

PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES 2009-2010 SEASON

Season Programming Highlights Include:

- *The Beethoven Project*

This three-season project includes all of Beethoven's Symphonies and Concertos, as well as some overtures, arias and other less-frequently performed works for orchestra. Music Director Manfred Honeck conducts all of the major works during the Project, which begins, and ends in 2012, with the Ninth Symphony.

Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra tour to Europe together for the first time, performing at the Beethoven Festival in Bonn, Germany, as well as in Essen, Germany, and at the renowned Lucerne Festival in Switzerland in September; they also perform in New York's Carnegie Hall in February.

- *Composer of the Year*

Neo-Romantic composer Richard Danielpour, whose "soothing eclecticism is like an attentive host seeing to his guests' every need" (*The New York Times*), is celebrated as the PSO's Composer of the Year. The PSO's focus on Danielpour's music includes four orchestral works featured in subscription programs, including the world premiere of a co-commissioned work, which is a setting of poems by Maya Angelou.

- *Inspired by Nature*

Composers have long been inspired to depict our natural surroundings in music. Musical representation of the natural world from across the eras of classical music can be found throughout this and two subsequent seasons, with special emphasis on Pittsburgh's unique place in the cause of post-industrial environmental recovery in the scope of the worldwide effort.

- The 2009-2010 season sees the continuation of the multi-year cycle of Mahler's Symphonies, begun in 2008-2009. Featured this year are the Third and Fourth symphonies, and the PSO's partnership with scholar Dr. Stephen Hefling and the International Gustav Mahler Society continues, as well.
- Season features three PSO-commissioned works, and 10 pieces that have never before been performed by the Orchestra.
- Manfred Honeck leads a special performance of Mozart's Requiem by revisiting the idea of Mozart's own funeral the way it could have been. The performance is set, figuratively, in Vienna's St. Stephen's Cathedral, and features chant and readings of Mozart's letters and scripture by award-winning actor F. Murray Abraham interspersed throughout the Requiem, and ending at the point in the piece when Mozart died, leaving it unfinished.

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(PITTSBURGH, February 1, 2009) – The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO) announces programming for its 2009-2010 BNY Mellon Grand Classics season, the Orchestra's second season under Music Director Manfred Honeck, and the 114th since its founding. The 2009-2010 season also marks the second for Leonard Slatkin in his role as Principal Guest Conductor, during which he leads three weeks of subscription concerts, and the PSO's Otto Klemperer Endowed Guest Conductor, Marek Janowski, returns to Pittsburgh to conduct two weeks of subscription programs.

Beginning on September 25, 2009, the season includes twenty-one weeks of subscription concerts through June 13, 2010, with Honeck leading nine weeks of programs. BNY Mellon Grand Classics is sponsored by BNY Mellon and generously supported by funds from the Allegheny Regional Asset District, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. Bobby Rahal Automotive Group is the Official Automotive Group of the PSO.

Music Director Manfred Honeck says, "It is a delight for me that my second season with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra will bring some of my favorite pieces to this great city. From our special perspectives on Mozart's Requiem, and the Beethoven Project, to our continuing survey of Mahler, and other new initiatives, the 2009-2010 season is one of depth and freshness, featuring the world-class artistic level that audiences expect from this great orchestra. Our musical partnership continues to grow, and I look forward to the coming year with great anticipation for the plans that we have."

"One of my greatest pleasures, as Principal Guest Conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony, is to continue my advocacy of music and composers of our own country," says Principal Guest Conductor Leonard Slatkin. "This season I will conduct familiar works by Bernstein, Barber and Copland, but will also lead newer pieces by Richard Danielpour and Mason Bates. All these composers serve as reminders as to the diversity of the creative musical process in the United States. And they also show off the flexibility of the wonderful PSO musicians."

