FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 10, 2019

WORLD PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF *PENELOPE*, A CONCERT WORK WITH MUSIC BY ANDRÉ PREVIN AND TEXT BY TOM STOPPARD, TO GO FORWARD AT TANGLEWOOD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 24; *PENELOPE*, PREVIN’S FINAL WORK, WAS UNFINISHED AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH IN FEBRUARY

LEADING AMERICAN ACTRESS UMA THURMAN TO JOIN RENÉE FLEMING, THE EMERSON STRING QUARTET, AND PIANIST SIMONE DINNERSTEIN IN THE NEWLY-CREATED PART OF NARRATOR

THE UNCOMPLETED MANUSCRIPT, A MUSICAL PORTRAYAL OF PENelope FROM HOMER’S ODYSSEY, WAS FOUND IN PREVIN’S APARTMENT; HIS EDITOR DAVID FETHEROLF WORKED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT TO CREATE A FULL WORKING SCORE AND BRING IT TO THE CONCERT STAGE

PERFORMANCE IS DEDICATED TO THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF ANDRÉ PREVIN, AN AMERICAN MUSICAL LEGEND

CLICK HERE FOR A PROGRAM NOTE FROM PLAYWRIGHT TOM STOPPARD

Members of the press covering the performance can email ecotten@bso.org for perusal copies of the score of *Penelope*

TO VIEW A PRESS RELEASE ABOUT THE 2019 TANGLEWOOD SEASON, VISIT WWW.TANGLEWOOD.ORG; TO VIEW A PRESS RELEASE ABOUT THE OPENING OF THE LINDE CENTER AND LAUNCH OF THE TANGLEWOOD LEARNING INSTITUTE, VISIT WWW.TLI.ORG

For downloadable photos, and Tanglewood history and chronology, click here; for press passes and tickets, email ecotten@bso.org or call 617-638-9280

The Boston Symphony Orchestra will move forward with presenting the world premiere of André Previn and Tom Stoppard’s *Penelope* at Tanglewood’s Ozawa Hall on Wednesday, July 24 at 8 p.m. New to the
performance lineup is Boston-born actress Uma Thurman, who will take on the newly created part of narrator, joining the previously announced performers—the Emerson String Quartet, pianist Simone Dinnerstein, and vocalist Renée Fleming, to whom the work is dedicated. Prior to Mr. Previn’s passing in February, the premiere of Penelope was originally conceived as part of Tanglewood’s celebration of Previn’s 90th birthday year. It will now be dedicated to the life and music of this great American musician. A monodrama about Penelope from Homer’s Odyssey, this new 35-minute work by Mr. Previn and Mr. Stoppard was commissioned by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Ravinia Festival, Aspen Music Festival and School, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Some Background on the Development of Penelope Since Mr. Previn’s Passing on February 28, 2019
At the time of his death, André Previn was close to completing the composition of Penelope, though the score was still in manuscript form. Upon gathering all the score pages and sketches from his father’s apartment, Previn’s son, Matthew Previn, asked his father’s longtime copyist, David Fetherolf, who is fluent in understanding Previn’s musical shorthand, to create a full working score from the manuscript. In some instances, the composer had written alternate versions and settings of some passages of text. As Mr. Fetherolf delved into the manuscript, it became clear that Previn had still been in the process of deciding whether certain portions of the text would be recited by a narrator or sung as part of the soprano role. Working closely with Renée Fleming, the Emerson Quartet’s first violinist, Eugene Drucker, and pianist Simone Dinnerstein, Mr. Fetherolf realized the score, which will be presented at the premiere performance on July 24. As he wrote in the program note, “I replaced many of the sung parts with the other pages I had found with text which was spoken. Some of these parts were accompanied by the quartet or piano, and some were just spoken.” In addition, there were portions of the original manuscript where there were additional orchestral instruments written into the score, possibly indicating that Mr. Previn was anticipating a full orchestration of the work at some point in the future.

