



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads The Philadelphia Orchestra in his first performances as music director designate, October 29 -31**

**Program includes Haydn's Symphony No. 100 ("Military") and Mahler's Symphony No. 5**

**New music director designate will greet audiences in Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza immediately following each concert**

**Yannick returns in January 2011 to conduct Debussy's Nocturnes and the Orchestra's first performances of Mozart's Requiem in 20 years**

(Philadelphia, October 20, 2010)— **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** leads his first subscription concerts as The Philadelphia Orchestra's music director designate on **October 29, 30, and 31, 2010**, leading milestone symphonies by two Viennese masters working a century apart. The program pairs Haydn's "Military" Symphony, so named for its trumpet-and-drum fanfare in the second movement, with Mahler's mighty Fifth, whose march-like first movement not only harkens back to the Haydn on the first half, but is also said to echo the composer's childhood memories of bugle calls and military bands in his native Moravia. Immediately following each of his appearances with the Orchestra, Yannick will greet audiences in the Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza.

In January 2011 Yannick returns to conduct Debussy's Nocturnes and Mozart's Requiem for chorus, soloists, and orchestra. A piece not heard by Philadelphia Orchestra audiences in 20 years, Mozart's Requiem remains one of the most famous pieces of music ever written and the numerous attempts to complete the score, left unfinished at the composer's early death, have only enhanced its legendary status.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin was announced as the next music director of The Philadelphia Orchestra on June 14, 2010. Four days later he made his first official appearances as music director designate as

part of day-long “Welcome” tour of Philadelphia, during which he met with patrons at the Kimmel Center, visited iconic city sites, attended a Neighborhood Concert in Upper Darby, and was welcomed by over 45,000 Phillies fans during the seventh-inning stretch at Citizen’s Bank Park.

## **Yannick Nézet-Séguin**

Since his European conducting debut in 2004, Yannick Nézet-Séguin has become one of the most sought-after conductors on today’s international classical music scene, widely praised by audiences, critics, and artists alike for his musicianship, dedication, and charisma. A native of Montreal, he made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 2008 and last June was named the Orchestra’s next music director, a post he takes up with the 2012-13 season. Artistic director and principal conductor of Montreal’s Orchestre Métropolitain since 2000, he became music director of the Rotterdam Philharmonic and principal guest conductor of the London Philharmonic in 2008.

Recent engagements have included concerts with the Vienna and Los Angeles philharmonics, the Boston Symphony, the Dresden Staatskapelle, the Orchestre National de France and, earlier this month, a tour with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and his Berlin Philharmonic debut. This season also includes debuts with the Chicago Symphony, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the Bayerischer Rundfunk Orchestra, and La Scala; Strauss’s *Salome* for Montreal Opera; Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra in Baden-Baden; and Vienna Philharmonic projects at the 2011 Salzburg, Montreux, and Lucerne festivals. Following his Metropolitan Opera debut last season with Bizet’s *Carmen*, he returns next month for Verdi’s *Don Carlo*. Highlights in 2011-12 include his Royal Opera House, Covent Garden debut; a third production for Netherlands Opera; appearances in Vienna with both the Rotterdam and Vienna philharmonics; concerts with the Dresden Staatskapelle; and further recordings.

Mr. Nézet-Séguin’s Rotterdam Philharmonic recordings for EMI/Virgin comprise an Edison Award-winning disc of works by Ravel, the Beethoven and Korngold violin concertos with Renaud Capuçon, and *Fantasy: A Night at the Opera* with flutist Emmanuel Pahud. Future releases include Berlioz’s *Symphonie fantastique* and *Death of Cleopatra* for BIS Records. He has also recorded several award-winning albums with the Orchestre Métropolitain for ATMA Classique.

Mr. Nézet-Séguin studied piano, conducting, composition, and chamber music at Montreal’s Conservatoire de Musique and continued his studies with renowned conductors, most notably Carlo Maria Giulini. He also studied choral conducting with Joseph Flummerfelt at Westminster Choir College. Mr. Nézet-Séguin’s honors include a Royal Philharmonic Society Award, an Echo Award, the Virginia-Parker Award from the Canada Council, and the National Arts Centre Award.

