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LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC ANNOUNCES 2008/09 SEASON CELEBRATING ESA-PEKKA SALONEN

Salonen's Tradition of Innovation Culminates in a Season of Diverse and Contemporary Programming Featuring the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Distinguished Guest Artists

Highlights:

- Stravinsky Exploration
- Seven world and two West Coast premieres
- Four "On Location" residencies featuring Salonen collaborators John Adams, Yefim Bronfman, Peter Sellars, Dawn Upshaw
- 17-day Asian tour
- Free "Phil the House" week of concerts welcoming school children and community members
- The Thomashefsky Project led by Michael Tilson Thomas
- András Schiff completes two-year performance project of Beethoven's 32 Piano Sonatas as part of the "Colburn Celebrity Series"
- Vienna Philharmonic makes Walt Disney Concert Hall debut with Zubin Mehta conducting
- Jazz, World and Songbook series highlights include Dave Brubeck, Milton Nascimento & The Jobim Trio, and Vince Gill

Los Angeles (February 28, 2008) – The Los Angeles Philharmonic announces its 2008/09 season: the orchestra's 90th since its founding and its 17th and last under departing Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen. The season also marks the fifth anniversary of the opening of Walt Disney Concert Hall. Performances run from September 27, 2008, through May 31, 2009.

In celebration of Esa-Pekka Salonen's remarkable legacy, the 2008/09 season welcomes a distinguished roster of artists including *On Location* collaborators particularly close to Salonen during his tenure in Los Angeles. Together with Salonen, these individuals have helped redefine the concept of a 21st-century symphony orchestra, and its role in the local, national and international community.

"Esa-Pekka's visionary partnership with this orchestra and our community is defined by his constant and unwavering gaze to the future," says Philharmonic President Deborah Borda. "Esa-Pekka lives by his own words 'we have faith in the future.' This institution, and the world of music, are the rich beneficiaries."

At the conclusion of the 2008/09 season, Salonen will be the Los Angeles Philharmonic's longest serving Music Director. After 17 years under Salonen's guidance, the LA PHIL is a model for the future of orchestras – an organization firmly planted in the 21st century, pioneering and forward-thinking.

The repertoire throughout the season reflects Salonen's deep musical affinity for composers from Beethoven to Stravinsky and beyond, including a growing heritage of his own works.

STRAVINSKY EXPLORATION

A cornerstone of Salonen's tenure is the music of Igor Stravinsky. Stravinsky is threaded throughout the entire 2008/09 season, culminating with *Oedipus Rex*, directed by Peter Sellars, and the *Symphony of Psalms*. Among Salonen's earlier triumphs were the highly successful Stravinsky Festival at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris in 1996, and a three-week festival in 2001 in Los Angeles.

"Stravinsky was very fortunate. He lived a very long life and he was productive to the very end. And somehow, I cannot think of many other artists of any discipline with the same sort of imagination and fantasy as Stravinsky. And that's what it comes down to, really: the point of the idea, the imagination. The technique, everybody can learn ultimately, to make something that looks or sounds like a work of art. But the quality of the idea itself is the very central issue here, and Stravinsky never had bad ideas," says Salonen.

Salonen leads the Philharmonic in the following Stravinsky works throughout the season:

- Fireworks, The Firebird (complete) (October 9–12, and during the Asian tour, October 15 31, 2008)
- Petrushka (during the Asian tour, October 15 31, 2008)
- The Rite of Spring (January 16 & 18, 2009)
- Oedipus Rex, directed by Peter Sellars, and Symphony of Psalms. (April 16-19, 2009)

PREMIERES & COMMISSIONS

The 2008/09 season introduces seven world premieres and two West Coast premieres, commissioned and performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Philharmonic New Music Group.

World Premieres

Louis Andriessen – Double Piano Concerto

Duo pianists Katia and Marielle Labèque and the Philharmonic perform the world premiere of Dutch composer Louis Andriessen's Double Piano Concerto commissioned by the LA PHIL and led by Salonen. The program also includes Janácek's Sinfonietta and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring. (January 16 & 18, 2009)*

Arvo Pärt – New Work for String Orchestra

Estonian composer Arvo Pärt's new work for string orchestra, commissioned by the LA PHIL, receives its world premiere under Salonen's baton. (January 10 & 11, 2009)

Fang Man – New Work
 Erin Gee – New Work
 Anna Clyne – New Work
 Enrico Chapela – New Work