“After the loss this winter of my dear friend, the great André Previn, I’m overjoyed that we are indeed able give his last work its world premiere at Tanglewood,” said Renée Fleming in a statement. “With the addition of the incomparable Uma Thurman to the performance with the Emerson String Quartet and pianist Simone Dinnerstein, I know we can give André’s beautiful music and Tom Stoppard’s brilliant text the performance André would want.”

Tanglewood Learning Institute Activities in Connection with Performance of Penelope
One of today’s leading playwrights, Tom Stoppard will take part in a Meet the Makers sessions, offering up close and personal conversations with celebrated artists and artisan who dive deeply into the creative process and their incredible work. On Wednesday, July 24, at 10 a.m. in Studio E in the Linde Center, Mr. Stoppard will share his thoughts about the creative process and the genesis of Penelope, which explores marriage and the endurance of love through the story of Penelope from Homer’s Odyssey. Meet the Makers makes its debut this summer as one of the many programs of the new Tanglewood Learning Institute launching this summer during the 2019 Tanglewood season. Further details are available at www.tli.org.

Biography of Uma Thurman
Award-winning actress Uma Thurman has proven herself to be one of the industry's most versatile performers, lending her talents to an array of revered films and television.
Uma can currently be seen starring in Netflix original series *Chambers*, opposite Tony Goldwyn. Next up, she will return to the stage in *Ghosts* at the Williamstown Theater Festival this summer.

In 2017, Thurman completed her Broadway debut as the star of *The Parisian Woman*. She was also recently awarded The Actors Fund’s Medal of Honor at their annual gala in New York City. Most recently on the big screen, Uma appeared in various films which include Lars von Trier’s *The House That Jack Built; The Con is On*, directed by James Haslam; and *Down a Dark Hall* directed by Rodrigo Cortés. Upcoming she will star opposite Robert De Niro in Tim Hill’s *The War with Grandpa*.

Thurman’s additional television and film accolades include NBC’s miniseries *The Slap*, created by Jon Robin Baitz, and Lars von Trier’s *Nymphomaniac: Vol. 1*. *The Daily Beast*’s Marlow Stern describes Thurman’s performance in *Nymphomaniac: Vol.1* as Mrs. H as "exhibiting the full spectrum of human emotion over the course of seven uninterrupted minutes. It is, without question, the highlight of Vol. 1."

Thurman is best known for her portrayal of Mia Wallace, a sexy mobster's wife in Quentin Tarantino's critically-lauded *Pulp Fiction*. In 1995, she received an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the cult classic. Referred to as Tarantino's "muse," Thurman continued to work with the director for many years and garnered Golden Globe Award nominations for her role of The Bride in his highly successful *Kill Bill* film franchise. Rolling Stone likened her to "an avenging angel out of a 1940s Hollywood melodrama."

Thurman's entrance into mainstream film began following her role as the goddess Venus in Terry Gilliam's fantasy *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*. She went on to receive critical acclaim for her portrayal of a virginal 18th-century convent girl, Cecile de Volanges, in Stephen Frears' *Dangerous Liaisons*, opposite John Malkovich. The following year, she starred opposite Fred Ward and Maria de Medeiros in Philip Kaufman's *Henry & June*. Additional film credits include *Beautiful Girls, Batman & Robin, Les Miserables, Sweet and Lowdown, Prime* with Meryl Streep, *Be Cool*, and *The Producers*.

Thurman earned a Golden Globe Award for *Hysterical Blindness*, which she produced and starred in. She received her first Emmy nomination for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Drama Series for her arc on NBC’s series *Smash*. Born in Boston and raised in Amherst, Thurman currently lives in New York City with her three children.