Throughout the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's 2009-2010 season, multi-year programming initiatives are prevalent. The survey of Mahler's orchestral works enters its second season with performances, led by Music Director Manfred Honeck, of the Third and Fourth symphonies celebrating the 150th anniversary of the composer's birth in July of 2010. Explorations of

Beethoven's symphonic genius and the role of Nature as inspiration to composers of many eras begin in 2009-2010 and continue through 2012. Special notice will be placed on examining beautiful, evocative, dramatic orchestral works that were inspired by our natural surroundings, and placing them in the context of Pittsburgh as a model of environmental rehabilitation.

Collaborations with local and area arts organizations and companies enhance the PSO's musical offerings, giving insights to the music, artists, and programs through displays, video and interactive installations, educational sessions, pre-concert discussions, and more. These offerings are designed to further engage audiences by creating deeper understandings and relevant connections to the music in a variety of ways.

Outstanding guest artists, including some of the world's most acclaimed violinists – Itzhak Perlman, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Hilary Hahn and Gil Shaham, among others – and pianists – Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, Stephen Hough and Jean-Yves Thibaudet – grace the Heinz Hall stage throughout 2009-2010. Distinguished guest conductors return, as well, including Gianandrea Noseda and Yan Pascal Tortelier, to lead favorite masterpieces and works that have not been heard at Heinz Hall for many years.

Manfred Honeck also leads the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in concerts away from home next season. Two performances in Lucerne, Switzerland close the 2009 Lucerne Festival, in addition to concerts in Germany: Bonn at the Beethoven Festival and in Essen. Honeck also conducts the Orchestra's return to New York's Carnegie Hall in February with violin soloist Anne-Sophie Mutter.

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra President Lawrence Tamburri, comments, "This season represents the best of what the PSO has to offer – timeless masterpieces, exciting new works, stellar soloists and emerging talent. As we look forward to Manfred Honeck's second season as music director, we will also welcome pianists Sa Chen and Stephen Hough, violinist Stefan Jackiw, distinguished actor and Pittsburgh native F. Murray Abraham, and vocalists Angela Brown, Measha Brueggergosman, Kelley O'Connor and Alek Shrader, to Heinz Hall in their debut performances with the PSO, and we'll introduce one of today's most prolific composers, Richard Danielpour, to our audiences."

Richard Danielpour is the PSO's 2009-2010 Composer of the Year, and will have four of his works performed in subscription programs, including a world premiere of a new work co-commissioned

by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra. As Composer of the Year, Danielpour also participates in masterclasses with local University composition students, coachings, lectures, and other audience outreach designed to familiarize listeners with him and his work.

THE BEETHOVEN PROJECT

It can safely be said that no composer's symphonic work has influenced fellow and future composers through the centuries more than Beethoven's. A revolutionary in his own time, Beethoven's work was often surprising to audiences, but his genius was rarely questioned and his oeuvre has withstood the test of time. He continually pushed the boundaries of what was familiar and expected, expanding the size and range of the orchestra by adding instruments, broadening its dynamic range, and creating new harmonic language for the orchestra. In addition, he charted new territory for solo instruments, particularly the piano, and string quartets, providing further inspiration to generations of composers who have followed him.

Over the next three seasons, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra undertakes *The Beethoven Project*, during which time it performs all of the great composer's symphonies under Music Director Manfred Honeck, and concertos, as well as some less-often performed works, such as arias and overtures. *The Beethoven Project* begins in 2009 and ends in 2012 with Honeck leading the glorious Ninth Symphony.

Music Director Manfred Honeck comments on Beethoven's importance to the repertoire, "The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra brings the unquestionable genius of Beethoven's music to Heinz Hall audiences over the next three seasons, performing all of his symphonies, concertos, and many of his less-frequently heard pieces. Appropriately, we begin and end the Project with the Ninth Symphony, in which the universal message of brotherhood found in the "Ode to Joy" is perhaps still the best musical representation of the celebration of the human spirit in existence today."

- Manfred Honeck launches *The Beethoven Project* with the opening of the 2009-2010 season, conducting the PSO debut of soprano Measha Brueggergosman in Beethoven's rarely-performed aria, "**Ah, Perfido!**" – which was last performed by the PSO on a subscription concert more than 50 years ago – and the triumphant **Ninth Symphony**. Vocalists include Brueggergosman and mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor, also in her PSO debut, and tenor Christian Elsner and bass Franz-Josef Selig. Written while completely deaf, Beethoven's final symphony has been a model of inspiration to virtually every composer that has written orchestral music since. These season-opening concerts also include the PSO's first performance of selections from Gandolfi's *The Garden of Cosmic Speculation* (September 25, 26 and 27, 2009).

