



# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Philadelphia Orchestra announces Global Concert Series for 2008-09 season

### *Five live transmissions to colleges and universities scheduled*

(*Philadelphia*, April 3, 2008) — The Philadelphia Orchestra continues its **Global Concert Series** in the 2008-09 concert season with five live performances scheduled for broadcast. The concerts, with enhanced and interactive content transmitted in HD and Dolby surround sound are offered to university venues through the cutting-edge Internet2 network. The five transmissions scheduled for the 2008-09 season are October 3, December 2, January 22, March 24, and April 23.

The first transmission of the 2008-09 Global Concert Series, on **Friday, October 3, 2008**, pairs Philadelphia Orchestra Chief Conductor and Artistic Adviser Charles Dutoit with world-renowned piano soloist Martha Argerich performing not one, but two Russian piano concertos — Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Shostakovich's Piano Concerto No. 1. The concert concludes with Ravel's beautiful orchestration of *Pictures at an Exhibition*, a masterful homage by Musorgsky to a painter friend's visual creativity.

On **Tuesday, December 2, 2008**, Russian conductor Andrey Boreyko is joined by pianist Garrick Ohlsson. Boreyko, who made his Philadelphia Orchestra subscription debut in April 2007, leads a program exploring some of the main currents of 19th-century German music—opening with the sensuous lines of Wagner's music for *Tristan and Isolde*. Beethoven's most personal Fourth Piano Concerto, performed by Mr. Ohlsson, is filled with introspection and alternating bravura, written as Beethoven wrestled with the loss of his own hearing and while his music teetered between the Classical past and a Romantic new century. To close, a masterful quartet by Brahms is given new perspective as a full-throated orchestral work in Schoenberg's brilliant 20th-century arrangement.

The 2008-09 Global Concert Series continues on **Thursday, January 22, 2009**, with the return of former Philadelphia Orchestra Music Director Christoph Eschenbach and Greek violinist Leonidas Kavakos. Mr. Eschenbach leads a program of Central European trajectories, with Mr. Kavakos as soloist in Béla Bartók's rhapsodic Second Violin Concerto. Filled with alternating gusto and serenity, it also offers up

passages bristling with Hungarian daring and swagger. After intermission comes Bruckner's monumental and transcendent Sixth Symphony, in which you can hear (and feel) The Philadelphia Orchestra excel in this vast musical canvas, from the softest string passages to the heart-stopping thunder of brass and full orchestra.

The Ballets Russes was the great ballet company led by Russian impresario Sergei Diaghilev in early-20th-century Paris. The Philadelphia Orchestra's focus on the Ballets Russes begins with a performance of the complete ballet music to Stravinsky's *The Firebird* on **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**, led by Charles Dutoit and continues throughout Mr. Dutoit's tenure. Based on a Russian folk tale about a magical bird with plumage that shines like fire, *The Firebird* centers on the hero, Ivan, who falls in love with a beautiful captured maiden and enlists the bird to free his love. Also joining Mr. Dutoit on the program is newcomer Lisa Batiashvili, performing Prokofiev's Second Violin Concerto.

The 2008-09 Global Concert Series concludes on **Thursday, April 23, 2009**, with a performance led by French conductor Stéphane Denève, music director of The Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Denève, who made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 2007, was hailed as "a thoroughly superb musical thinker" and "a guest most welcome" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*). The program features Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 (with Jonathan Biss) and Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 5 ("Reformation"). The program opens with a work by Guillaume Connesson titled *Une Lueur dans l'age sombre*, which translates "a glimmer in the age of darkness." The work depicts the birth of the stars. Mr. Denève has conducted the world and U.S. premieres of the work. The young French composer has described the work as "a vast, contemplative slow movement" with moments of "glistening, infinitely sweet music."

The Global Concert Series provides the audience with an up-close look at the musicians and conductor, in views not seen by live audiences. The live concert is transmitted using seven high definition cameras installed in Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia. The transmissions include an on-stage host, who brings live backstage commentary and interviews with conductors and musicians to concert-goers around the world. Off-site audiences are encouraged to ask questions of the performers leading up to the concert and during intermission via e-mail, instant messenger, and text message.