The New Music Group performs the world premieres of four LA PHIL-commissioned new works by composers Fang Man, Erin Gee, Anna Clyne and Enrico Chapela as part of a *Green Umbrella* series concert led by Salonen. Also on the program is Salonen's *Floof*. (*April* 7, 2009)

Timothy Andres – New Work

Composer and pianist Timothy Andres' LA PHIL-commissioned new work receives its world premiere in a *Green Umbrella* series program with the Philharmonic New Music Group, conducted by John Adams and featuring Andres and percussionist/composer Payton MacDonald. The *Composer's Choice* program also includes MacDonald's *Cowboy Tabla/Cowboy Raga for Percussion and Chamber Orchestra*, Andres' *How can I live in your world of ideas?* and Adams' *Son of Chamber Symphony. (May 12, 2009)*

West Coast Premieres

Kaija Saariaho – La Passion de Simone

Salonen leads the orchestra and soprano Dawn Upshaw in the West Coast premiere of Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho's *La Passion de Simone*. The 60-minute oratorio was cocommissioned by four musical organizations in Los Angeles, New York, Vienna and London. The work for soprano, orchestra and chorus is based on the life of French philosopher and mystic Simone Weil. It was written for Upshaw with texts by Saariaho's frequent collaborator, Lebanese author Amin Maalouf. Peter Sellars directs. (*January 15 & 17, 2009*)

Esa-Pekka Salonen – New Work

In another LA PHIL commission, Salonen conducts the West Coast premiere of his own new work. The piece, which receives its world premiere in Chicago, is performed as part of an LA PHIL subscription concert featuring the women of the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Also on the program are Ligeti's *Clocks and Clouds* and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. *(April 9 – 11, 2009)*

ON LOCATION RESIDENCIES

Featured in the LA PHIL's *On Location* program, which brings artists to Los Angeles for extended stays in the orchestral community, are director Peter Sellars, composer John Adams, pianist Yefim Bronfman and soprano Dawn Upshaw – all frequent collaborators with Salonen.

"I believe in collaboration and the best kind of collaboration happens when you work with close friends. This type of partnership is something I've enjoyed over the years with these four people." Salonen says.

John Adams

John Adams, one of America's most admired and respected composers and a long-time collaborator with the LA PHIL, brings his enormous range and technical command to Walt Disney Concert Hall to lead two important programs – a *Green Umbrella* series concert as well as a staged Philharmonic performance of his opera *A Flowering Tree.* (May 15 & 17, 2009)

- Adams begins his residency by conducting a *Green Umbrella* concert presenting his own *Son of Chamber Symphony*. Also on the program is the world premiere of a Philharmonic-commissioned work by Timothy Andres, along with his *How can I live in your world of ideas?* and Payton MacDonald's *Cowboy Tabla/Cowboy Raga for Percussion and Chamber Orchestra*. (May 12, 2009)
- Capping off his On Location concerts, Adams leads the Philharmonic in a staged production of A Flowering Tree, created by Adams and Sellars. It features guest soloists Jessica Rivera, soprano; Russell Thomas, tenor; Eric Owens, bass; and the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Sellars directs the two-act opera, which was commissioned as part of the Vienna New Crowned Hope Festival to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Mozart's birth. (May 15 & 17, 2009)

Yefim Bronfman

Yefim Bronfman, considered by many to be one of today's most wide ranging and virtuosic concert pianists, joins the Philharmonic for a series of concerts in Walt Disney Concert Hall. He also appears with the orchestra during its 17-day Asian tour. (October 15 - 31, 2008)

- An LA PHIL Chamber Music Society series performance opens Bronfman's residency this season. Program to be announced. (October 7, 2008)
- Continuing in October, Bronfman performs Tchaikovsky's First Piano Concerto with the Philharmonic and Salonen in a program that also presents Stravinsky's Fireworks and The Firebird. (October 9 - 12, 2008)
- On the LA PHIL's Asian tour, Bronfman appears with Salonen and the Philharmonic. (October 15 31, 2008)
- In November, Bronfman performs at the Hall with pianist Emanuel Ax for a duo-piano recital. (November 12, 2008)
- In May, Bronfman returns as a guest artist for an LA PHIL subscription program, led by Xian Zhang, with music that includes Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 3, Chen Yi's Momentum, Adams' The Chairman Dances and Bartók's Suite from The Miraculous Mandarin. (May 8 10, 2009)

Peter Sellars

Cutting-edge artist and director Peter Sellars lends his unique vision to the LA PHIL as he directs four staged productions during his residency.