- In December, Honeck conducts Beethoven's **Overture to *Coriolan***, Opus 62, to open a program of music by composers based in Vienna. Part III of Braunfels' *Te Deum* follows, in its first performance by the PSO. The program closes with a special version of Mozart's Requiem, with guest speaker F. Murray Abraham, a Pittsburgh native and award-winning actor who played Mozart's rival, Salieri, in the film, *Amadeus* (December 4, 5 and 6, 2009).
- Pianist Emanuel Ax returns to Pittsburgh this season to perform Beethoven's heroic **Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor."** Honeck conducts, on a program that also includes Bruckner's Symphony No. 7 (January 22 and 23, 2010).
- Beethoven's **Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"** gets its turn in the *Project* spotlight when Honeck conducts two performances with the PSO. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter is the soloist in Brahms' Violin Concerto, opening the program. (February 5 and 6, 2010).
- Pianist Yefim Bronfman performs **Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto** under the baton of Juraj Valčuha, in his return to Heinz Hall. Zemlinsky's *The Mermaid* opens these programs (April 16 and 17, 2010).
- In addition, Honeck leads a PSO performance of **Beethoven's Violin Concerto** with violinist Viktoria Mullova at the Beethoven Festival in Bonn, Germany – Beethoven's birthplace (September 16, 2009) – as part of a week-long European tour that also includes concerts in Essen, Germany (September 15, 2009), and Lucerne, Switzerland (September 18 and 19, 2009).

COMPOSER OF THE YEAR: RICHARD DANIELPOUR

During the 2009-2010 season, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra honors Richard Danielpour as its Composer of the Year. With works both familiar and new to Pittsburgh audiences, the PSO salutes Danielpour in four weeks of subscription concerts, including one world premiere, and one first performance by the PSO.

Launched in the 2001-2002 season, the Composer of the Year program was created by the PSO to provide audiences with an unprecedented opportunity to encounter music of living composers and establish a relationship with that composer through the experience of meeting him/her, hearing multiple works, and participating in discussions of those works with them. Past participants are John Adams, John Corigliano, Christopher Theofanidis, Jennifer Higdon, Christopher Rouse, Michael Hersch, Krzysztof Penderecki and Rodion Shchedrin.

“My relationship with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra began nearly 15 years ago, in 1995, and since then, the Orchestra has been, for me, the prototype of what of what a great American orchestra can and should sound like,” comments Composer of the Year Richard Danielpour. “This is the ensemble that I have in my ear when I write for an orchestra. It is an orchestra of great virtuosos who play as if they have known each other for a lifetime, and so I am looking forward to spending so much of next season in Pittsburgh with the PSO.”

- Leading off the Composer of the Year celebration, the PSO gives the world premiere of Danielpour’s ***A Woman’s Life***, for soprano and orchestra, based on texts by award-winning author Dr. Maya Angelou. Soprano Angela Brown, for whom the work was written, makes her PSO debut in these performances, which are led by Leonard Slatkin. Also on the program are Peter Mennin’s Concertato for Orchestra, “Moby Dick,” and Sibelius’ Symphony No. 2 (*October 16 and 17, 2009*).
- Latvian conductor Andris Nelsons returns to the PSO, after making his debut in 2008-2009 season, to conduct Danielpour’s ***Zoroastrian Riddles (Part 1)***, a work that was commissioned and recorded by the PSO in 1996 on the Sony Classical label with David Zinman conducting. Also known as Concerto for Orchestra, the work refers to both Zarathustra (also called Zoroaster) and Mozart, and was inspired by the story of a masquerader at the Carnival in Vienna in 1786, dressed as the philosopher from the Persia/Turkey area known as Zarathustra/Zoroaster. “Zoroaster” – who was actually

Mozart – handed pieces of paper to the revelers, on which were written eight riddles and fourteen proverbs, entitled "Excerpts from the Fragments of Zoroaster." These programs, fittingly, also include Strauss' tone poem *Also sprach Zarathustra*, and Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5, "Turkish," with soloist Stefan Jackiw in his PSO debut (November 13 and 15, 2009).

