Boston Philharmonic Announces Its 44th Season at Boston’s Symphony Hall and New York’s Carnegie Hall
From October 19, 2022 through May 3, 2023
Season marks Maestro Benjamin Zander’s 50th year as a conductor

BOSTON, MA—The Boston Philharmonic, which includes both the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO) and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (BPYO), announces its 2022-2023 concert season, marking Maestro Benjamin Zander’s 50th year as a conductor. The season includes four BPO concerts and three BPYO concerts at Boston’s Symphony Hall between October 19, 2022, and May 3, 2023, and a BPO concert at Carnegie Hall on February 26, 2023.

In keeping with previous programs, each concert will feature one major symphonic work that is universally regarded as a timeless masterpiece. “All the pieces in this coming season are not only great works, but they have also played an important part in my life during my 50 years of conducting,” says Zander. “This coming year is also a look forward to the next generation of world-class soloists.”

The BPO continues its tradition of bringing some of the world’s most exciting, emerging soloists to the public’s attention through performances of orchestral masterpieces. Zander will also once again provide his legendary “Guide to the Music” talks prior to each BPO concert. The first concert takes place Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 8 PM, opening with Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 4 with Jonathan Biss (last performed by the BPO in 2003) and Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2 (last performed by the BPO in 2014), which Zander says “represents the last great flowering of Russian romanticism.”

Biss is Co-Artistic Director, alongside Mitsuko Uchida, of the Marlboro Music Festival and a guest lecturer at New England Conservatory of Music, working with composer and pianist Marc-André Hamelin. Besides being notable for his immersive focus on single composers, he is the author of Beethoven’s Shadow, about the art of performing Beethoven’s piano sonatas, all 32 of which he recorded over the course of 9 years on Onyx Classics, Meyer Media, and Orchid Classics, and which he finished right before the composer’s 250th year in 2020.

The BPO’s second concert on Saturday, November 12, 2022, at 8 PM opens with Dvořák’s Cello Concerto, featuring Hayoung Choi, followed by Brahms Symphony No. 2, which was the very first symphony Zander conducted in 1972.

“As a cellist, I cherished the Dvořák Cello Concerto as a constant companion on my musical journey,” says Zander. “I conducted it for my first time in 1977, featuring Yo-Yo Ma as soloist with the Boston Civic Symphony, and it still is the ultimate piece of cello music to me.”

Hayoung Choi is this year’s First Prize Winner at the Queen Elisabeth Competition for Cello, the first Korean cellist to receive the award. She also won First Prize and two special prizes at the 3rd Krzysztof Penderecki International Cello Competition in Poland in 2018. At age 13 she won first prize at the Johannes Brahms International Competition in Austria, the youngest winner in the competition’s history. The young, German-born musician has already performed in many chamber groups with such notable musicians as Gidon Kremer, Christian Tetzlaff, Kim Kashkashian, and Mitsuko Uchida, to name a few.

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The third BPO concert on **Friday, February 24, 2023, at 8 PM** is devoted entirely to **Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9**, which was the first commercial recording made by the BPO in 1990 (soloists and chorus to be announced). “No other work delivers this particular, powerful message about the indomitable human spirit through the richest, most complex music that is still understandable 200 years later,” says Zander. The program repeats at Carnegie Hall in New York on **Sunday, February 26**.

The final BPO concert takes place **Friday, April 14, 2023, at 8 PM** and includes **Schubert’s Symphony No. 8 (“Unfinished”)** and **Mahler’s Das Lied von der Erde (The Song of the Earth)**. The Mahler features **Dame Sarah Connolly**, widely considered England’s preeminent mezzo-soprano, and tenor **Stefan Vinke**, a renowned interpreter of Wagner’s Heldentenor roles, who will sing the famously difficult tenor songs.

Zander has an international reputation as an interpreter of Mahler. “Over my lifetime I have had an intensely personal relationship with the music of Gustav Mahler,” said Zander. “I feel as if I almost speak his music like a mother-tongue.”

The BPYO enters its second decade on **Sunday, November 20, 2022, at 3 PM** with **Strauss’s Ein Heldenleben**, performed at their very first concert in 2012, followed by their first performance of **Beethoven’s Symphony No. 5**, which Zander recorded with the Philharmonia Orchestra of London in 1999.

The BPYO’s second concert on **Friday, March 10, 2023, at 8 PM** opens with **Bartok Concerto for Orchestra** followed by **Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5** (both last performed by the BPYO in 2015). “Since this concert takes place the day after my 84th birthday, I was interested in a concerto that is both energetic and exuberant,” said Zander. “The Bartok piece is virtually a catalog of all that the modern orchestra is capable, and it is almost always the final work on the program, but Tchaikovsky’s deeply emotional Fifth Symphony presents yet another huge challenge.”

