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For immediate release

**Alan Gilbert launches fourth season at NY Phil in September**

Contact Glenn Petry (212) 625-2038  
gpetry@21cmediagroup.com

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## **Alan Gilbert Begins Fourth Season as Music Director of New York Philharmonic; Returns to Podiums of Other Great Orchestras, Debuts with Berlin Staatskapelle and Leipzig Gewandhaus**

Following the phenomenal success of *Philharmonic 360*, perhaps his “boldest venture to date” (*The New Yorker*), **Alan Gilbert** embarks on his fourth season as Music Director of the **New York Philharmonic**. On September 19 he leads the first of four “imaginatively conceived” (*The New York Times*) subscription concerts presenting Norwegian pianist **Leif Ove Andsnes** as soloist in Beethoven’s Third Piano Concerto and Kurtág’s *...quasi una fantasia...*, on a program that concludes with Stravinsky’s *The Rite of Spring*, before presenting a special Opening Gala with violinist **Itzhak Perlman** eight days later. These five concerts launch another wide-ranging and gripping season for Gilbert and the orchestra – one that includes **world, U.S., and New York premieres**; creative programming initiatives like **CONTACT!**, **The Nielsen Project**, **The Bach Variations: A Philharmonic Festival**, and the personal **June Journey: Gilbert’s Playlist**, EUROPE / SPRING 2013, a nine-city **tour of Central Europe and Turkey**; a **residency in Ann Arbor, MI**; and collaborations with **Composer-in-Residence Christopher Rouse**, **Artist-in-Residence Emanuel Ax**, soprano **Renée Fleming**, violinists **Gil Shaham** and **Joshua Bell**, jazz composer/trumpeter **Wynton Marsalis** and the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra**, and more. To close the season, Gilbert and the orchestra reunite with hit director/designer **Doug Fitch**, producer **Edouard Getaz**, and **Giants Are Small** for a highly innovative production – complete with video projection, puppets, and New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Sara Mearns – of Stravinsky’s *Petrushka* and *The Fairy’s Kiss*. Among other highlights of the conductor’s upcoming season are **debuts** with the **Berlin Staatskapelle** and Leipzig’s **Gewandhaus Orchestra**, as well as return engagements with Munich’s **Bayerische Rundfunk Symphonieorchester**, the **NDR Hamburg Symphony**, Amsterdam’s **Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra**, the **Boston Symphony**, and – closer to home – **The Juilliard School**, where he leads staged performances of **Mozart’s *Così fan tutte***.

Gilbert’s creative programming recently won praise in *The New York Times*, which stated: “Those who think classical music needs some shaking up routinely challenge music directors at major orchestras to think outside the box. That is precisely what Alan Gilbert did.” The appointment of American composer **Christopher Rouse**, who starts a two-year tenure as the Philharmonic’s second **Marie-Josée Kravis Composer-in-Residence**, attests to the conductor’s inspired commitment to new music, and homegrown new music at that. Gilbert describes Rouse as “one of the most important composers working today,” and considers the position of composer-in-residence “a really crucial one.” Fittingly, after leading the **world premiere** of Rouse’s *Prospero’s Rooms*, a New York Philharmonic commission, in New York – alongside music by Ives and Bernstein, two other iconic Americans (April 17-20) – Gilbert is placing it prominently in his tour programs in the major concert halls of Germany, Austria,

Switzerland, and Turkey (May 2-17). Earlier in the season, Gilbert will conduct performances of Rouse's *Phantasmata* (Feb 21-22) and *Seeing* for Piano and Orchestra. This latter work was written for pianist **Emanuel Ax**, who – as incoming **Artist-in-Residence** and honorary member of the Philharmonic – undertakes the solo role (June 20-22).

For the Philharmonic's upcoming Carnegie Hall appearance, Gilbert serves up a second **world premiere**, when soprano **Renée Fleming** – “entrancing” (*The New York Times*) in their most recent collaboration – rejoins the orchestra for the first performance of a song cycle by prominent Swedish composer **Anders Hillborg** (April 26). Like *Symphony* (2012) by Pulitzer Prize-winner **Steven Stucky**, whose **New York premiere** Gilbert leads in late fall (Nov 29-Dec 1), the new song cycle is a Philharmonic co-commission. Hillborg's music is in the spotlight once again when Gilbert directs a new installment of **CONTACT!**, the New York Philharmonic's new-music series, wherein the **New York premiere** of the Swedish Grammy-winner's *Vaporized Tivoli* shares a program with three **U.S. premieres**: Yann Robin's *Backdraft*, a New York Philharmonic co-commission; Poul Ruders's Oboe Concerto, featuring Philharmonic Principal Oboe Liang Wang; and Unsuk Chin's *Gougolon* (April 5-6).

