New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Press Contact:

XIAN ZHANG MUSIC DIRECTOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NJSO presents Debussy's La mer, Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune

Ingrid Fliter performs Mendelssohn's First Piano Concerto

Jun Märkl conducts

Program also features Britten's Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes

NJSO Accents include Prelude Performance, Classical Conversations, musician talkback, food drive

Mar 7 & 8 at NJPAC in Newark
Mar 9 at Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank
Mar 10 at State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

NEWARK, NJ—The New Jersey Symphony Orchestra presents Debussy's *La mer* and *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune* alongside Britten's Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*, March 7–10. Ingrid Fliter performs Mendelssohn's First Piano Concerto; Jun Märkl conducts.

Performances take place on March 7 at 1:30 pm and March 8 at 8 pm at NJPAC in Newark; March 9 at 8 pm at the Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank and March 10 at 3 pm at State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick.

Praised for her "grace and heartfelt sincerity" (*Gramophone*), Fliter has called Mendelssohn's First Piano Concerto "a celebration of life ... and an explosion of happiness" (Radio New Zealand).

NJSO Accent events include a Prelude Performance by performers from NJSO CHAMPS—the NJSO's El Sistema-inspired music instruction program—at 12:45 pm on March 7. Classical Conversations begin one hour before the March 8 and 9 performances. NJSO musicians give a behind-the-scenes talkback about the orchestral audition process after the March 10 concert.

The NJSO will collect non-perishable food items at all concerts as part of its annual food drive. More information on NJSO Accent events is available at njsymphony.org/accents.

Concert tickets start at \$20 and are available for purchase at njsymphony.org or 1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476).

The Program

Debussy Masterworks

Thu, Mar 7, at 1:30 pm | NJPAC in Newark
Fri, Mar 8, at 8 pm | NJPAC in Newark
Sat, Mar 9, at 8 pm | Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank
Sun, Mar 10, at 3 pm | State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Jun Märkl, conductor Ingrid Fliter, piano New Jersey Symphony Orchestra DEBUSSY *Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune*MENDELSSOHN Piano Concerto No. 1
BRITTEN Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes*DEBUSSY *La mer*

NJSO ACCENTS

NJSO Food Drive

Non-perishable food items will be accepted for donation to local food banks. njsymphony.org/fooddrive

Prelude Performance – Thu, Mar 7, at 12:45 pm

Listeners will enjoy the youthful exuberance of performers from NJSO CHAMPS, a Newark-based after-school string program.

Classical Conversation – Fri, Mar 8, at 7 pm and Sat, Mar 9, at 7 pm

Enjoy a lively Classical Conversation before the performance. Learn more about the music from NJSO musicians, guest artists and other engaging insiders.

Talkback - Sun, Mar 10, after the concert

NJSO Behind the Scenes: Don't miss a panel of NJSO musicians describe the often grueling, but genuinely fascinating audition process.

Additional concert information and artist bios are available at njsymphony.org/debussy.

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.

Music Director Xian Zhang—a "dynamic podium presence" *The New York Times* has praised for her "technical abilities, musicianship and maturity"—continues her acclaimed leadership of the NJSO. The Orchestra 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 State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick, Count Basie Center for the Arts 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 school-time Concerts for Young People; NJSO Youth Orchestras family of student ensembles, led by José Luis Domínguez; and El Sistema-inspired NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project). NJSO musicians annually perform original chamber music programs at community events in a variety of settings statewide through the NJSO Community Partners program.

For more information about the NJSO, visit <u>njsymphony.org</u> or email <u>information@njsymphony.org</u>. Tickets are available for purchase by phone at 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.

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