Zander returns to his beloved Mahler for the third and final BPYO concert on **Wednesday, May 3, at 8 PM** with **Mahler’s Symphony No. 2 Resurrection**, performed in their very first season in 2012 and on tour in The Netherlands in 2013. Guest artists include soprano Sonja Tengblad, mezzo-soprano Jennifer Johnson Cano, and Chorus Pro Musica, “A live performance of Mahler’s Resurrection is always more than a concert—it’s a community experience,” says Zander. “There is no work in the repertory that so completely unites performers and audience members in a transformative musical affirmation.”

**Subscription & Ticket Information**

Subscription packages for in-person concerts are currently available; individual tickets and streaming subscriptions go on sale August 22. Boston Philharmonic Orchestra tickets are $115, $90, $60 and $30; $10 for students; Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra tickets are $60.00, $40.00 and $20.00; $10 for students. Tickets to live streams are $20 for general admission, $10 for students, and $40 for supporters. Both subscriptions and individual tickets are available at [www.bostonphil.org](http://www.bostonphil.org) or by calling 617-236-0999. Ticket policies are at [https://www.bostonphil.org/concerts/ticket-policies](https://www.bostonphil.org/concerts/ticket-policies) and coronavirus updates are at [https://www.bostonphil.org/concerts/experience/virus](https://www.bostonphil.org/concerts/experience/virus).
BOSTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 19, 8 PM
Beethoven, Piano Concerto No. 4
   Jonathan Biss, piano
Rachmaninoff, Symphony No. 2

Saturday, November 12, 8 PM
Dvořák Cello Concerto
   Hayoung Choi, cello
Brahms Symphony No. 2

Friday, February 24, 2023, 8 PM (also Sunday, February 26, 3 PM @ Carnegie Hall)
Beethoven Symphony No. 9
   Soloists & chorus to be announced

Friday, April 14, 2022, 8 PM
Schubert Symphony No. 8 (“Unfinished”)
   Sarah Connolly, mezzo-soprano
   Stefan Vinke, tenor
Mahler Das Lied von der Erde

BOSTON PHILHARMONIC YOUTH ORCHESTRA SCHEDULE

Sunday, November 20, 2022, 3 PM
Strauss Ein Heldenleben
Beethoven Symphony No. 5

Friday, March 10, 2023, 8 PM
Bartók Concerto for Orchestra
Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5

Wednesday, May 3, 2023, 8 PM
Mahler Symphony No. 2
About the Boston Philharmonic

Founded by Benjamin Zander in 1979 and still under his leadership, the Boston Philharmonic is composed of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra (BPO), the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (BPYO), and its robust series of Crescendo Education and Community Engagement programs. Its mission is to share the vibrancy of classical music with new and existing audiences, aspiring to expand the limits of possibility to reinvigorate the classical music experience for audiences and players alike.

As one of Boston’s premier orchestras, the BPO features professional, student and amateur musicians who perform inspiring renditions of celebrated masterworks in Boston’s most storied concert halls. The BPYO offers year-long, tuition-free orchestral and leadership training at the highest level for talented musicians between the ages of 12 and 21. The Crescendo Education and Community Engagement programs provide high quality music education for children who would otherwise not have access, often serving the most disadvantaged, at-risk, and under-resourced children in the city.

About Benjamin Zander

For more than 50 years, Benjamin Zander has occupied a unique place as a master teacher, a deeply insightful and probing interpreter, and a profound source of inspiration for audiences, as well as students, professional musicians, corporate leaders, politicians, and more. He has persistently engaged some of the most well-informed musical and public intellectuals in a quest for insight and understanding into the Western musical canon and the underlying religious, social, and political issues that inspired its creation.

For more than 25 years, Zander has also enjoyed a unique relationship with the Philharmonia Orchestra, recording a series of Beethoven and Mahler symphonies. High Fidelity named the recording of Mahler’s 6th as Best Classical Recording of 2002; the 3rd was awarded Critic’s Choice by the German Record Critics; and Mahler 9th and 2nd and Bruckner’s 5th recordings were all nominated for Grammy Awards.

Zander enjoys an international career as a leadership speaker, with several keynote speeches at the World Economic Forum in Davos and at TED. His best-selling book, The Art of Possibility, co-authored with his former wife and leading psychotherapist Rosamund Zander, has been translated into 18 languages.

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