- Later in the season, Slatkin leads the PSO's second performance of Danielpour's ***Pastime***, which the Orchestra co-commissioned with the Atlanta Symphony and Brooklyn Philharmonic, and premiered in 2006. The piece pays tribute to African American baseball legends Hank Aaron, Jackie Robinson and Josh Gibson; these concerts mark the work's first appearance on a PSO subscription concert series. Baritone Gregg Baker is the soloist. The American repertoire on the program also includes the PSO's first performance of Mason Bates' *Liquid Interface*, with the composer performing; Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from *On the Town*; and Gershwin's *An American in Paris* (February 19 and 21, 2010).
- Danielpour is saluted once again in the spring with Manfred Honeck conducting the PSO's first performances of ***Rocking the Cradle***, a work that was commissioned by the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and premiered by it in 2007. The 20-minute large-scale work for orchestra contains two movements – one fast and one slow. The program continues with pianist Horacio Gutiérrez as soloist in Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2, and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* (April 29, 30 and May 1, 2010).

INSPIRED BY NATURE

Nature, in its varied forms, has inspired more composers than any other subject, except for, perhaps, love. In truth, it might be impossible to program a season of music *without* scheduling a work that has its inspiration in the natural world. In the 2009-2010 season, the PSO approaches this concept of nature as a recurring theme throughout the year, performing works that depict, describe or take place in natural settings. From the ocean and its creatures to fields and countryside, to the seasons themselves, nature is all around – both figuratively and musically, through symphonies, songs and tone poems.

Inspired by Nature recurs over two subsequent seasons, through 2011-2012, as this inspiration is explored in relation to Pittsburgh. With Pittsburgh's growing reputation as a symbol of environmental rehabilitation, the PSO plans to partner with area and local organizations to reinforce the cause of environmental recovery, and the work of these companies dedicated to this worldwide effort. Ancillary events are scheduled around these performances, in order to further explore the theme of nature in our everyday lives.

"The universal appeal and presence of nature is one of the few things that is available to us no matter where in the world we go or live. In music, it is the same; nature is represented everywhere and in many forms - from folk melodies and dances to strictly programmatic music that depicts a scene or story. This season, we begin to explore that influence in music from all eras, from the Baroque to the present day. Pittsburgh has a significant history in its relationship with nature, and it is important that we celebrate the powerful inspiration it provides to composers. This music reminds us of the urgency of protecting the source of that inspiration," comments Honeck.

- Manfred Honeck opens the PSO's 2009-2010 season with four selections from Michael Gandolfi's *The Garden of Cosmic Speculation*, marking the first time the work has been performed by the PSO. Each of the more than 10 movements in the massive work was written to depict a specific section of the 30-acre Garden of Cosmic Speculation in Portrack, Scotland. Designed by architect Charles Jencks, his late wife, Maggie Keswick, and gardener Alistair Cook, the garden represents "a new grammar of landscape designed to bring out the basic elements that recent science has found to underlie the cosmos, such as wave theory, sub-atomic particles, the diversity of DNA, the birth and expansion of the universe, and super-string theory," according to Jencks. The program also includes Beethoven's aria, "Ah, Perfido!" and closes with Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 (September 25, 26 and 27, 2009).