## **The Philadelphia Orchestra**

The Philadelphia Orchestra is among the world's leading orchestras. Renowned for its artistic excellence since its founding in 1900, the Orchestra has excited audiences with thousands of concerts in Philadelphia and around the world.

With only seven music directors throughout more than a century of unswerving orchestral distinction, the artistic heritage of The Philadelphia Orchestra is attributed to extraordinary musicianship under the leadership and innovation of Fritz Scheel (1900-07), Carl Pohlig (1907-12), Leopold Stokowski (1912-41), Eugene Ormandy (1936-80), Riccardo Muti (1980-92), Wolfgang Sawallisch (1993-2003), and Christoph Eschenbach (2003-08). After 30 years of a celebrated association with The Philadelphia Orchestra, Charles Dutoit continues the tradition as chief conductor.

Since Mr. Dutoit's debut with the Orchestra in July 1980 he has led hundreds of concerts in Philadelphia, at Carnegie Hall, and on tour, as artistic director of the Orchestra's summer concerts at the Mann Center, artistic director and principal conductor of the Orchestra's summer residency at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and now as chief conductor. With the 2012-13 season, the Orchestra honors Mr. Dutoit by bestowing upon him the title conductor laureate.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin assumed the title of music director designate in June 2010, immediately joining the Orchestra's leadership team. He takes up the baton as The Philadelphia Orchestra's next music director in 2012.

The Philadelphia Orchestra annually touches the lives of countless music lovers worldwide, through concerts, presentations, and recordings. Each year the Orchestra presents a subscription season at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts, education and community partnership programs, and annual appearances at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center; it also regularly tours throughout the world. Its summer schedule includes performances at the Mann Center, free Neighborhood Concerts throughout Greater Philadelphia, and residencies at the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival and the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. For more information on The Philadelphia Orchestra, please visit [www.philorch.org](http://www.philorch.org).

## NÉZET-SÉGUIN: HAYDN TO MAHLER

**October 29** at 8:00 PM – Friday evening — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 30** at 8:00 PM – Saturday evening — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 31** at 2:00 PM – Sunday afternoon — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Montreal-born Yannick Nézet-Séguin makes his first Philadelphia Orchestra subscription appearances as the Orchestra's music director designate with milestone symphonies by two Viennese masters working a century apart. Haydn's "Military," so named because of its trumpet-and-drum fanfare in the second movement, finds apt foil in Mahler's mighty Fifth, whose march-like first movement is said to echo the composer's childhood memories of bugle calls and military bands in his native Moravia. Currently principal conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic, principal guest conductor of the London Philharmonic, and music director of Montreal's Orchestre Métropolitain, YNS is winner of a 2009 Royal Philharmonic Society Young Artist of the Year Award. At his 2009 appearance with The Philadelphia Orchestra, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* praised his "coloristically astute, emotionally anchored performance," and wrote that he "became the hero of his own concert by ceding the spotlight to all around him, making them look terrific."

### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

|        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| Haydn  | Symphony No. 100 ("Military") |
| Mahler | Symphony No. 5                |

The October 31 concert is sponsored by the Louis N. Cassett Foundation.

Tickets: \$22-\$143, 215.893.1999 or [www.philorch.org](http://www.philorch.org).

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## MOZART'S REQUIEM

**January 6** at 8:00 PM – Thursday evening — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**January 7** at 2:00 PM – Friday afternoon — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**January 8** at 8:00 PM – Saturday evening — Verizon Hall at The Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin, the Orchestra's music director designate, returns to conduct Mozart's Requiem for chorus, soloists, and orchestra. A piece not heard by Philadelphia Orchestra audiences in 20 years, the Requiem remains a magnificent torso and the numerous attempts to complete it have only enhanced its mystique. Hear the final, poignant utterances of one of the greatest musical geniuses ever known.

### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Lucy Crowe** Soprano – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Birgit Remmert** Mezzo-soprano

**James Taylor** Tenor – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Andrew Foster-Williams** Baritone – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**The Philadelphia Singers Chorale**

|         |           |
|---------|-----------|
| Debussy | Nocturnes |
| Mozart  | Requiem   |

The January 6 concert is sponsored by Medcomp.

The January 8 concert is sponsored by Ballard Spahr LLP.

Tickets: \$22-\$143, 215.893.1999 or [www.philorch.org](http://www.philorch.org).

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