**Brief Overview of New Linde Center and Tanglewood Learning Institute**

The opening of the Linde Center for Music and Learning and the new programs of the Tanglewood Learning Institute represent a dramatic new chapter in the life of Tanglewood and a major investment in the preeminent festival’s future. The first fundamental expansion in programming since Tanglewood was founded in 1937, and the Tanglewood Music Center launched in 1940, the offerings of the Tanglewood Learning Institute—more than 140 activities—reflect the wider cultural shift towards learning and participatory activities that complement the concert experience. These programs have been designed to encourage thought-provoking conversations as they explore ways to better understand the world through the lens of music and begin to break down the traditional boundaries between performer and audience.

The new multiuse buildings of the Linde Center also reflect a major paradigm shift for Tanglewood. Starting in fall 2019 they will play an essential role in establishing Tanglewood for the first time as a year-round facility, offering TLI programming and event rental and concert use by the BSO, the Tanglewood Music Center, as well as the Berkshire community and beyond. Spanning all aspects of the organization—including the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, and Tanglewood—the Tanglewood Learning Institute also
plans to offer programs in Boston beginning in fall 2019, as well as a series of online learning programs to be unveiled in 2020.

The Linde Center is designed by William Rawn Associates Architects, led by William Rawn and Cliff Gayley, and is the largest building project at Tanglewood in 25 years, since the construction of Ozawa Hall, also designed by William Rawn Associates. It is named the Linde Center for Music and Learning in recognition of leadership gifts made by Joyce and Edward H. Linde and their family.

A $64-million fundraising initiative, Tanglewood Forever (www.tanglewoodforever.org), has been established to support the construction and upkeep of the new four-building Linde Center for Music and Learning and programmatic initiatives for the Tanglewood Learning Institute, as well as other campus projects and artistic programming.

The new activities of the Tanglewood Learning Institute will take their place alongside the festival’s traditional schedule of major performances by the Boston Symphony, Boston Pops, and Tanglewood Music Center orchestras, as well as a Popular Artist series in the Koussevitzky Music Shed, and chamber music, large ensemble, and recital programs in Ozawa Hall. Link to 2019 season announcement.

TICKETS FOR TLI PROGRAMMING AND 2019 TANGLEWOOD SEASON
Tickets for TLI programs, ranging from $12 for Cinematics single tickets and $19 for some Full Tilt events to $399 for each of the four TLI Weekends (with many activities scheduled throughout Friday, Saturday, and Sunday), and tickets for the entire 2019 Tanglewood season, ranging from $12–$130 (regular season prices), are available at www.tanglewood.org and 888-266-1200. (Link to season announcement).

2019 TANGLEWOOD SEASON
In addition to the launch of the new Linde Center and programs of the Tanglewood Learning Institute, the 2019 Tanglewood season will see Boston Symphony Orchestra Music Director Andris Nelsons in residence throughout the month of July, leading 14 programs, including a first for Tanglewood—a concert performance of Wagner’s complete Die Walküre with the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra and a star-studded cast, presented in three concerts over a two-day period, July 27 and 28. Tanglewood will also be the setting for the BSO’s Nelsons-led world premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts’ The Brightness of Light, a work for voices and orchestra inspired by letters between Georgia O’Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz; it was written especially for Renée Fleming and Rod Gilfry, who will be the featured soloists. Ms. Fleming, a favorite guest artist at Tanglewood since her BSO debut there in 1991, has been named the Koussevitzky Artist for the 2019 Tanglewood season. The BSO and Andris Nelsons open the orchestra’s summer season on Friday, July 5, with Mahler’s Symphony No. 5 and Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 22, with Emanuel Ax as soloist—the first of twenty BSO programs taking place throughout July and August.

