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Orchestra's third week at Mann Center features "Bugs Bunny on Broadway" and "Tchaikovsky with Fireworks"

Bugs Bunny on Broadway combines classical music and classic cartoons

All-Tchaikovsky program closes with fireworks

Cristina Ortiz plays Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto

Pianist Peter Serkin plays Brahms, and Gerard Schwarz conducts Beethoven

(Philadelphia, July 5, 2006) – **The Philadelphia Orchestra** continues its summer series at **The Mann Center for the Performing Arts** in Fairmount Park with concerts on **July 11, 12, 13, and 14**. Week three features Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2, preformed by **Cristina Ortiz**, and Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique* led by **Rossen Milanov** (July 11); an **all-Tchaikovsky program** concluding with fireworks and conducted by young conductor **Gregory Vajda** (July 12); a concert of Brahms (featuring pianist **Peter Serkin**) and Beethoven, led by **Gerard Schwarz** (July 13); and ***Bugs Bunny on Broadway***, a special evening of animation and live music (July 14). All concerts begin at 8:00 p.m. Tickets for pavilion and lawn seating are available by calling Ticket Philadelphia at 215.893.1999 or by visiting www.philorch.org.

Brazilian pianist Cristina Ortiz performs Rachmaninoff's passionate and virtuosic Piano Concerto No. 2, on **Tuesday, July 11**. Ms. Ortiz first garnered world-wide attention in 1969 when she became the first (and until 2001 the only) female gold medalist in the history of the renowned Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. Today she is known for her colorful performances and her fervent championship of Brazilian music. **Rossen Milanov** leads the concert which also features Berlioz's imaginative *Symphonie fantastique*.

An all-Tchaikovsky program on **Wednesday, July 12**, closes with the famous *1812 Overture* and a brilliant fireworks display. The concert features two rising young stars of classical music: Hungarian conductor Gregory Vajda and Korean pianist Joyce Yang. **Gregory Vajda** was assistant conductor of

the Milwaukee Symphony for three years, and became resident conductor of the Oregon Symphony in 2005. Among his past appearances are performances with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra and at Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival. **Joyce Yang** made her Philadelphia Orchestra debut at age 12 as a winner of the Orchestra's Greenfield Competition. Now 20 years old, she debuts this year with some of America's top orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, and the National Symphony. Ms. Yang won the silver medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2005, and is currently a student at the Juilliard School.

On **Thursday, July 13**, **Gerard Schwarz** leads Beethoven's majestic Seventh Symphony, and American pianist **Peter Serkin** joins the Orchestra for Brahms's expansive and brilliant Second Piano Concerto. Peter Serkin has been called "one of the supreme musicians of our time" by *New York Magazine* and consistently receives praise for his distinctive musical interpretations. He studied at Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music with his father, renowned pianist Rudolph Serkin, among other teachers. He made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut as a teenager 45 years ago, performing Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 10, K. 365, for two pianos, with his father under Eugene Ormandy.

The week closes on **Friday, July 14**, with ***Bugs Bunny on Broadway***, a revue of the best of Warner Bros.' classic animated cartoons. Emmy-Award-winning conductor **George Daugherty** leads the Orchestra in the famous orchestral musical scores synchronized with the cartoons, which will be projected on a large screen above the Orchestra. *Bugs Bunny on Broadway*, created by Mr. Daugherty in 1990, stars Bugs Bunny and features Elmer Fudd, Daffy Duck, Wile E. Coyote, Road Runner, Porky Pig, and others in a selection of classic cartoons including *A Corny Concerto*, *The High Note*, and *Long-Haired Hare*. Cartoons such as *What's Opera, Doc?* and *The Rabbit of Seville* are exceptional examples of a unique American art form – the cartoon short – and were almost entirely based on classical music.

Rossen Milanov

Rossen Milanov was named artistic director of The Philadelphia Orchestra at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts in March 2006. As associate conductor of The Philadelphia Orchestra, he leads subscription, family, educational, and holiday concerts. Mr. Milanov also serves as music director of both the Haddonfield Symphony in New Jersey and the New Symphony Orchestra in his native city of Sofia, Bulgaria. In 2003 he was named chief conductor of the Bulgarian National Radio Symphony Orchestra. In 2006-07, he will conduct the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, the Residentie Orchestra of the Hague in the Netherlands, the Seoul Philharmonic, the Lucerne Symphony, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Auckland Philharmonic, the Virginia Symphony Orchestra, and the Honolulu Symphony.

Tickets and Transportation

Single tickets for the 2006 Summer Concert Series with The Philadelphia Orchestra at the Mann Center are available for purchase in-person, by telephone, and via the internet. Undercover pavilion seats range from \$20 to \$70 and lawn tickets are \$10 per ticket. Single tickets can be purchased by telephone

by calling Ticket Philadelphia (215.893.1999), in-person at the Kimmel Center Box Office (Broad and Spruce Streets in Philadelphia) or the Mann Center Ticket Office (52nd Street and Parkside Avenue in Fairmount Park), or through the Orchestra's website at www.philorch.org/mann. **Subscriptions** can be purchased by calling 215.893.1955 or visiting www.philorch.org/mann. Subscription prices are \$78 to \$279 for a four-concert series and \$180 to \$768 for a 12-concert series. In celebration of the Mann Center's 30th anniversary, **\$30-dollar lawn passes**, which provide access to five Philadelphia Orchestra concerts, are also available. Call 215.893.1999 or visit www.philorch.org/mann.