- PSO Concertmaster Andrés Cárdenes takes his annual turn on the podium this season leading the Orchestra as soloist in Vivaldi's ***The Four Seasons***, one of the works most closely and obviously identified with nature. Opening these concerts is Poulenc's Sinfonietta, performed by the PSO for the first time, and Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme with PSO Principal Cellist Anne Martindale Williams as soloist (October 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2009).
- Principal Guest Conductor Leonard Slatkin returns to Pittsburgh with a program that opens with another work being performed by the PSO for the first time - Peter Mennin's 11-minute **Concertato for Orchestra, "Moby Dick."** The composer wrote that the brief work, "depicts the emotional impact of the novel as a whole rather than musically describing isolated incidents occurring in the novel." Also on the program is Composer of the Year Richard Danielpour's ***A Woman's Life***, for which he selected seven of Maya Angelou's poems to serve as text. The poems represent the various stages of a woman's life. Closing the program is Sibelius' Second Symphony (October 16 and 17, 2009).
- Marek Janowski conducts **Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique***, one of the great symphonic masterpieces in the Romantic repertoire, with music depicting a dream that includes a tranquil country scene interrupted by a thunderstorm, a witch's dance, and an execution. Also scheduled is Saint-Saëns' Piano Concerto No. 2 with soloist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, a work that was last performed by the PSO more than a decade ago, in 1998. *Symphonie fantastique* is scheduled for live recording, as well, for the PentaTone label (October 30, 31 and November 1, 2009).
- Andris Nelsons leads Strauss' celebrated tone poem, ***Also sprach Zarathustra***. This representation of man, nature and the theory of eternal recurrence is loosely based on writings of Nietzsche about morality and human nature. The program opens with Composer of the Year Richard Danielpour's *Zoroastrian Riddles, Part 1* (Concerto for Orchestra), which was commissioned and recorded by the PSO in 1996. Violinist Stefan Jackiw makes his PSO debut as soloist on these programs, performing Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 (November 13 and 15, 2009).

- The PSO gives its first performance of composer, DJ and percussionist **Mason Bates'** ***Liquid Interface*** for orchestra. Bates performs the electronica with the Orchestra, improvising with pre-recorded sounds. *Liquid Interface* examines the nature of water's forms: gentle flow, ice droplets, hurricane rain and breaking ice. Bates' score includes a soundtrack of glaciers calving (creaking, roaring) and electronic treatments of these sound effects. Leonard Slatkin conducts this program of music by American composers that also includes Composer of the Year Richard Danielpour's *Pastime*, with baritone Gregg Baker as soloist; Bernstein's Three Dance Episodes from *On the Town*; and Gershwin's *An American in Paris* (February 19 and 21, 2010).
- Yan Pascal Tortelier conducts **Berlioz' *Harold in Italy***, a musical tour of the Italian countryside, with PSO Principal Violist Randolph Kelly as soloist. Gustav **Holst's** suite, ***The Planets***, rounds out the program with musical depictions of the astrological associations of seven planets (March 19, 20 and 21, 2010).
- Juraj Valčuha makes his return to the PSO podium after his debut in 2007-2008, leading the Orchestra in its first performances of **Zemlinsky's *Die Zeejungfrau (The Mermaid)***, based on the Hans Christian Anderson fairy tale. Yefim Bronfman is the piano soloist in Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 (April 16 and 17, 2010).
- Manfred Honeck leads Stravinsky's landmark ballet score that depicts the pagan rituals of sacrifice to the god of spring, ***The Rite of Spring***. The program begins with PSO Composer of the Year Richard Danielpour's *Rocking the Cradle*, which the PSO performs for the first time, and pianist Horacio Gutiérrez performs Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto (April 29, 30 and May 1, 2010).
- Closing the 2009-2010 season, Honeck leads **Mahler's** monumental **Symphony No. 3**. Mahler's depiction of the universe includes everything from the depiction of darkness to light, as well as forests, flowers, animals, life's joy, love and sorrow, and the triumphant finale representing angels and heaven (June 11 and 13, 2010).

MAHLER CYCLE

The multi-year survey of Gustav Mahler's symphonic works, which began in the 2008-2009 season continues during 2009-2010. Manfred Honeck leads Mahler's Third and Fourth symphonies this year. The PSO's partnership with the International Gustav Mahler Society continues, as well, with scholar Dr. Stephen Hefling, the PSO's American Mahler Specialist, addressing audiences prior to each performance and providing contextual information for written materials.