One of Gilbert's most creative plans for the Philharmonic's coming season is a new installment of **The Nielsen Project**, whereby he resumes his championship of the Danish composer's music with performances of the Flute and Violin Concertos, to be recorded for future release on Denmark's **Dacapo** label (Oct 10-13). On September 25, Dacapo will issue the first recording in the series, a pairing of Nielsen's Second (“The Four Temperaments”) and Third (“Sinfonia espansiva”) Symphonies (the new recording is available now as a “Mastered for iTunes” title). *The New York Times* wrote enthusiastically about the live performances that were the basis for this debut release: “Bringing renewed attention to Nielsen may seem a surprising priority for a New York-born conductor. But music directors should have personal passions, and it is heartening to see Mr. Gilbert turning one of his into a major statement. ... Mr. Gilbert drew colorful, glittering and full-bodied playing from the musicians.” The complete set of Nielsen's symphonies – the first time the New York Philharmonic has recorded all six – and the three concertos will be released on four individual CDs, and in 2015 will be released in a boxed set commemorating the 150th anniversary of Carl Nielsen's birth.

As spring approaches, the New York Philharmonic's **The Bach Variations: A Philharmonic Festival** arrives, reclaiming the peerless Baroque master's music for the symphony hall as Gilbert puts his own stamp on the monumental **Mass in B minor** (March 13-16). In June the conductor offers **June Journey: Gilbert's Playlist**, a personal and imaginative series showcasing many of the themes running through his tenure (May 30-June 22), before drawing the Philharmonic's season to a close with the hotly anticipated **all-Stravinsky event** (June 27-29). This collaboration with **Doug Fitch**, **Edouard Getaz**, and **Giants Are Small** reunites the team behind the production of Ligeti's *Le Grande Macabre* – “an instant Philharmonic milestone” (*The New York Times*) – and the equally celebrated realization of Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* (hailed by *The Washington Post* as “another victory”).

For all the ingenuity of these special projects, Gilbert's commitment to the mainstays of the orchestral canon remains paramount. His expertise in repertory staples is widely acknowledged, with *The New York Times* praising “the Philharmonic that Mr. Gilbert has worked toward since his start: a brilliant organization in which individual virtuosity and ensemble unanimity are a given, resulting in music enlivened without need for excess or distortion.” The symphonies that predominate in Gilbert's 2012-13 Philharmonic season – at home in New York, in Ann Arbor,

and on the EUROPE / SPRING 2013 tour – represent the development of the form from its Classical roots to the full-flowering of Romanticism: **Mozart's** 36th, **Brahms's** Beethovenian First, **Tchaikovsky's** "Pathétique," and **Bruckner's** Third, dubbed his "Wagner Symphony." The new season's programming also offers such perennial favorites as Respighi's *The Fountains of Rome*, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, and Musorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Away from the Philharmonic, Gilbert explores a range of repertory choices – from Stravinsky and Hindemith with Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw to Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and Bartók's sole opera, *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*, in his debut with the Berlin Staatskapelle.

Gilbert, who is also Director of Conducting and Orchestral Studies at Juilliard, will also lead three performances of Mozart's *Così fan tutte* in a fully-staged production co-presented by Juilliard and The Metropolitan Opera and directed by Stephen Wadsworth. This new production features the Juilliard Orchestra and a cast drawn from the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and the Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts at Juilliard.

A detailed list of the conductor's 2012-13 engagements follows, and additional information may be found at his website: [www.alangilbert.com](http://www.alangilbert.com).