The major new events and milestones of the Tanglewood Learning Institute take place during a season that also honors Tanglewood’s cherished musical traditions, among them concerts by the one and only Boston Pops, including the annual John Williams’ Film Night; a series of chamber music and recital programs in the acoustically acclaimed Ozawa Hall, celebrating its 25th anniversary season in 2019; frequent performances by the talented Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center; and a Popular Artist series, including two appearances by one of the festival’s most beloved singers, James Taylor, on July 3 and 4. The BSO’s musical leadership, Andris Nelsons, Keith Lockhart, and John Williams, are joined by an extraordinary roster of guest artists, including beloved familiar faces—Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, and Joshua
Bell; other favorite performers—Yefim Bronfman, Christine Goerke, Hilary Hahn, Paul Lewis, Ryan Speedo Green, Thomas Hampson, Leonidas Kavakos, Ken-David Masur, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Kristine Opolais, Morris Robinson, Gil Shaham, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet; and several exciting artists making their Tanglewood debuts—Inon Barnatan, J’Nai Bridges, MILOŠ, Simon O’Neill, and François-Xavier Roth. The 2019 Festival of Contemporary Music, August 8-12, under the direction of BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès, boasts a tremendous array of works by composers of our time and recent history, with nine American premieres, including works by Richard Ayres, Gerald Barry, Erica Fox, György Kurtág, Poul Ruders, and Nathan Shields, as well as a TMC-commissioned world premiere from Andrew Hamilton; there will also be a special concert dedicated to the piano works of the late Oliver Knussen.

Musical highlights of the season also include Copland’s Symphony No. 3, Debussy’s La Mer, Dvořák’s New World Symphony, Elgar’s Enigma Variations, Betsy Jolas’ A Little Summer Suite, Ravel’s La Valse and Daphnis and Chloé (complete), Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 2, Strauss’s “Dance of the Seven Veils” from Salome, Joan Tower’s Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman No. 1, and an Andris Nelsons-led Verdi Requiem, as well as works by Brahms, Gershwin, Mendelssohn, Schumann, and Stravinsky, among many other favorite composers. The traditional season-ending finale featuring Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony, with a cast of acclaimed soloists and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, James Burton, conductor, will be led by Giancarlo Guerrero; the program opens with Schoenberg’s Friede auf Erden (Peace on Earth) for unaccompanied chorus. In another major highlight, Yo-Yo Ma, who will be featured in three concerts during the 2019 Tanglewood season, makes a special solo appearance in the Shed, performing Bach’s Six Unaccompanied Cello Suites as part of his two-year The Bach Project, in which Mr. Ma will perform Bach’s six suites for solo cello in 36 locations on six continents.

In addition to the programs of the 2019 Festival of Contemporary Music and the new Kevin Puts work, new pieces to be performed during the season include two world premieres—The Lost Words, for children’s choir and orchestra, by BSO Choral Director James Burton, featuring the Boston Symphony Children’s Choir; and André Previn and Tom Stoppard’s Penelope, for soprano and string quartet [adjust here to add narrator? How about the pianist?], with Renée Fleming and the Emerson String Quartet—as well as the American premiere of Avner Dorman’s Double Concerto for violin, cello, and orchestra, with Pinchas Zukerman and Amanda Forsyth. The performance of Penelope, along with André Previn’s Violin Concerto, Anne-Sophie, written for and featuring Anne-Sophie Mutter, will take place in celebration of the late Sir André Previn’s 90th birthday year [adjust wording here as well?].

The 2019 Popular Artist Series includes Richard Thompson (6/21), Postmodern Jukebox (6/22), The Boston Pops Celebrates Queen (6/27), Earth, Wind & Fire (6/28), Rodrigo y Gabriela (6/30) Josh Groban (7/2), James Taylor and his All-Star Band (7/3 & 4), Train and the Goo Goo Dolls (8/5), Gladys Knight and The Spinners (8/28), Squeeze—The Squeeze Songbook Tour (8/29), Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo and Melissa Etheridge (8/30), Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals and Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue (8/31), and Reba McEntire (9/1). American Public Media’s Live From Here with Chris Thile also returns on June 15, opening the 2019 season.