Honeck says, "For me, there is no better ending of any symphony than Mahler's Third. Pure and beautiful, this piece is special to me, representing everything from nature in the physical world to angels in the spiritual one. The sweet, chamber-like Fourth Symphony demonstrates the range of Mahler's genius as compared to the Third – he was successful at both ends of the orchestral spectrum, from the compact and elegant to the use of massive musical forces and ideas."

- Manfred Honeck continues his survey of Mahler's symphonies with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 2010 – the 150th anniversary of the great composer's birth – with the Fourth Symphony. The smallest of his nine symphonies, the **Fourth Symphony** marks a turning point in the composer's career; after this work, he composed his largest works, further expanding the symphonic form both in physical size of the orchestra and length of his music. The program also includes violinist Gil Shaham performing Haydn's Violin Concerto No. 2 in G major and Mozart's Second Violin Concerto (*January 29 and 31, 2010*).
- Mahler's **Symphony No. 3** closes the 2009-2010 season, led by Honeck. The massive work was last performed by the PSO in 2000, and is scored for orchestra, mezzo-soprano, choir, and children's choir. Mezzo-soprano Jane Irwin, the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh and the Children's Festival Chorus of Pittsburgh join Honeck and the PSO for the final performance of the season (*June 11 and 13, 2010*).
- Honeck and PSO perform together for the first time at New York's Carnegie Hall in February, with a program of Mahler's First Symphony and Brahms' Violin Concerto with soloist Anne-Sophie Mutter (*February 9, 2010*).

PREMIERES and FIRST PERFORMANCES

The 2009-2010 season introduces the world premiere of a new work, co-commissioned by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and the first performance by the PSO of ten works, from Mozart and Mennin to Gandolfi and Danielpour.

World Premieres

- **Richard Danielpour – *A Woman's Life***

Leonard Slatkin conducts the world premiere performances of *A Woman's Life*, which was co-commissioned by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra. After having collaborated with Maya Angelou many years earlier, Danielpour approached her about writing a set of poems about the stages of a woman's life for soprano Angela Brown to perform with orchestra. Angelou responded that she already had a set of poems about a woman's life, from childhood through motherhood to mature adult; Danielpour selected seven of these poems, which possess a highly lyrical quality, to score. The orchestral score, with varied instrumentation, contains some jazz and R&B elements, used to evoke the particular stage of life being represented or remembered. For these PSO's premiere performances of *A Woman's Life*, Angela Brown makes her PSO debut (October 16 and 17, 2009).

First PSO Performances

- Mason Bates *Liquid Interface* (February 19 and 21, 2010)
- Braunfels *Te Deum* for soprano, tenor, mixed choir, organ and large orchestra, Op. 32, Part III (December 4, 5 and 6, 2009)
- Danielpour *Rocking the Cradle* (April 29, 30 and May 1, 2010)
- Gandolfi *The Garden of Cosmic Speculation* (September 25, 26 and 27, 2009)
- Liszt *San Francesco di Paola* from *Légendes* (March 5 and 7, 2010)
- Peter Mennin *Concertato* for Orchestra, "Moby Dick" (October 16 and 17, 2009)
- Mozart *Symphony No. 30* in D Major, K.186b (November 5, 6 and 7, 2009)
- Poulenc *Sinfonietta* (October 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2009)
- John Williams *Concerto for Horn and Orchestra* (October 23 and 25, 2009)
- Zemlinsky *The Mermaid* (*Die Zeejungfrau*) (April 16 and 17, 2010)