- Sellars directs the Green Umbrella series performance of Kurtág's Kafka Fragments, featuring soprano Dawn Upshaw and violinist Geoff Nuttall. (November 18, 2008)
- Kaija Saariaho's La Passion de Simone receives its West Coast premiere, directed by Sellars and conducted by Salonen, featuring soprano Dawn Upshaw and dancer Michael Schumacher, as well as the Los Angeles Master Chorale. (January 15 & 17, 2009)
- In the spring, Sellars returns to direct Stravinsky's *Oedipus Rex* led by Salonen. Also on the program is Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms. (April 16 19, 2009)*

• To end his residency for the 2008/09 season, Sellars directs *A Flowering Tree*, which he created with John Adams. Adams conducts the Philharmonic with soloists Jessica Rivera, soprano; Russell Thomas, tenor; and Eric Owens, bass. The Los Angeles Master Chorale is also featured. (*May 15 & 17, 2009*)

<u>Dawn Upshaw</u>

Soprano Dawn Upshaw brings her inimitable voice to the LA PHIL for two On Location programs.

- A *Green Umbrella* series program launches Dawn Upshaw's residency with Peter Sellars directing the staged production of Kurtág's *Kafka Fragments*. (November 18, 2008)
- Salonen leads the West Coast premiere of Saariaho's oratorio *La Passion de Simone*, a work written for Dawn Upshaw and co-commissioned by the LA PHIL, the New Crowned Hope Festival, the Barbican and Lincoln Center. (*January 15 & 17, 2009*)

ASIAN TOUR

Salonen and the Philharmonic, along with pianist Yefim Bronfman and violinist Sarah Chang, tour Asia for 17 days in 2008. Concerts are held in Seoul, Tokyo, Singapore and Hong Kong, and feature works by Debussy, Falla, Ravel, Stravinsky and Tchaikovsky. (October 15 – 31, 2008)

PHIL THE HOUSE

In October 2003, before the inaugural gala, the LA PHIL opened the doors of Walt Disney Concert Hall with its first free *Phil the House* concerts, inviting more than 3,000 school children from over 65 schools throughout Los Angeles County. Also open to the community, *Phil the House* events welcomed more than 16,000 Angelenos to participate in the inaugural festivities.

In celebration of the fifth anniversary of Walt Disney Concert Hall, the LA PHIL revives *Phil the House* in September of 2008 with five free performances for both young and adult audiences, underscoring the organization's commitment to making music accessible to all audiences.

Since the opening of Walt Disney Concert Hall, over 70,000 children and adults have been served each year by LA PHIL education programs, and more than 20 community concerts have been performed in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles County.

- Assistant Conductor Lionel Bringuier leads the Los Angeles Philharmonic in free *Phil the House* matinee performances of Prokofiev's popular *Peter and the Wolf*. These performances are designed for younger audiences, and feature live video, animation and puppetry.

 (September 25 27, 2008)
- The LA PHIL presents two special *Phil the House* evening performances for community audiences. Programming to be announced. (September 25 & 26, 2008)

THE THOMASHEFSKY PROJECT

Founded in 1998, the *Thomashefsky Project* has preserved the legacy of Jewish immigrants and that of early American Yiddish theater's contribution to American cultural life. Conductor Michael Tilson Thomas hosts the story that recounts his grandparents' pivotal role in developing American Yiddish Theater in the 1880s. Through an orchestra and four singers, the staged performance captures the struggles and triumphs of Boris and Bessie Thomashefsky, who as immigrant teens in the U.S., dealt with their new world and created a new cultural touchstone for Jewish immigrants in the late 19th and 20th century in New York. (*December 18 – 20, 2008*)

GREEN UMBRELLA

The groundbreaking Green Umbrella new music series is a tribute to adventurous, open-minded and curious music lovers. The series, with a more-than-20-year history, offers five concerts during the 2008/09 season, featuring the LA PHIL New Music Group led by Esa-Pekka Salonen and guest conductors. The 2008/09 season lineup includes five world premieres.

"One of things I'm most proud of is the unrivaled success of the Green Umbrella series," Salonen says. "I wanted to make a gesture by having my last Green Umbrella concert focus on music of young and upcoming composers from all over the world. The four composers involved epitomize contemporary music. It is the most fitting way to wrap up my tenure: nurturing the next generation and helping new voices be heard and developed."