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### **Alan Gilbert: engagements, 2012-13**

#### **Sept 19, 20, 21 & 22; New York, NY**

##### **New York Philharmonic**

Kurtág: ...*quasi una fantasia*... (with Leif Ove Andsnes)  
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 3 (with Leif Ove Andsnes)  
Stravinsky: *The Rite of Spring*

#### **Sept 27; New York, NY**

##### **New York Philharmonic**

Respighi: *The Fountains of Rome*  
Selections for Violin and Orchestra (with Itzhak Perlman):  
Rimsky-Korsakov: Fantasy on Russian Themes  
Massenet: *Méditation* from *Thaïs*  
Tchaikovsky/arr. Glazunov: Scherzo from *Souvenir d'un lieu cher*  
John Williams: Theme from *Schindler's List*  
Sarasate: Introduction and Tarantella  
Respighi: *The Pines of Rome*

#### **Sept 28, 29 & Oct 2; New York, NY**

##### **New York Philharmonic**

Musorgsky: *Night on Bald Mountain*  
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 3 (with Daniil Trifonov)  
Rimsky-Korsakov: *Scheherazade*

#### **Sept 29; New York, NY**

##### **New York Philharmonic**

##### **Saturday Matinee Concert**

Brahms: Clarinet Quintet  
Rimsky-Korsakov: *Scheherazade*

**Oct 4, 5 & 6; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

J.S. Bach: Keyboard Concerto in D minor (with Emanuel Ax)

Schoenberg: Piano Concerto (with Emanuel Ax)

Mozart: Symphony No. 36

**Oct 10, 11, 12 & 13; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

Nielsen: Flute Concerto (with Robert Langevin)

Nielsen: Violin Concerto (with Nikolaj Znaider)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 2

**Oct 17, 18 & 19; Amsterdam, Netherlands (Concertgebouw)**

**Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra**

Wassenaer: Concerto armonico No. 2 in B-flat

Stravinsky: *Pulcinella* Suite

R. Strauss: Oboe Concerto (with Lucas Macias Navarro)

Hindemith: *Symphonic Metamorphoses*

**Nov 5; Berlin, Germany (Philharmonie)**

**Berlin Staatskapelle (debut)**

Beethoven: Symphony No. 5

Bartók: *Duke Bluebeard's Castle*

**Nov 6; Berlin, Germany (Konzerthaus)**

**Berlin Staatskapelle**

Beethoven: Symphony No. 5

Bartók: *Bluebeard's Castle*

**Nov 14, 17 & 19; New York, NY**

**Juilliard Orchestra**

Mozart: *Così fan tutte* (Cast drawn from the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and the Ellen and James S. Marcus Institute for Vocal Arts at Juilliard)

**Nov 29, 30, & Dec 1; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

New York, NY

Stucky: *Symphony* (New York premiere, Philharmonic co-commission)

Barber: Violin Concerto (with Gil Shaham)

Rachmaninoff: *Symphonic Dances*

**Dec 6 & 9; Hamburg, Germany (Laeiszhalle Musikhalle)**

**NDR Hamburg Symphony**

Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No. 1 (with Frank Peter Zimmermann)

Tchaikovsky: *The Nutcracker*, Act II

**Dec 7; Lübeck, Germany (Musik und Kongresshalle)**

**NDR Hamburg Symphony**

Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No. 1 (with Frank Peter Zimmermann)

Tchaikovsky: *The Nutcracker*, Act II

**Jan 10, 11, 12 & 15, 2013; Boston, MA (Symphony Hall)**

**Boston Symphony**

Dutilleux: *Métaboles* for Orchestra

Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto in D, Op. 35 (with Lisa Batiashvili)

Stravinsky: Symphony in Three Movements

Ravel: *La Valse*

**Jan 31 & Feb 1; Hamburg, Germany (Laeiszhalle Musikhalle)**

**NDR Hamburg Symphony**

Brahms: Double Concerto (with Stefan Wagner, violin; Andreas Grünkorn, cello)

Bruckner: Symphony No. 9

**Feb 7 & 8; Leipzig, Germany (Grosser Saal, Gewandhaus)**

**Gewandhaus Orchestra (debut)**

Prokofiev: Symphony No. 1 in D, Op. 25

Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 1 in D, Op. 19 (with Lisa Batiashvili)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Op. 36

**Feb 14, 15 & 16; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 2 (with Rudolf Buchbinder)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"

**Feb 21 & 22; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

Rouse: *Phantasmata*

Bloch: *Schelomo* (with Jan Vogler, cello)

