

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA HOSTS COLLEGE NIGHT ON MARCH 2 AT NJPAC IN NEWARK



**\$10 STUDENT TICKETS INCLUDE EXCLUSIVE POST-CONCERT PARTY
WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY STUDENT PERFORMERS**

**NJSO TO PROVIDE FREE ROUND-TRIP BUS TRANSPORTATION FROM
SELECT NEW JERSEY COLLEGES**

TWEET SEATS OFFER OPPORTUNITY FOR SOCIAL-MEDIA COMMENTARY

**PROGRAM FEATURES GRIEG'S PIANO CONCERTO,
DVOŘÁK'S EIGHTH SYMPHONY, SIBELIUS' *SPRING SONG***

Sun, Mar 2, at NJPAC in Newark

NEWARK, NJ (January 31, 2013)—The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra hosts its second College Night of the 2013–14 season on Sunday, March 2, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark. A special \$10 student ticket includes entrance to the Orchestra's 3 pm performance of Grieg's Piano Concerto and a post-concert all-student party with light refreshments and live entertainment provided by performing groups from various New Jersey colleges and universities.

The NJSO will provide free round-trip bus transportation to the concert from select New Jersey college campuses. Pick-up times and locations will be posted at www.njsymphony.org/college as buses become available.

The Orchestra has set aside a block of tickets as Tweet Seats, from which college students can post live concert commentary on social media. The NJSO (@NJSymphony) will tweet live commentary during the performance.

The NJSO hosts the season's third and final College Night at its Saturday, April 5, performance of Verdi's *Requiem* at the State Theatre in New Brunswick.

The NJSO's first College Night of the season saw 139 students from colleges and universities across the state join the Orchestra at NJPAC in Newark on November 1. Groups came from the College of Saint Elizabeth, Rutgers' Mason Gross School of the Arts, William Paterson University and New Jersey Institute of Technology. Students from Rutgers–Newark, Kean University, Drew University, Caldwell College, Essex County College, Mercy College (New York), Ramapo College, Rider University and Seton Hall University also attended.

The concert program features the NJSO debuts of two guest artists. Pianist Xiaohui Yang performs Grieg's concerto as the Orchestra's annual Curtis Artist—one of the Curtis Institute of Music's finest student musicians. Conductor Santtu-Matias Rouvali, a 26-year-old protégé of Gustavo Dudamel who *Gramophone* has called a "dynamic young Finn" whose "career is developing at a rapid pace," leads the program, which also features Dvořák's Eighth Symphony and Sibelius' *Spring Song*.

"Our Orchestra is very committed to supporting and presenting young talents in a highly professional environment," Music Director Jacques Lacombe says. "Xiaohui Yang comes to us from the very exciting and stimulating partnership we have with the Curtis Institute. We believe not only in welcoming renowned artists but also in finding the talent of tomorrow. Santtu-Matias Rouvali is an exciting up-and-coming conductor who will bring a fresh energy to the podium."

NJSO Associate Conductor Gemma New chats with Yang about the program at a Classical Conversation beginning one hour before the 3 pm performance.

Program notes and additional concert information are available at www.njsymphony.org/events/detail/griegs-piano-concerto. For more information on College Night, visit www.njsymphony.org/college.

TICKETS

College Night student tickets are \$10 and include the concert and post-concert party. Regular concert tickets start at \$20. Student tickets are available for purchase online at www.njsymphony.org/college (using promo code COLLEGE14) or by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476); Tweet Seats are available by phone only.

College students interested in performing at the post-concert party can contact Rebecca Ludkiewicz, Marketing and Social Media Manager, at rludkiewicz@njsymphony.org or 973.735.1716.

An added dimension to the March 2 event is an invitation to alumni groups interested in meeting and networking with current college students prior to the concert and at intermission. Alumni groups can contact Terri Campbell, Sales Consultant, for group rates and sales at tcampbell@njsymphony.org or 973.735.1717.

THE PROGRAM

Grieg's Piano Concerto

Sunday, March 2, at 3 pm | NJPAC in Newark

Santtu-Matias Rouvali, conductor
Xiaohui Yang, piano
New Jersey Symphony Orchestra

SIBELIUS	<i>Spring Song</i>
GRIEG	Piano Concerto
DVOŘÁK	Symphony No. 8

The Prudential Foundation is a College Night sponsor.

