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## Famed violinist Itzhak Perlman joins The Philadelphia Orchestra to open newly renovated Mann Center's 30th anniversary season

*June 20 Opening Night begins with ribbon cutting,  
concludes with spectacular fireworks display*

*First week of the Orchestra's series also features Philadelphia favorites  
pianist Emanuel Ax and violinist Hilary Hahn*

(Philadelphia, June 12, 2006) – The Philadelphia Orchestra's 2006 summer series at **The Mann Center for the Performing Arts** opens on **Tuesday, June 20, 2006**, with a ribbon cutting ceremony, a performance by world-famous violinist **Itzhak Perlman**, and a spectacular fireworks display. In celebration of the newly renovated Mann Center's 30th anniversary season, the first week of the series also features longtime Philadelphia favorites pianist **Emanuel Ax** (June 21) and violinist **Hilary Hahn** (June 22). 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/mann](http://www.philorch.org/mann).

Changes are underway at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts – both onstage and off – in time for its 30th anniversary season. **Rossen Milanov**, the Orchestra's associate conductor and a familiar face at the Mann Center over the last few years, was recently named artistic director of The Philadelphia Orchestra's series there. He leads six of the Orchestra's 15 concerts at the Mann this summer. The Mann Center facility and grounds are undergoing major renovations. A new welcome center, improved roadways, additional parking lots, and a handicapped-accessible walkway to the top of the hill are among the improvements. Extra events have also been added, including **Encore Delights** – a series of post-concert events with music, coffee, and more – and **pre-concert lectures and performances** (please see concert listings for details). Visit [www.manncenter.org](http://www.manncenter.org) for more information on what is new at the Mann Center this summer.

Opening Night on **Tuesday, June 20, 2006**, kicks off with a ribbon cutting ceremony and pre-concert entertainment by Global Drummers, Stiltwalkers, and the Triumph Trumpets. The Philadelphia Orchestra is joined by renowned virtuoso violinist **Itzhak Perlman** performing Beethoven's

Violin Concerto. The concert marks Mr. Perlman's 20th season with The Philadelphia Orchestra at the Mann Center. Rossen Milanov conducts the program, which also includes Dvorák's *Carnival Overture* and Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*. The evening concludes with a spectacular fireworks display.

As a young artist, Itzhak Perlman benefited from the patronage of Fredric R. Mann (1903-1987), the longtime Philadelphia resident and businessman for whom the Mann Center was named. Mr. Mann was a strong advocate of summer concerts in Fairmount Park and was closely involved with the America-Israel Cultural Foundation, which brought many young Israeli artists to America. Mr. Perlman was one of those artists who benefited from Mann's commitment to promoting and supporting promising young artists.

Itzhak Perlman has appeared with every major orchestra and in recitals and festivals around the world. His artistry has reached millions of TV viewers through such shows as *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Sesame Street*, the *Tonight* show, *Live from Lincoln Center* broadcasts, and PBS specials. He can also be heard as the violin soloist on the soundtracks of Rob Marshall's *Memoirs of a Geisha* (music by John Williams), Zhang Yimou's *Hero* (music by Tan Dun), and Steven Spielberg's *Schindler's List* (also by John Williams). Mr. Perlman's recordings have garnered 15 Grammy awards, and his many honors include a Medal of Liberty from President Reagan, a National Medal of Arts from President Clinton, and a Kennedy Center Honor.

On **Wednesday, June 21, 2006**, the audience will have the opportunity to hear pianist **Emanuel Ax** at the Mann Center for the first time since 2000, performing Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto, under the baton of Peter Oundjian. The concert also features Mozart's Overture to *Don Giovanni* and Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. Emanuel Ax, renowned for his virtuosity, is in demand all over the world, both in recital and with orchestras. He made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut at the Robin Hood Dell in Fairmount Park in 1975 and since that time has made numerous appearances with the Orchestra on its winter subscription series and at the Mann Center. Mr. Ax has been an exclusive Sony Classical recording artist since 1987 and is the recipient of several Grammy awards.

Named "America's Best" young classical musician by *Time* magazine in 2001, 26-year-old violinist **Hilary Hahn** plays Mendelssohn's graceful Violin Concerto on **Wednesday, June 22, 2006**. The program, conducted by Rossen Milanov, also features music from Disney's classic film *Fantasia* (whose soundtrack was performed by The Philadelphia Orchestra): Dukas's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, excerpts from Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 ("Pastoral"). Hilary Hahn was a soloist on the Oscar-nominated soundtrack to M. Night Shyamalan's film *The Village* and has recorded for Sony and Deutsche Grammophon. Admitted to Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music in 1990 at the age of 10, Ms. Hahn made her major orchestra debut a year-and-a-half later with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. She made her Philadelphia Orchestra debut in 1993 and her Carnegie Hall debut with The Philadelphia Orchestra in 1996. Ms. Hahn last performed with the Orchestra at the Mann Center in 1998.

## **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. Tickets for the concert with Yo-Yo Ma on June 28 are \$30-\$94 (lawn seats \$10). 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](http://www.philorch.org/mann). **Subscriptions** can be purchased by calling 215.893.1955 or visiting [www.philorch.org/mann](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.

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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.

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OPENING NIGHT OF THE 2006 PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SERIES AT THE MANN CENTER

**June 20** at 8:00 p.m. – Tuesday evening – The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Rossen Milanov**, *conductor*  
**Itzhak Perlman**, *violin*

Dvorák	<i>Carnival Overture</i>
Beethoven	Violin Concerto
Rachmaninoff	Symphonic Dances

*Pre-concert activities:* The Opening Night Celebration includes a ribbon cutting celebrating the re-opening of the renovated Mann with entertainment by Global Drummers, Stiltwalkers, and the Triumph Trumpets. *Fireworks follow the performance.*

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

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**June 21** at 8:00 p.m. – Wednesday evening – The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Peter Oundjian**, *conductor*  
**Emanuel Ax**, *piano*

Mozart	Overture to <i>Don Giovanni</i>
Beethoven	Piano Concerto No. 5 (“Emperor”)
Musorgsky	<i>Pictures at an Exhibition</i>

*Pre-concert performance:* Pre-concert performance in PECO Plaza.  
*Encore Delights:* Following the concert, gather in the new PECO Plaza for conversation and coffee.

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

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**June 22** at 8:00 p.m. – Thursday evening – The Mann Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Rossen Milanov**, *conductor*  
**Hilary Hahn**, *violin*

Dukas	<i>The Sorcerer's Apprentice</i>
Tchaikovsky	Excerpts from <i>The Nutcracker</i>
Mendelssohn	Violin Concerto
Beethoven	Symphony No. 6 (“Pastoral”)

*Pre-concert performance:* Pre-concert performance in the new PECO Plaza  
*Picnic competition:* Picnic gourmets take center stage on the Mann Center's lawn. The Mann Center's Women's Guild spearheads the revival of this favorite Mann pastime with a competition prior to the concert. Check [www.manncenter.org](http://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](http://www.philorch.org/mann)

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*UBS, a global financial services leader, is the proud sponsor of The Philadelphia Orchestra's 2005-06 season.*

*Lexus is the exclusive automotive sponsor of The Philadelphia Orchestra.*

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