



Celebrity Series of Boston

Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

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For Immediate Release

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Presents

**Berlin Philharmonic
Simon Rattle, conductor**

**on Sunday, November 15 at 3 pm
at Symphony Hall**

(Boston) Celebrity Series of Boston will present the **Berlin Philharmonic with Simon Rattle, conductor**, on Sunday, November 15 at 3 pm at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston with a program of Brahms and Schoenberg. This performance is sponsored by Joshua and Amy Boger.

The **Celebrity Series of Boston** has presented the Berlin Philharmonic nine times since their 1955 debut with Celebrity Series. Their most recent appearance was in 2007 with soloists Ben Hepner, tenor, and Thomas Quasthoff, bass-baritone in a performance of Mahler's *Das Lied von Der Erde*.

The **Berlin Philharmonic** was formed in 1882 when a core group of musicians broke from the underfunded Bilsse Kapelle ensemble. The orchestra was given its current name and reorganized under the financial management of Hermann Wolff in 1887 while maintaining its status as a democratic, self-governing organization. In that same year, Hans von Bülow became the orchestra's principal conductor and brought the ensemble the international acclaim that it has maintained to this day. Throughout the 20th century, the Berlin Philharmonic has been led by some of the most renowned conductors, including Wilhelm Furtwängler and Herbert von Karajan.

As well as fulfilling a taxing concert schedule in Berlin, the orchestra tours extensively, and has garnered many awards for its recordings and pioneering educational work. Concert programs cover a broad spectrum, from Bach and Rameau to figures such as Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart, and Brahms, to contemporary composers such as Adès, Berio, Boulez, Grisey, Gubaidulina, Lindberg, and Turnage.

The Berlin Philharmonic's current conductor, **Sir Simon Rattle**, was born in Liverpool and studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Between 1980 and 1998, Rattle was Principal Conductor and Artistic Adviser of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, then Music Director. He toured and recorded extensively with them and also conducted leading orchestras in London, the USA and Europe, enjoying a close collaboration with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for many years and in more recent seasons, with the Philadelphia Orchestra. He is a regular guest conductor of the Vienna Philharmonic, with which he has recorded the complete Beethoven symphonies and piano concertos (with Alfred Brendel) and is also a Principal Artist of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Founding Patron of Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. Following his 1977 Glyndebourne Festival Opera debut, he conducted many productions there, as well as a series for Netherlands Opera. Other notable debuts included English National Opera (1985), his US opera debut in Los Angeles (1988), Royal
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Opera House (1990) and Théâtre du Châtelet, Paris (1996). Prior to becoming its Chief Conductor and Artistic Director in September 2002, Simon Rattle enjoyed a 15-year collaboration with the Berlin Philharmonic.

An exclusive EMI artist for many years, Rattle has made over 70 recordings for the label, and has received numerous prestigious international awards. Releases with Berlin Philharmonic include Holst's *The Planets*, together with Colin Matthews' recently-written *Pluto*, and the world premiere recordings of further 'asteroids' by Saariaho, Pintscher, Turnage and Dean; Shostakovich Symphonies Nos. 1 and 14; Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben* and *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* suite; Debussy's *La Mer*; Dvorák Tone Poems; Schubert's Symphony No. 9; Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*; Bruckner Symphony No.4, the Nielsen Clarinet and Flute concertos; and Brahms Requiem with Röschmann and Quasthoff, which won Best Choral Recording at the 2007 Gramophone Awards. His most recent releases are Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and Berlioz' *Symphonie fantastique*, and *Brahms: The Symphonies*, released this October.

The program for the Berlin Philharmonic performance on November 15 is as follows:

Brahms	Symphony No. 3
Schoenberg	Accompaniment to a Cinematographic Scene
Brahms	Symphony No. 4

TICKETING INFORMATION

Remaining tickets for the Berlin Philharmonic are priced at \$148, and are available by calling CelebrityCharge at (617) 482-6661 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., online at www.celebrityseries.org, or at the Symphony Hall box office, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston, MA.

About Celebrity Series of Boston

The Celebrity Series of Boston is New England's leading presenter of music, dance, and the performing arts from around the world. Now in its 71st season, the Celebrity Series brings performances by instrumental and vocal soloists, orchestras and chamber ensembles, dance companies, jazz, folk and ethnic artists and ensembles to Boston's major concert halls, reaching an audience of some 100,000 each year. Through the Arts, Education and Community Program the Celebrity Series reaches thousands of youngsters annually with opportunities to experience and participate in the performing arts through concerts, workshops and the award-winning AileyCamp Boston, an intensive six-week summer dance program for Boston middle school students. For more information on Celebrity Series of Boston, call (617) 482-2595 or visit us online at www.celebrityseries.org.

The Celebrity Series receives generous support from; The Little Family Foundation; Tufts Health Plan; Foley & Lardner LLP; Charlesbank Capital Partners; Comcast; PTC; Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Massachusetts Cultural Council; New England Foundation for the Arts.

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