THE ARTISTS

Santtu-Matias Rouvali, conductor

Finnish conductor Santtu-Matias Rouvali's career is developing at a remarkable pace. Last season he made a number of important debuts including concerts with the hr-Sinfonieorchester, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Dresden Philharmonic, Tokyo Symphony Orchestra and Philharmonia Orchestra.

The 2013–14 season is his first as chief conductor of the Tampere Philharmonic Orchestra; he is also principal guest conductor of the Copenhagen Philharmonic and artist in association with the Tapiola Sinfonietta.

This season, Rouvali returns to the Dresden Philharmonic and debuts with the Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin, Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Royal Stockholm Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as the New Jersey and Milwaukee symphony orchestras. In addition, he continues his relationships with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Residentie Orkest, conducting a number of their concerts each season. In past seasons, Rouvali has conducted Bizet's *Carmen* and Mozart's *The Magic Flute* with West Coast Kokkola Opera.

He recently released a disc on the Ondine label featuring the Hakola and Hosokawa Guitar Concertos with Timo Korhonen and the Oulu Symphony Orchestra.

Xiaohui Yang, piano

Born in Liaoning, China, pianist Xiaohui Yang is pursuing a master's degree at The Juilliard School, where she holds the Cecilia Felman Piano Scholarship. She received the Michael and Cecilia Iacovella Capuzzi Memorial Fellowship to study at the Curtis Institute of Music and garnered the Festorazzi Prize when she graduated from Curtis in 2013.

She performed a solo recital at the Shenyang Foreign Culture Music Festival and has appeared with the Milwaukee and Curtis symphony orchestras and at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. She has attended the Beijing International Music Festival and Academy and the Beethoven Institute and Taos School of Music festivals. She held the Billy Joel Keyboard Fellowship at Tanglewood Music Center in 2013. She has participated in masterclasses with Emanuel Ax, Peter Serkin, Gary Graffman and Richard Goode, among others.

Yang has garnered prizes in several competitions, including first prize in the American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition; second prize in the PianoArts North American Biennial Competition, Hong Kong Piano Open Competition and Toyama Asian Youth Music Competition and third prize in the International Chopin Piano Competition.

THE NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Named "a vital, artistically significant musical organization" by *The Wall Street Journal*, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra embodies that vitality through its statewide presence and critically acclaimed performances, education partnerships and unparalleled access to music and the Orchestra's superb musicians.

Under the bold leadership of Music Director Jacques Lacombe, the NJSO presents classical, pops and family programs, as well as outdoor summer concerts and special events. Embracing its legacy as a statewide orchestra, the NJSO is the resident orchestra of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark and regularly performs at the State Theatre in New Brunswick, Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, Richardson Auditorium in Princeton, Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown and bergenPAC in Englewood. Partnerships with New Jersey arts organizations, universities and civic organizations remain a key element of the Orchestra's statewide identity.

In addition to its lauded artistic programming, the NJSO presents a suite of education and community engagement programs that promote meaningful, lifelong engagement with live music. Programs include the three-ensemble Greater Newark Youth Orchestras, school-time Concerts for Young People performances and multiple initiatives that provide and promote in-school instrumental instruction. The NJSO's Resources for Education and Community Harmony (REACH) chamber music program annually brings original programs—designed and performed by NJSO musicians—to a variety of settings, reaching as many as 17,000 people in nearly all of New Jersey's 21 counties.

For more information about the NJSO, visit www.njsymphony.org or email information@njsymphony.org. Tickets are available for purchase by phone 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) or on the Orchestra's website.

The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra's programs are made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, along with many other foundations, corporations and individual donors. United is the official airline of the NJSO.

PRESS CONTACT

National & NYC Press Representative:

Dan Dutcher, Dan Dutcher Public Relations | 917.566.8413 | dan@dandutcherpr.com

Regional Press Representative:

Victoria McCabe, NJSO Communications and External Affairs | 973.735.1715 | vmccabe@njsymphony.org

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