- Peter Sellars directs a performance with acclaimed soprano Dawn Upshaw and violin soloist Geoff Nuttall. The program features Kurtág's *Kafka Fragments*. (November 18, 2008)
- The New Music Group presents a program presenting excerpts from Cage's Sonatas and Interludes, Stockhausen's Kontre-punkte and Ligeti's Aventures and Nouvelles Aventures. (December 9, 2008)
- The New Music Group, under the baton of Assistant Conductor Lionel Bringuier, performs Tüür's *Architectronics III*, "*Postmetaminimal Dream*," and Andriessen's *De Stijl*. Also on the program is Mackey's *Ars Moriendi.* (*January 20, 2009*)
- Salonen conducts a program of four Philharmonic-commissioned new works from the following young artists: Fang Man, Erin Gee, Anna Clyne and Enrico Chapela. Also on the program is Salonen's *Floof.* (April 7, 2009)
- Visiting conductor John Adams leads a Composer's Choice program with guest artists
 Timothy Andres, piano, and Payton MacDonald, percussion. The program features two of
 Andres' works an LA PHIL-commissioned new work and How can I live in your world of
 ideas? in addition to MacDonald's Cowboy Tabla|Cowboy Raga for Percussion and
 Chamber Orchestra and Adams' Son of Chamber Symphony. (May 12, 2009)

MUSIC DIRECTOR DESIGNATE

Gustavo Dudamel, who officially becomes Music Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the beginning of the 2009/10 season, is the LA PHIL's Music Director Designate for the 2008/09 season. He conducts the Los Angeles Philharmonic for two weeks of subscription concerts, which include:

- Soprano Christine Brewer in a program that includes Ligeti's Atmosphères, Strauss' Four Last Songs and Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral" (November 28 - 30, 2008)
- Pianist Rudolf Buchbinder in a program that includes Kurtág's Stele, Mozart's Piano
 Concerto No. 23 and Strauss' Alpine Symphony. (December 4 7, 2008)

Prior to conducting the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Dudamel leads a U.S. tour of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. They perform for one night only at Walt Disney Concert Hall, featuring a program of Bernstein and Tchaikovsky. (November 24, 2008).

ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

Lionel Bringuier continues his two-year tenure as Assistant Conductor for the 2008/09 season. He leads four concerts with violinist Joshua Bell and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. (*April 23 - 26, 2009*)

Bringuier also conducts the LA PHIL's New Music Group as part of the *Green Umbrella* series. (January 20, 2009)

TOYOTA SYMPHONIES FOR YOUTH

The LA PHIL's family-friendly Toyota Symphonies for Youth concert series continues to make the experience of symphonic music come alive for children ages 5 to 11. Before every concert, from 10 a.m. – 11 a.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall becomes a musical playground with hands-on art making, musical activities, dance, and storytelling or theater. The 2008/09 TSFY series features Salonen's *Wing on Wing*, adapted for younger audiences. *Wing on Wing* received its world premiere and first Los Angeles Philharmonic performance during the inaugural 2003/04 season of Walt Disney Concert Hall. TSFY programs in 2008/09 include:

- Prokofiev Peter and the Wolf (September 27 & October 4, 2008)
- The Impressionists: Debussy and Ravel (November 15 & 22, 2008)
- Salonen Wing on Wing (February 28 & March 7, 2009)
- The German Tradition: Handel, Haydn, Mendelssohn (March 28 & April 4, 2009)

NORTHROP GRUMMAN SYMPHONIES FOR SCHOOLS

Northrop Grumman Symphonies for Schools (SFS) introduces students to the Los Angeles Philharmonic through an educational program specifically designed to engage students with music, beginning with preparatory matierals in the classroom, and ending with fun and informative performances at Walt Disney Concert Hall. The concerts, held for students in grades 3 – 12, have an age-appropriate repertoire, a host and provide a multi-disciplinary approach to music.

- Salonen Wing on Wing (March 3 & 4, 2009, elementary school students)
- Programming to be announced (March 5 & 6, 2009, secondary school students)

PRESENTATION SERIES

COLBURN CELEBRITY SERIES

The 2008/09 *Colburn Celebrity* recitals consist of two four-concert series featuring virtuoso performances by world-renowned artists. The season marks the completion of pianist András Schiff's two-year project surveying all 32 of Beethoven's Piano Sonatas in chronological order, over the course of eight recitals – with the final four in 2008/09.