Public transportation is available to the Mann Center for all concerts. **SEPTA's** regular daily bus routes 38, 40, and 43 deliver passengers within walking distance of the Mann Center. The stop for routes 40 and 43 is located at 49th Street and Parkside Avenue. The stop for route 38 is located at the intersection of Belmont Avenue and Concourse Drive. For more information on SEPTA's routes and rates, call 215.580.7800 or visit their website at www.septa.com.

Bus service is also available through the Mann Center's **Center City Bus Loop**. The fare is \$3.50 each way. For more information on routes and rates, call the Mann Center at 215.546.7900, ext. 132, or visit online at www.manncenter.org.

The Philadelphia Orchestra at Fairmount Park and The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

Summer 2006 marks the 30th anniversary of The Mann Center for the Performing Arts and brings extensive improvements to the Mann Center. The Philadelphia Orchestra began performing concerts in Fairmount Park at the Robin Hood Dell in 1930 in a band shell on the east side of the Schuylkill, and symphonic concerts continued there into the 1970s. The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, as it is now known, opened on the west side of the Schuylkill as the Robin Hood Dell West in 1976 and became the home of The Philadelphia Orchestra's summer series. In 1978 it was renamed in honor of longtime Philadelphia resident Fredric R. Mann (1903-1987), a businessman whose advocacy of summer concerts in Fairmount Park extended back for more than half a century. The modern pavilion seats 4,700 under cover, with lawn seating for 2,500. The park's more than 5,000 acres extend along both banks of the Schuylkill River northeast from downtown Philadelphia.

Founded in 1900, The Philadelphia Orchestra has distinguished itself as one of the leading orchestras in the world through a century of acclaimed performances, historic international tours, best-selling recordings, and its unprecedented record of innovation in recording technologies and outreach. With only six music directors piloting The Philadelphia Orchestra through its first century, the ensemble has maintained an unparalleled cohesiveness and unity in artistic leadership.

This rich tradition is carried on by Christoph Eschenbach, who became the Orchestra's seventh music director in September 2003. His acclaimed first season in Philadelphia saw the launch of the Orchestra's first-ever multi-year cycle of Mahler's complete symphonies and ended with a tour of the music capitals of Europe. The 2004-05 season celebrated the works of the great masters, and included a four-week festival entitled Late Great Works featuring late works by Mozart, Strauss, Mahler, Tchaikovsky, Wagner, and Berio. The Orchestra's 2005-06 season featured all nine Beethoven

symphonies, conducted by Mr. Eschenbach and paired with music of our time, including several world premieres. In August and September 2006, Mr. Eschenbach leads the Orchestra on a tour of European festivals.

The Philadelphia Orchestra annually touches the lives of more than one million music lovers worldwide through its performances (more than 300 concerts and other presentations each year), publications, recordings, and broadcasts. A winter subscription season is presented in Philadelphia each year from September to May, including expanded education and community partnership programs. The Orchestra also appears annually at New York's Carnegie Hall. Its schedule each summer includes an outdoor season in Philadelphia with concerts in local neighborhoods and at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts, followed by a three-week residency each August at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center in upstate New York. The Orchestra recently announced a three-year agreement for an annual week-long summer residency at the Bravo! Vail Valley Music Festival beginning in July 2007.

The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

July 11 at 8:00 p.m. – Tuesday evening

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Rossen Milanov, *conductor*

Cristina Ortiz, *piano*

Rachmaninoff
Berlioz

Piano Concerto No. 2
Symphonie fantastique

Encore Delights. Following the concert, gather in the new PECO Plaza for conversation and coffee with special guest Rossen Milanov, artistic director of The Philadelphia Orchestra at the Mann Center.

Tickets: \$20-\$70 (general admission lawn tickets: \$10), 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org/mann

TCHAIKOVSKY WITH FIREWORKS!

The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

July 12 at 8:00 p.m. – Wednesday evening

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Gregory Vajda, *conductor* – PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Joyce Yang, *piano*

Tchaikovsky
Tchaikovsky
Tchaikovsky
Tchaikovsky

Hamlet Overture
Piano Concerto No. 1
Romeo and Juliet
1812 Overture

Fireworks follow the performance.

Tickets: \$20-\$70 (general admission lawn tickets: \$10), 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org/mann

The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

July 13 at 8:00 p.m. – Thursday evening

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Gerard Schwarz, *conductor*

Peter Serkin, *piano*

Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2
Beethoven Symphony No. 7

Pre-concert lecture. Meet in the new Event Tent at the top of the hill for a pre-concert discussion and exploration of “Beethoven, the Revolutionary.”

Tickets: \$20-\$70 (general admission lawn tickets: \$10), 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org/mann

Warner Bros. Entertainment Presents

BUGS BUNNY ON BROADWAY

The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

July 14 at 8:00 p.m. – Friday evening

The Philadelphia Orchestra

George Daugherty, *conductor*

Bugs Bunny on Broadway – a revue of the best of Warner Bros.’ classic animated cartoons. The Philadelphia Orchestra will perform the famous orchestral musical scores synchronized with the cartoons, which will be projected on a large screen above the Orchestra. (TM & © Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.)

Picnic Competition. Picnic gourmets take center stage on the Mann Center’s lawn. The Women’s Guild spearheads the revival of this favorite Mann pastime with a competition prior to the concert. Check www.manncenter.org for more details about categories, prizes, and how to enter.

Tickets: \$20-\$70 (general admission lawn tickets: \$10), 215.893.1999 or www.philorch.org/mann

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