Brahms: Symphony No. 1

**Feb 23; Ann Arbor, MI (Hill Auditorium)**

**New York Philharmonic**

Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*

Mozart: Symphony No. 36

Brahms: Symphony No. 1

**Feb 24; Ann Arbor, MI (Hill Auditorium)**

**New York Philharmonic**

Musorgsky: *Night on Bald Mountain*

Bloch: *Schelomo* (with Jan Vogler, cello)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"

**March 13, 14, 15 & 16; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

***The Bach Variations: A Philharmonic Festival***

J.S. Bach: Mass in B minor (Dorothea Röschmann, soprano; Anne Sofie von Otter, mezzo-soprano;  
Steve Davislim, tenor; Eric Owens, bass-baritone; New York Choral Artists)

**April 5; New York, NY (The Metropolitan Museum of Art)**

**New York Philharmonic**

***CONTACT! No. 2***

Chin: *Gougalon* (U.S. premiere)

Ruders: Oboe Concerto (U.S. premiere, with Liang Wang)

Hillborg: *Vaporized Tivoli* (NY premiere)

Robin: *Backdraft* (U.S. premiere)

**April 6; New York, NY (Symphony Space)**

**New York Philharmonic**

**CONTACT! No. 2**

Chin: *Gougalon* (U.S. premiere)

Ruders: Oboe Concerto (U.S. premiere, with Liang Wang)

Hillborg: *Vaporized Tivoli* (NY premiere)

Robin: *Backdraft* (U.S. premiere)

**April 11 & 12; Munich, Germany (Herkulesaal der Residenz)**

**Bayerische Rundfunk Symphonieorchester**

Brahms: Serenade No. 1, Op. 11

Britten: *Les Illuminations*, Op. 18 (with Anna Prohaska, soprano)

Britten: *A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, Op. 34

**April 17, 18, 19 & 20; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

Rouse: *Prospero's Rooms* (world premiere)

Bernstein: Serenade (after Plato's "Symposium") (with Joshua Bell)

Ives: Symphony No. 4

**April 24, 25 & 27; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 25 (with Emanuel Ax)

Bruckner: Symphony No. 3

**April 26; New York, NY (Carnegie Hall)**

**New York Philharmonic**

Respighi: *The Fountains of Rome*

Hillborg: Song cycle (world premiere, Philharmonic co-commission, with Renée Fleming)

Musorgsky/Ravel: *Pictures at an Exhibition*

**May 2-17**

European Tour with the New York Philharmonic

Cities/programs TBA

**May 27; New York, NY (The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine)**

**New York Philharmonic**

**Free Annual Memorial Day Concert**

Bruckner: Symphony No. 3

**May 30; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

**Rush Hour Concert Program No. 3**

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis (music director/trumpet)

Marsalis: *Swing Symphony* (Symphony No. 3)

**May 31 & June 1; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

**June Journey: Gilbert's Playlist**

**The Jazz Effect**

Stravinsky: *Ragtime* for 11 Instruments (conducted by Case Scaglione)

Shostakovich: *Tahiti Trot* (conducted by Case Scaglione)

Copland: Clarinet Concerto (with Mark Nuccio)

Marsalis: *Swing Symphony* (Symphony No. 3)



**June 6, 8 & 11; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

***June Journey: Gilbert's Playlist***

Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 1 (Lisa Batiashvili)

Dallapiccola: *Il Prigioniero* (cast to include Gerald Finley, bass-baritone; Patricia Racette, soprano; Peter Hoare, tenor; The Collegiate Chorale)

**June 7; Greenvale, NY (Tilles Center, C.W. Post Campus)**

**New York Philharmonic**

Musorgsky: Prelude to *Khovanshchina*

Prokofiev: Violin Concerto No. 1 (with Lisa Batiashvili)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"

**June 8; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

**Saturday Matinee Concert**

Brahms: String Quintet in G major (with Gilbert on violin)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"

**June 20, 21 & 22; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

***June Journey: Gilbert's Playlist***

Rouse: *Seeing* for Piano and Orchestra (with Emanuel Ax)

Wagner/arr. Alan Gilbert, after Erich Leinsdorf: *A Ring Journey*

**June 27, 28 & 29; New York, NY**

**New York Philharmonic**

***June Journey: Gilbert's Playlist***

(with Sara Mearns, dancer; a production by Giants Are Small; Doug Fitch, director/designer; Edouard Getaz, producer; Karole Armitage, choreographer) Stravinsky: *The Fairy's Kiss*

Stravinsky: *Petrushka*

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