- András Schiff, piano (October 15 & 22, 2008, March 25 & April 1, 2009)
- Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, piano duo (November 12, 2008)
- Leif Ove Andsnes, piano, and Christian Tetzlaff, violin (January 29, 2009)
- Evgeny Kissin, piano (March 16, 2009)
- Krystian Zimerman, piano (April 26, 2009)

VISITING ORCHESTRAS

The 2008/09 season welcomes three visiting orchestras – one in its Walt Disney Concert Hall debut – providing the chance to hear first-hand the finest orchestras from around the world:

- Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (November 24, 2008)
 Gustavo Dudamel, conductor
 Eyal Ein-Habar, flute
- San Francisco Symphony (January 26 & 27, 2009)
 Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor
 Garrick Ohlsson, piano (January 26, 2009)

Vienna Philharmonic (WDCH debut – March 3 & 4, 2009)
 Zubin Mehta, conductor
 Angela Maria Blasi, soprano (March 3, 2009)

CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY

The *Chamber Music Society* continues its successful presentations at Walt Disney Concert Hall in 2008/09, with two series of four concerts performed by members of the LA PHIL and distinguished guest artists. These concerts will include works by Handel, Haydn, Mendelssohn and others. Programming to be announced.

- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic with Yefim Bronfman, piano (October 7, 2008)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic (November 25, 2008)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic with Yuja Wang, piano (February 3, 2009)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic (February 24, 2009)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic with Kate Royal, soprano (March 17, 2009)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic (March 31, 2009)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic (April 28, 2009)
- Members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic with Christoph Eschenbach, piano (May 26, 2009)

BAROQUE VARIATIONS

Baroque Variations offers presentations of Baroque music on both period and modern instruments, performed by some of the world's most admired ensembles and soloists in a four-concert series. This season, the series includes a presentation of Bach works on the piano, from one of the first and one of the latest period ensembles to achieve international acclaim. A program of 18th century music is also featured by a virtuoso ensemble that does it all, from performing on modern and period instruments to creating innovative cross-artform projects.

• Piotr Anderszewski (October 18, 2008)

Piotr Anderszewski, piano

BACH Partita No. 2

BACH English Suite No. 3

BACH Partita No. 5

BACH English Suite No. 6

• Venice Baroque Orchestra (January 21, 2009)

Andrea Marcon, director

Viktoria Mullova, Giuliano Carmignola, violins

Program to include:

VIVALDI Sinfonia in G for Strings, RV 149

VIVALDI Sinfonia in C for Strings, RV 111a

VIVALDI Concerto in B-flat for Two Violins, RV 524

VIVALDI Concerto in A minor for Two Violins, RV 523

VIVALDI Sinfonia in G for Strings, RV 151 ("alla rustica")

VIVALDI Concerto in G minor for Strings, RV 152

VIVALDI Concerto in G for Two Violins, RV 516

• The English Concert (March 24, 2009)

Harry Bicket, conductor

David Daniels, countertenor

BACH Suite No. 1 in C, BWV 1066

BACH "Vergnüge Ruh" from Cantata No. 170

BACH "Qui sedes" from Mass in B minor

BACH Sinfonia from Cantata No. 42

BACH "Schlummert ein" from Cantata No. 83

BACH "Erbarme dich" from St. Matthew Passion

HANDEL Concerto Grosso in A, Op. 6, No. 11

HANDEL "Ombra cara" from Radamisto

HANDEL "A dispetto" from Tamerlano

HANDEL Act II Passacaglia from Radamisto

HANDEL Mad Scene from Orlando

• Australian Chamber Orchestra (April 21, 2009)

Richard Tognetti, conductor

Paul Lewis, piano

VIVALDI Concerto Grosso, Op. 3, No. 11

MOZART Piano Concerto No. 12 in A, K. 414

HAYDN Symphony No. 44, "Mourning"

RAMEAU Suite from Dardanus

ORGAN RECITALS

The *Organ Recital* series continues in 2008/09 with four programs by visiting organists, plus the annual silent film event on Halloween.

