on WCNH 91.5FM.

FOR FULL SEASON DETAILS OF THE 2017 TANGLEWOOD SEASON, INCLUDING DOWNLOADABLE PHOTOS AND VIDEO, PROGRAM LISTINGS, AND ARTIST PHOTOS AND BIOGRAPHIES, CLICK HERE

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF TANGLEWOOD, THE BSO’S SUMMER HOME SINCE 1937

One of the most popular and acclaimed music festivals in the world, Tanglewood—the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s summer home since 1937—is located between Lenox and Stockbridge, MA. With an average annual attendance of more than 300,000 visitors, Tanglewood has a $103 million impact on the Berkshire economy each summer. Tanglewood presents orchestra concerts by the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, and visiting ensembles, featuring 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; and performances by some of today’s leading popular artists. Introduced in 2013, $20 tickets for attendees under 40 will be available for select BSO and Boston Pops performances in the Shed. Tanglewood is family-friendly, with free lawn tickets available for children and young people age 17 and under, and a variety of special programs for children, including Kids’ Corner, Watch and Play, and the annual Family Concert, this year to take place on Saturday, July 22. Tanglewood is also the home of the Tanglewood Music Center, the BSO’s preeminent summer music academy for the advanced training of young professional musicians, and Days in the Arts, a multi-cultural arts-immersion program that gives 400 fifth-, sixth-, and seventh-graders from communities across Massachusetts the opportunity to explore the arts in week-long sessions throughout the summer. These are just two of the BSO’s many educational and outreach activities, for which more information is available online at the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s website, www.bso.org—receiving approximately 17 million visitors annually and generating over $118 million in revenue since its launch in 1996. Music lovers can follow Tanglewood via its new social media accounts on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TanglewoodMusicFestival, on Twitter @TanglewoodMA, and on Instagram @TanglewoodMusicFestival. The Boston Symphony is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bostonsymphony, on Twitter @bostonsymphony, and on Instagram @bostonsymphony. The Boston Pops is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thebostonpops, on Twitter @thebostonpops, and on Instagram @thebostonpops.

In addition to summertime concerts at Tanglewood and its many other world-class cultural and entertainment offerings, the Berkshire region is also well known for its all-season outdoor activities, a bountiful food culture boasting both four-star restaurants and family eateries, and a wide array of lodging to accommodate all tastes and budgets. Amidst a backdrop of picturesque towns and villages, surrounded by the beautiful Berkshire hills of western Massachusetts, these many and varied activities play a significant role in setting the region apart and making it a singular destination in the summer and throughout the year. For more information visit berkshires.org.

RADIO BROADCASTS AND STREAMING

Concerts from the Shed are broadcast across New England throughout the Tanglewood season in Boston on WCRB 99.5FM, a service of WGBH, and WJMF 88.7FM in Providence; in Albany on WAMC 90.3FM and its network of translators; and in Connecticut on WMNR 88.1FM. In addition, Sunday afternoon concerts are broadcast on WFCR 88.5FM in Amherst; in New Hampshire on WCNH 91.5FM.

In addition to Tanglewood’s classical music offerings, the 2017 Tanglewood season also includes performances by “Four Voices”—featuring Joan Baez, Mary Chapin Carpenter, and Amy Ray and Emily Saliers of the Indigo Girls (6/17); jazz piano prodigy Joey Alexander (6/23); Chris Botti with the Boston Pops and conductor Lawrence Loh (6/24); Boz Scaggs and Michael McDonald (6/30); John Mellencamp with Emmylou Harris and Carlene Carpenter (7/1); singer-songwriter Natalie Merchant (7/2); James Taylor and his All-Star Band (7/3 & 4); David Sedaris (8/20); Sting (8/29); iconic singer Diana Ross (8/30); American folk-rock band The Avett Brothers (9/1); Classic Quadrophenia with Pete Townshend, Billy Idol, and Alfie Boe (9/2); and Melissa Etheridge, who joins Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops to close out the 2017 Tanglewood season (9/3).

SPONSORSHIP
Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation is proud to be celebrating its fourteenth year as the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the BSO. The Sunday, August 6 afternoon Shed concert is sponsored by Dell EMC.

For further information, call the Boston Symphony Orchestra at 617-266-1492. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is online at www.bso.org. All programs and artists are subject to change.

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TANGLEWOOD PRESS CONTACT:
Bernadette Horgan, Director of Public Relations (bhorgan@bso.org) 617-638-9285
Taryn Lott, Assistant Director of Public Relations (tlott@bso.org) 617-638-9283

OPENING NIGHT AT TANGLEWOOD CONCERT LISTING, JULY 7, 2017
All programs and artists are subject to change
^Tanglewood debut

Friday, July 7, 8 p.m. Shed
Opening Night at Tanglewood
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Andris Nelsons, conductor
Malin Christensson, soprano ^
Bernarda Fink, mezzo-soprano
Tanglewood Festival Chorus,
James Burton, conductor
MAHLER Symphony No. 2, Resurrection