OPENING NIGHT GALA AND OTHER PROGRAMS

- Manfred Honeck's second season as music director opens with a benefit performance on Thursday, September 10, 2009, with Honeck leading the PSO and legendary **violinist Itzhak Perlman** performing music of Mozart and Kreisler. The program also includes music by Dvořák and Weber. Opening night gala package information, which includes a champagne reception, the PSO performance, and a post-concert dinner, can be obtained by calling 412.392.6070 (*September 10, 2009*).
- A special performance of **Mozart's Requiem** takes place at Heinz Hall in December 2009. Honeck leads the PSO in a concert designed to re-create the majestic and respectful funeral service the great composer deserved to have had. The performance includes the Requiem, as well as chant and readings from Mozart's own letters and scripture by guest speaker and award-winning actor, **F. Murray Abraham**, in his PSO debut. Opening the program are Beethoven's Overture to *Coriolan* and Part III of Walter Braunfels' *Te Deum* (*December 4, 5 and 6, 2009*).
- Honeck leads his first concerts with the PSO in New York's famed **Carnegie Hall** with violin soloist Anne-Sophie Mutter performing Brahms' Violin Concerto and Mahler's Symphony No. 1 (*February 9, 2010*).
- Music Director **Manfred Honeck** has designed another program comprised of music written by members of the Strauss family, including waltzes, polkas, and other dance music that may not have been heard here or performed by the PSO. Honeck's Viennese upbringing gives these works an inherent authenticity. Opening the program is the PSO debut of **pianist Sa Chen**, performing Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 (*November 27, 28 and 29, 2009*).
- World-renowned violinist **Hilary Hahn** joins Honeck and the PSO in May, performing Sibelius' Violin Concerto. Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony closes these programs (*May 7, 8 and 9, 2010*).

- Principal Guest Conductor **Leonard Slatkin** conducts an all-American program of music by Copland, Barber and John Williams with PSO Principal Horn William Caballero as soloist. Music of Copland opens and closes the program, beginning with *El Salon Mexico*, and ending with Four Dance Episodes from *Rodeo*. In honor of Samuel Barber's centennial, three of his short works were selected to create a "mini-symphony:" Overture to *The School for Scandal*, Adagio for Strings and *Medea's Meditation and Dance of Vengeance*. Caballero is the horn soloist in John Williams' Concerto for Horn and Orchestra, performed by the PSO for the first time at these concerts (*October 23 and 25, 2009*).
- **Marek Janowski's** second week of subscription programs with the PSO features young violinist **Chee-Yun**, who returns to Pittsburgh to perform Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64. The PSO performs, for the first time, Mozart's Symphony No. 30 in D major, K,186b and Dvořák's Symphony No. 7 (*November 5, 6 and 7, 2009*).
- Frequent guest conductor **Gianandrea Noseda** returns to Pittsburgh for two weeks of subscription programs in March. The first week features piano soloist **Jonathan Biss** performing Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2, on a program with Liszt's "San Francesco di Paola" from *Légendes*, which the PSO performs for the first time, and Haydn's Symphony No. 56 in C major (*March 5 and 7, 2010*).
- The following week, Noseda leads a program with pianist **Benjamin Hochman** that includes Rossini's Overture to *La Cenerentola*, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 19, K.459, and Tchaikovsky's least-performed symphony, No. 3. "Polish" (*March 11, 12 and 13, 2010*).
- **Yan Pascal Tortelier** also leads two weeks of subscription programs, the second of which features the PSO's first subscription performance of Tchaikovsky's Second Piano Concerto with soloist **Stephen Hough**, making his PSO debut, and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5 (*April 9 and 11, 2010*).

- Superstar violinist **Joshua Bell** returns to Pittsburgh this season for a special one-night-only recital at Heinz Hall with pianist Jeremy Denk (*March 2, 2010*).

CONDUCTORS & ARTISTS

* *indicates PSO debut*

Conductors

Andrés Cárdenes (*October 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2009*)

Manfred Honeck (*September 10, 25, 26, 27, November 27, 28, 29, December 4, 5 and 6, 2009; January 22, 23, 29, 31, February 5, 6, April 29, 30, May 1, 7, 8, 9, June 11 and 13, 2010*)

Marek Janowski (*October 30, 31, November 1, 5, 6 and 7, 2009*)

Andris Nelsons (*November 13 and 15, 2009*)

Gianandrea Noseda (*March 5, 7, 11, 12 and 13, 2010*)

Leonard Slatkin (*October 16, 17, 23 and 25, 2009; February 19 and 21, 2010*)

Yan Pascal Tortelier (*March 19, 20, 21, April 9 and 11, 2010*)

Juraj Valčuha (*April 16 and 17, 2010*)

Violin

Joshua Bell (*March 2, 2010*)