• Clark Wilson (October 31, 2008)

Programming and film to be announced

• Chelsea Chen (November 23, 2008)

DUPRÉ "Le monde dans l'attente du Sauveur," from Passion Symphony

HINDEMITH Sonata No. 1

VIERNE Naiades

GJEILO Sinfonietta

CHEN Taiwan Tableaux

BACH An Wasserflussen Babylon, BWV 653

REGER Chorale-fantasy on "Hallelujah Gott zu loben, bleibe meine Seelenfreud"

Kevin Bowyer (February 1, 2009)

BACH Prelude and Fugue in C, BWV 545

PÄRT Mein Weg hat Gipfel und Wellentäler

VIVALDI/BACH Concerto in A minor, BWV 593

PÄRT *Trivium*

BACH Vater unser im Himmelreich, BWV 682

PÄRT Pari Intervallo

BACH A Little Harmonic Labyrinth, BWV 591

PÄRT Annum per Annum

BACH Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582

Dame Gillian Weir (March 15, 2009)

DE GRIGNY Dialogue sur les grands jeux; Récit de tierce en taille

BUXTEHUDE Ciaccona in E minor

MESSIAEN "Joie et clarté" and "Combat de la Mort et de la Vie" from Les Corps

Glorieux

MESSIAEN "Les anges" and "Dieu parmi nous" from La nativité du Seigneur

SCARLATTI Three Sonatas for Organ

FRANCK Choral No. 2 in B minor

PEETERS Toccata, Fugue and Hymn on Ave maris stella

DURUFLÉ Scherzo

SLONIMSKY Toccata

MUSHEL Toccata

• Naji Hakim (May 24, 2009)

HAKIM Sakskøbing Praeludier

FRANCK Prière

COUPERIN Offertoire sure les grands jeux

BACH Prelude and Fugue in E minor

HAKIM To Call My True Love To My Dance

Improvisation

JAZZ

Christian McBride's Contract Extended through 2009/10 Season

Bassist Christian McBride, who serves as the Philharmonic Association's Carolyn and Bill Powers Creative Chair for Jazz, has had his contract extended, taking his tenure through the 2009/10

season. McBride oversees and advises on the LA PHIL Presents jazz performances and presentations at Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Hollywood Bowl.

The LA PHIL continues its *Jazz* series at Walt Disney Concert Hall with four subscription programs, designed by McBride. Concerts include:

• The Dave Brubeck Quartet

Among the most famous and busiest jazz pianists for more than 50 years, 87-year-old Dave Brubeck brings his Quartet to Walt Disney Concert Hall for an evening of solid swinging, soul and improvisation. (October 26, 2008)

Wayne Shorter Quartet & Imani Winds

One of the most distinctive and influential jazz saxophonists and composers, Wayne Shorter teams up with the Imani Winds for a feast of unique and inspiring improvisations. (December 10, 2008)

A Tribute to Ray Brown

The late, great Ray Brown, who performed with such recording legends as Frank Sinatra, Billy Eckstine, Tony Bennett, Ella Fitzgerald, Oscar Peterson and Peggy Lee, was also a great influence on young musicians and mentor to our own Christian McBride. McBride serves as Musical Director, as Brown's former band mates and special guests John Clayton, Russell Malone and Benny Green pay homage to this beloved jazz giant. Additional artists to be announced. (January 28, 2009)

Dianne Reeves

Pre-eminent jazz vocalist Dianne Reeves is celebrated for her commanding voice and unique improvising. Earthy, sophisticated, tender, sassy – she is considered one of the finest voices in jazz. (May 20, 2009)

WORLD MUSIC

The popular *World Music* series continues during 2008/09 at Walt Disney Concert Hall, bringing the best of music from around the globe to local audiences.

Milton Nascimento & The Jobim Trio

Brazil's angelic-voiced Milton Nascimento has been seducing audiences around the world for over four decades. Combined with the Jobim Trio – Paulo and Daniel Jobim and Paul Braga – the evening promises bossa nova masterpieces and a tribute to one of the richest periods in Brazil's musical history. (October 29, 2008)

Kodo

The awe-inspiring "samurai percussionists" of Japan's Kodo island explore the rhythms and traditions of *taiko* drumming. They mesmerize audiences through their beautifully choreographed movement, dramatic energy and the massive *o-daiko*, a 900-pound decorated drum carved from the trunk of a single tree and played by two men. (*February 8*, 2009)

Estampas Porteñas Tango Fire

One of the world's most alluring and elegant dance forms, tango, comes to Walt Disney Concert Hall with Buenos Aires' hottest company, Estampas Porteñas. Tracing the history of Argentina's finest art form from brothels through the Roaring '20s to the modern ballroom, these musicians and dancers present an evening of sensuality and passion like no other. (March 1, 2009)

Mariza

By popular demand, Mariza, Portugal's finest *fado* singer, returns. Her gorgeous and dramatic voice brings to life these evocative, sometimes yearning, sometimes joyous songs. *(March 18, 2009)*

SONGBOOK SERIES

The *Songbook* series continues in 2008/09 with three concerts, featuring a trio of America's treasures on the famed Walt Disney Concert Hall stage.