Beyond the schedule of performances, Tanglewood continues to offer a wide variety of discounted ticket options, among them $20 tickets for attendees under 40 and free lawn tickets to young people age 17 and under—two of the festival’s most popular ticket offerings—as well as a variety of special programs for families and children, including Kids’ Corner, Watch and Play, the annual Family Concert, which will feature the Boston Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Thomas Wilkins on July 27, and Summer Sundays, an afternoon of entertaining and educational activities planned around the weekly Sunday-afternoon BSO concerts. Tickets for the 2019 season—regular-season ticket prices range from $12-$130—
are on sale at www.tanglewood.org and 888-266-1200. Visit www.tanglewood.org for complete information about concert programming, ticket purchasing, and the many family- and children-centric programs Tanglewood offers each summer.

**Tanglewood for Children and Families**

Beyond the schedule of performances, Tanglewood continues to offer **free lawn tickets to young people age 17 and under**—two of the festival’s most popular ticket offerings—as well as a variety of special programs for families and children, including: **Kids’ Corner**, designed to provide child-friendly craft activities related to concert music for families attending BSO open rehearsals or concerts on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons at Tanglewood; **Watch and Play**, a series of lively discussions about instruments, concert themes, and/or musical concepts on selected Sundays led by the Boston Symphony Association of Volunteers; **What’s That Sound?**, an up-close look at various instruments of the orchestra, demonstrated by members of the BSO; **Free Fun Friday**, a day of free arts-related activities by Berkshire cultural organizations for approximately 3,000 children and families, followed by the evening’s BSO concert; the annual **Family Concert**, which this year will features the Boston Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Thomas Wilkins on July 27, at 10 a.m. in Ozawa Hall; and **Summer Sundays**, introduced in 2017, which offers patrons of all ages an afternoon of entertaining and educational activities planned around the weekly Sunday-afternoon BSO concerts. The Boston Symphony Orchestra also runs a wide variety of educational programs including the **Tanglewood Music Center** (TMC), the BSO’s world-renowned music academy for young professional musicians since 1940, and the **Boston University Tanglewood Institute** (BUTI), the premier summer training program for aspiring high school-age musicians. **Days in the Arts** (DARTS)—the **Boston Symphony Orchestra**’s residential arts immersion program for Massachusetts youth—invites middle school students from across the state to its campus near Tanglewood to explore and learn about the arts; DARTS has hosted more than 15,000 Massachusetts students at Tanglewood since its inception in 1968. DARTS students hail from rural, suburban, and urban neighborhoods and represent dozens of diverse communities throughout Massachusetts. They spend five days completely immersed in cultural exploration, engaging in intensive workshops, and making afternoon excursions to such renowned arts organizations as Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Barrington Stage Company, Chesterwood, MacHaydn Theatre, Berkshire Theater Group, the Clark, Norman Rockwell, MASS MoCA, and Shakespeare & Company for performances, tours, master classes, and a variety of hands-on demonstrations.

**TANGLEWOOD IN BRIEF**

One of the premier summer music festivals in the world and summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 1937, Tanglewood is located in the beautiful Berkshire Hills, between Stockbridge and Lenox, Massachusetts. Launching a new chapter in the illustrious festival’s 81-year history, this month Tanglewood opens the Linde Center for Music and Learning—a new multi-use, multi-season, four-building complex designed to support the performance and rehearsal activities of the Tanglewood Music Center and be the focal point of a new initiative, the Tanglewood Learning Institute, offering wide-ranging education and enrichment programs designed to enhance the patron experience. Tickets for the 2019 Tanglewood season, $12-$130, are available through Tanglewood’s website, www.tanglewood.org, SymphonyCharge at 888-266-1200, and at the Symphony Hall Box Office at 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts. **Full season details of the 2019 Tanglewood season, including downloadable photos and video, program listings, and artist photos and biographies are available here.**

**SPONSORSHIP**

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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.

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