The Philadelphia Orchestra is the first major orchestra to transmit live concerts to multiple large screen venues on college and university campuses. Its Global Concert Series, begun in September 2007, is made possible through a partnership between the Orchestra, the Internet2 consortium, and the presenting schools. Throughout the 2007-08 season, dozens of colleges and universities in the United States and Europe participated in the Global Concert Series program including the ATLAS Institute at the University of Colorado, the University of Delaware, Villanova University, Cornell University, the University of Michigan, the University of California at Davis, Montgomery County Community College, and the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland. Also participating in the 2007-08 broadcasts were the New York Public Library and the Discovery World Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Global Concert Series uses a high speed and high bandwidth network available to the Orchestra through the Internet2 network to send the audio and video stream to large screen venues at organizations connected to the Internet2 network. Internet2 is a non-profit consortium of over 200 universities who serve as hubs to connect thousands of schools to a high speed advanced network that allows advanced applications and technologies for research and higher education. The Philadelphia Orchestra accesses this network through MAGPI, the Internet2 network hub of the University of Pennsylvania since 1999. Participating institutions are required to be connected to the Internet2 network and must meet additional technical and equipment criteria.

The Philadelphia Orchestra has recently been engaged in a number of initiatives designed to explore new and creative means of distributing the Orchestra's music outside of conventional concerts in its home hall, including an Online Music Store and podcasting, in addition to traditional radio broadcasts on National Public Radio and a recording contract with Ondine Records. The Philadelphia Orchestra boasts an extraordinary record of media firsts. It was the first symphonic orchestra to make electrical recordings (1925), the first to perform its own commercially sponsored radio broadcast (1929), the first to perform on the soundtrack of a feature film (Paramount's *The Big Broadcast of 1937*), the first to appear on a national television broadcast (1948), and the first major orchestra to give a live cybercast on the internet (1997).

The Philadelphia Orchestra's Internet2 multicasts are made possible through the generous support of the Joseph and Marie Field Foundation; the Neubauer Family Foundation Fund for Audience Development, Media, and Technology; and the donors to the Capital Technology Fund of The Philadelphia Orchestra.

All programs and artists are subject to change.

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## **The Philadelphia Orchestra**

Founded in 1900, The Philadelphia Orchestra has distinguished itself as one of the leading orchestras in the world through over a century of acclaimed performances, historic international tours, best-selling recordings, and innovation in recording technologies and outreach. The Orchestra has maintained an unparalleled unity in artistic leadership with only six music directors piloting its first century. This rich tradition has been carried on by Christoph Eschenbach, who became music director in September 2003. Charles Dutoit takes on the role of chief conductor and artistic adviser beginning with the 2008-09 season.

Recent Philadelphia Orchestra highlights include multi-casting a concert to large-screen venues through the Internet2 network; the launch of the Orchestra's Online Music Store in September 2006; regular broadcasts on NPR beginning in April 2006; a series of critically acclaimed recordings led by Mr. Eschenbach and released in partnership with Ondine Records; and an ongoing \$125 million endowment campaign launched in 2003.

The Philadelphia Orchestra annually touches the lives of more than one million music lovers worldwide through its performances, publications, recordings, and broadcasts. The Orchestra presents a

subscription season at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, in addition to education and community partnership programs, and appears annually at Carnegie Hall. Its summer schedule includes a series at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, free Neighborhood Concerts, and residencies at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center and Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival.

For more information about The Philadelphia Orchestra's Global Concert Series please visit [www.philorch.org/internet2](http://www.philorch.org/internet2).

**October 3** at 2:00 p.m. – Friday afternoon – Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Charles Dutoit**, *conductor*

**Martha Argerich**, *piano*

Ravel	<i>Valses nobles et sentimentales</i>
Prokofiev	Piano Concerto No. 1
Shostakovich	Piano Concerto No. 1
Musorgsky	<i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>

**December 2** at 8:00 p.m. – Tuesday evening – Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Andrey Boreyko**, *conductor*

**Garrick Ohlsson**, *piano*

Wagner	Prelude and "Liebestod," from <i>Tristan and Isolde</i>
Beethoven	Piano Concerto No. 4
Brahms/orch. Schoenberg	Piano Quartet No. 1

**January 22** at 8:00 p.m. – Thursday evening – Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Christoph Eschenbach**, *conductor*

**Leonidas Kavakos**, *violin*

Bartók	Violin Concerto No. 2
Bruckner	Symphony No. 6

**March 24** at 8:00 p.m. – Tuesday evening – Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Charles Dutoit**, *conductor*

**Lisa Batiashvili**, *violin*

Ravel	<i>Le Tombeau de Couperin</i>
Prokofiev	Violin Concerto No. 2
Stravinsky	<i>The Firebird</i> (complete ballet)

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**April 23** at 8:00 p.m. – Thursday evening– Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Stéphane Denève**, *conductor*  
**Jonathan Biss**, *piano*

Connesson

*Une Lueur dans l'age sombre* – FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA  
PERFORMANCES

Beethoven

Piano Concerto No. 3

Mendelssohn

Symphony No. 5 (“Reformation”)

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