- Country music legend and 2008 Grammy winner Vince Gill comes to Walt Disney
 Concert Hall for An Intimate Evening with Vince Gill. The 19-time Grammy winner makes
 his Disney Concert Hall debut with a performance featuring new songs, classic hits and
 more. (October 25, 2008)
- With deep roots in the music world extraordinary songstress and Grammy winner Patti
 Austin presents Patti Austin: Avant Gershwin at Walt Disney Concert Hall for an evening
 of enchanting entertainment. Accompanied by Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, Austin
 celebrates the essential Gershwin-jazz connection with a fresh new twist. (February 13,
 2009)
- Known as the "goddess of Broadway," triple threat Chita Rivera singer/actress/dancer brings her fiery energy to Walt Disney Concert Hall for Chita Rivera: the Secret of Life. The Tony Award-winning legend presents a cabaret-style evening celebrating some of her most renowned Broadway performances. (May 2, 2009)

DECK THE HALL

The LA PHIL continues its holiday tradition with festive programs for the 2008/09 *Deck* the Hall series. Concerts include:

- A Chanticleer Christmas (December 16, 2008)
- Holiday Organ Spectacular, David Higgs, organ (December 17, 2008)
- 'Twas the Week Before Christmas: LA PHIL (December 20 & 21, 2008)
- Holiday Sing-Along, David Prather, host (December 21, 2008, 11:30 a.m., and 2:30 p.m.)

- The Count Basie Orchestra: A Swingin' Christmas (December 22, 2008)
- Soweto Gospel Choir (December 23, 2008)

SOUNDS ABOUT TOWN

The LA PHIL's goal of nurturing tomorrow's performers by providing opportunities for premiere youth ensembles to perform in Walt Disney Concert Hall continues with *Sounds About Town*.

- Oberlin Conservatory Orchestra (January 24, 2009)
- Claremont Young Musicians Orchestra; CSUN Youth Philharmonic; Olympia Youth Orchestra; and Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra (March 8, 2009)

CONDUCTOR AND ARTIST DEBUTS

WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL DEBUTS

Conductors/Directors

Harry Bicket (March 24, 2009)
Yannick Nézet-Séguin (March 12 – 15, 2009)
Richard Tognetti (April 21, 2009)
Xian Zhang (May 8 – 10, 2009)
Patricia Birch (December 18 – 20, 2008)

Cast

Neal Benari (December 18 – 20, 2008) Judy Blazer (December 18 – 20, 2008) Eugene Brancoveanu (December 18 - 20, 2008)

Ronit Widmann-Levy (December 18 - 20, 2008)

Dance

Estampas Porteñas (March 1, 2009)

Michael Schumacher (January 15 & 17, 2009)

Ensembles

Australian Chamber Orchestra (April 21, 2009)

The Dave Brubeck Quartet (October 26, 2008)

Imani Winds (December 10, 2008)

Kodo (February 8, 2009)

Oberlin Conservatory Orchestra (January 24, 2009)

Milton Nascimento & The Jobim Trio (October 29, 2008)

Soweto Gospel Choir (December 23, 2008)

Vienna Philharmonic (March 3, 2009)

• Flute

Eyal Ein-Habar (November 24, 2008)

• Guitar

Russell Malone (January 29, 2009)

Percussion

Payton MacDonald (May 12, 2009)

Piano

Timothy Andres (May 12, 2009)

Rudolf Buchbinder (December 4 - 7, 2008)

Christoph Eschenbach (May 26, 2008)

Katia Labèque (January 16 & 18, 2009)

Marielle Labèque (January 16 & 18, 2009)

Paul Lewis (April 21, 2009)

Yuja Wang (February 3 & 5 - 7, 2009)

Krystian Zimerman (April 26, 2009)

