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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW CONCERT IN APRIL 2014: NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRESENTS BEETHOVEN'S SIXTH SYMPHONY & RACHMANINOFF'S THIRD PIANO CONCERTO



MARK LAYCOCK CONDUCTS; GLEB IVANOV PLAYS RACHMANINOFF ALL TICKETS ARE \$20

Sun, Apr 13, at NJPAC in Newark

NEWARK, NJ (February 4, 2013)—The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra announces a new concert featuring Beethoven's "Pastoral" Symphony and Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 on Sunday, April 13, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark. Mark Laycock, former NJSO Associate Conductor and frequent collaborator, leads the Orchestra in this one-day-only program, which opens with Mozart's *The Magic Flute* Overture. All tickets for this special concert are \$20.

"The pairing of these two masterpieces by Rachmaninoff and Beethoven brings together two mature and beautiful works filled with melodies that speak directly to the soul," Laycock says. "They complement each other not only in their different languages of expression but also in their tonal palettes and orchestration—the Rachmaninoff is dark and rich with heavier brush strokes, the Beethoven is refreshingly light, showing the profundity of simplicity in the best sense."

Of piano soloist Gleb Ivanov, winner of the 2005 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, the conductor says: "It's very exciting on those rare events when a young pianist comes forth from the great Russian traditions with all of the technique, facility and musical depth to convey the works of the master composers with authority and sensitivity."

TICKETS

All tickets are \$20 and are available for purchase online at <u>www.njsymphony.org</u> or by phone at 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476). Seats will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Through a special offer, patrons can pay \$50 for a package including tickets for an entire family. This package is available by phone only.

Full concert and ticket information is available at <u>www.njsymphony.org/pastoral</u>.

THE PROGRAM

Sunday, April 13, at 3 pm | NJPAC in Newark

Mark Laycock, conductor Gleb Ivanov, piano New Jersey Symphony Orchestra

MOZART	The Magic Flute Overture
RACHMANINOFF	Piano Concerto No. 3
BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral"

THE ARTISTS

Mark Laycock, conductor

Mark Laycock made his conducting debut at age 21 with the Philadelphia Orchestra, as winner of the Leopold Stokowski Memorial Conducting Competition. He has since returned to the Philadelphia Orchestra on many occasions and has conducted more than 2,000 works with a wide array of orchestras and opera companies worldwide.

Laycock was music director of the Princeton Symphony Orchestra for more than 20 years—transforming the ensemble from a small chamber orchestra into a critically acclaimed full symphony orchestra that garnered Citations of Excellence from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts—and associate conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra from 2000–03.

He appears regularly with the Wiener KammerOrchester, Orquesta Filarmónica de Bogotá, Orquesta Naçional de Costa Rica and Georges Enescu Philharmonic in Bucharest, among others.

His productions with Opera New Jersey—*Don Pasquale, The Barber of Seville* and *H.M.S. Pinafore*—received audience and critical acclaim. *The New York Times* praised a concert of Mendelssohn's rarely performed Symphony No. 2, "Lobgesang," with Opera New Jersey and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.

He has developed a reputation for stepping in to conduct without rehearsal, including performances of *Ein Heldenleben*, *Carmina Burana*, Brahms symphonies and a complete production of *Carmen*, all to great acclaim.

Laycock is also a published composer; the Wiener KammerOrchester will premiere his Flute Concerto in the 2015–16 season. Laycock is currently working on a new commission for orchestra, chorus and soprano, based on the Via Dolorosa.

Gleb Ivanov, piano

Pianist Gleb Ivanov—winner of the 2005 Young Concert Artists International Auditions—made his New York recital debut at Zankel Hall, inspiring *The New York Times* to write, "[Ivanov] is a cut above the usual, with a certain musical sensitivity and an appreciation of style to go with the thunder and lightning," counting Ivanov among "young super-virtuosos."

A sought-after concerto soloist, Ivanov has performed a wide range of repertoire with the symphony orchestras of Missouri, Johnstown, Eastern Connecticut, South Bend, Westmoreland, Southwest Florida, Peoria, Knoxville, Dearborn, Las Cruces, Grand Rapids, Springfield and Napa Valley; Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra and Colorado Springs Philharmonic.

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He has performed for the Louvre in Paris four times and has frequently appeared at Princeton University, the Paramount Theater in Vermont, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston, "Pianofest" in East Hampton, Bargemusic in New York and Fisher Island Concerts. Other career highlights include performances with the Taos Chamber Music Group and recitals at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Lied Center of Kansas and the Morgan Library and Museum in New York.

In recognition of impressive career achievement, Ivanov garnered Young Concert Artists' Michaels Award, leading to his critically acclaimed Lincoln Center recital debut at Alice Tully Hall. He received an award from the Jack Romann Special Artists Fund of YCA.

At a young age in Russia, Ivanov was a protégé of Mstislav Rostropovich; he appeared with the Nizhny Novgorod Philharmonic and Moscow State and Kremlin orchestras and at Moscow's Pushkin, Glinka and Scriabin museums. He won the 1994 and 1996 International "Classical Legacy" Competition and the prize for Best Performance of a Beethoven Sonata at the First Vladimir Horowitz Competition in Kiev.

Ivanov graduated from the Moscow Conservatory and earned his master's degree from the Manhattan School of Music. He has received Musical Studies Grants from the Bagby Foundation.

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 <u>www.njsymphony.org</u> or email <u>information@njsymphony.org</u>. 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

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