Andrés Cárdenes (*October 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2009*)

Hilary Hahn (*May 7, 8 and 9, 2010*)

*Stefan Jackiw (*November 13 and 15, 2009*)

Anne-Sophie Mutter (*February 5 and 6, 2010*)

Gil Shaham (*January 29 and 31, 2010*)

Chee-Yun (*November 5, 6 and 7, 2009*)

Viola

Randolph Kelly (*March 19, 20 and 21, 2010*)

Cello

Anne Martindale Williams (*October 1, 2, 3 and 4, 2009*)

Piano

Emanuel Ax (*January 22 and 23, 2010*)

Jonathan Biss (*March 5 and 7, 2010*)

Yefim Bronfman (*April 16 and 17, 2010*)

*Sa Chen (*November 27, 28 and 29, 2009*)

Horacio Gutiérrez (*April 29, 30 and May 1, 2010*)

Benjamin Hochman (*March 11, 12 and 13, 2010*)

*Stephen Hough (*April 9 and 11, 2010*)

Jean-Yves Thibaudet (*October 30, 31 and November 1, 2009*)

French Horn

William Caballero (*October 23 and 25, 2009*)

Percussion/Electonica

*Mason Bates (*February 19 and 21, 2010*)

Vocal Soloists

*F. Murray Abraham, speaker (*December 4, 5 and 6, 2009*)

Gregg Baker, baritone (*February 19 and 21, 2010*)

*Angela Brown, soprano (*October 16 and 17, 2009*)

*Measha Brueggergosman, soprano (*September 25, 26 and 27, 2009*)

Christian Elsner, tenor (*September 25, 26 and 27, 2009*)

Jane Irwin, mezzo-soprano (*June 11 and 13, 2010*)

*Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano (*September 25, 26 and 27, 2009*)

John Relyea, bass (*December 4, 5 and 6, 2009*)

Chen Reiss, soprano (*December 4, 5 and 6, 2009*)

Franz-Josef Selig, bass (*September 25, 26 and 27, 2009*)

*Alek Shrader, tenor (*December 4, 5 and 6, 2009*)

Vocal Ensembles

Children's Festival Chorus of Pittsburgh (*June 11 and 13, 2010*)

Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh (*September 25, 26, 27, December 4, 5 and 6, 2009;
March 19, 20, 21, June 11 and 13, 2010*)

FIDDLESTICKS

The theme of the 2009-2010 *Fiddlesticks* concerts – the annual series of three Saturday morning concerts designed for children and families – is “Children’s Music in the World.” Three PSO programs introduce concertgoers to music found in other countries through customs and special occasions celebrated across the globe. Conducted by Resident Conductor Lawrence Loh, these concerts engage and educate through a variety of music and interaction between the PSO musicians and the children through coaching by Fiddlesticks, the PSO’s “Feline Ambassador to Young Audiences.” Pre-concert Discovery Activities related to the concert’s theme are scheduled one hour prior to the performance and are free to all ticket holders.

- “Musical Travels and Traditions” – Cross continents during this concert that explores the music of different countries. Songs inspired by traditions of various cultures include Bizet’s “Chanson de Toreador” from *Carmen*, Strauss’ *Bauern Polka*, a traditional Japanese sing-along entitled *Sakura*, and other favorites (October 24, 2009).
- “Songs Around the Globe” – Experience the ways in which music has been handed down throughout the generations and incorporated into some of our children’s favorite games. Whether you’re at a sporting event or in your own backyard, music is found in the games we play. Favorite pieces, as well as a sing-along to *Take Me Out to the Ball Game!*, are performed (February 27, 2010).
- “Musical Celebrations Around the World” – What is a celebration without music? Discover how music from around the world has become a big part of special occasions. From Mendelssohn’s “Wedding March,” to “Happy Birthday,” children will learn fun songs and customs from other countries and see how music makes any occasion special (April 17, 2010).

The Fiddlesticks Family Concert Series is endowed by Gerald and Audrey McGinnis honoring the Center for Young Musicians.

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Programs, artists and dates subject to change.

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