• Organ

Kevin Bowyer (February 1, 2009) Chelsea Chen (November 23, 2008) Naji Hakim (May 24, 2009) Richard Pare (April 3 – 5, 2009)

Violin

Nikolaj Znaider (December 12 - 14, 2009)

Vocal Soloists

Vince Gill (October 25, 2008)

Angela Maria Blasi, soprano (March 3, 2009)

David Daniels, countertenor (March 24, 2009)

Kate Royal, soprano (March 17 & 20 - 22, 2009)

Chita Rivera (May 2, 2009)

Russell Thomas, tenor (May 15 & 17, 2009)

RETURNING GUEST CONDUCTORS/DIRECTORS

- John Adams (May 12, 15 & 17, 2009)
- Thomas Adès (November 14 16, 2008)
- Marin Alsop (December 12 14, 2008)
- Piotr Anderszewski (October 18, 2008)
- Herbert Blomstedt (March 27 29, 2009)
- James Conlon (February 26 28, 2009)
- Stéphane Denève (January 22, 24 & 25, 2009)
- Charles Dutoit (February 5 7, 2009)
- Christoph Eschenbach (May 22 24 & 28 31, 2009)
- Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos (November 21 23, 2008)
- Miguel Harth-Bedoya (November 6 9, 2008)
- Bernard Labadie (April 3 5, 2009)
- Andrea Marcon (January 21, 2009)

- Zubin Mehta (March 3 & 4, 2009)
- Peter Sellars (November 18, 2008, January 15 & 17, May 15 & 17, April 16 18, 2009)
- Leonard Slatkin (January 30, 31, February 1, 2009)
- Robert Spano (February 12 15, 2009)
- Yuri Temirkanov (March 20 22, 2009)
- Michael Tilson Thomas (December 18 20, 2008, January 26 & 27, 2009)
- Christian Zacharias (February 19 22, 2009)

RETURNING GUEST ARTISTS

Bass

John Clayton (January 28, 2009) Christian McBride (January 28, 2009) Eric Owens (May 15 & 17, 2009)

Cello

Johannes Moser (March 27 - 29, 2009)

Ensembles

Chanticleer (December 16, 2008)

Count Basie Orchestra (December 22, 2008)

English Concert (March 24, 2009)

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (November 24, 2008)

Los Angeles Master Chorale (*November 14 – 16, 2008, January 15, April 10 & 11, May 17, 2009*)

San Francisco Symphony (January 26, 2009)

Venice Baroque Orchestra (January 21, 2009)

Wayne Shorter Quartet (December 10, 2008)

Organ

David Higgs (December 17, 2008)

Dame Gillian Weir (March 15, 2009)

Clark Wilson (October 31, 2008)

Piano

Piotr Anderszewski (October 18, 2008)

Leif Ove Andsnes (January 29, 2009)

Martha Argerich (March 12, 13, 14 & 15, 2009)

Emanuel Ax (November 12, 2008, January 9 – 11, 2009)

Yefim Bronfman (October 8 – 11, 2008, November 12, 2008, May 8 – 10, 2009)

Evgeny Kissin (March 16, 2009)

Garrick Ohlsson (January 26, 2009)

András Schiff (October 15 & 22, 2008, March 25, April 1, 2009)

Jean-Yves Thibaudet (February 12 - 15, 2009)

Christian Zacharias (February 19 – 22, 2009)

Violin

Joshua Bell (April 23 – 26, 2009)

Giuliano Carmignola (January 21, 2009)

Martin Chalifour (April 3 – 5, 2009)

Sarah Chang (February 26 - 28, 2009)

Julia Fischer (May 23 & 24, 2009)

Hilary Hahn (January 30, 31, February 1, 2009)

Midori (November 6 – 9, 2008)

Viktoria Mullova (January 21, 2009)

Geoff Nuttall (November 18, 2008)

Gil Shaham (January 22, 24 & 25, 2009) Christian Tetzlaff (January 29, 2009)

Vocal Soloists

Patti Austin, jazz vocalist (February 13, 2009)

Christine Brewer, soprano (November 28 - 30, 2008)

Mariza, fado singer (March 18, 2009)

Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano (November 14 - 16, 2008)

Dianne Reeves, jazz vocalist (May 20, 2009)

Jessica Rivera, soprano (May 15 & 17, 2009)

Dawn Upshaw, soprano (November 18, 2008, January 15 & 17, 2009)

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