



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
October 2, 2008  
Contact: Katherine E. Johnson  
(212) 875-5718; [johnsonk@nyphil.org](mailto:johnsonk@nyphil.org)

**ANDREY BOREKYO TO CONDUCT THE NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC IN  
WORKS BY LYADOV, KHATCHATURIAN, GIYA KANCHELI, AND  
STRAVINSKY,  
NOVEMBER 12–13 AND 15, 2008**

**Gil Shaham To Be the Soloist in Khachaturian's Violin Concerto**

Andrey Boreyko will lead the New York Philharmonic in Lyadov's *Kikimora*; Khachaturian's Violin Concerto, with Gil Shaham as soloist; Giya Kancheli's *Abii ne viderem*; and Stravinsky's *The Firebird Suite* (1919), Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, November 15, at 8:00 p.m.

**Related Events**

- **Pre-Concert Talk**  
Composer and conductor Victoria Bond will introduce the program one hour before each performance. Tickets are \$5 in addition to the concert ticket. Attendance is limited to 90 people. Information: [nyphil.org](http://nyphil.org) or (212) 875-5656
- **New York Philharmonic Podcast**  
Elliott Forrest, Peabody Award-winning broadcaster, producer, and afternoon host of 96.3 FM WQXR, will host this podcast. These previews of upcoming programs — through musical selections as well as interviews with guest artists, conductors, and Orchestra musicians — are available at [nyphil.org/podcast](http://nyphil.org/podcast) or from iTunes.
- **National Radio Broadcast**  
This concert will be broadcast the week of November 24, 2008,\* on *The New York Philharmonic This Week*, a radio concert series syndicated nationally to more than 250 stations by the WFMT Radio Network. The 52-week series, hosted by WFMT's Kerry Frumkin, is generously underwritten by The Kaplen Foundation, the Audrey Love Charitable Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Philharmonic's corporate partner, MetLife Foundation. The broadcast will be available on the Philharmonic's Website, [nyphil.org](http://nyphil.org). The program is broadcast locally in the New York metropolitan area on 96.3 FM WQXR on Thursdays at 9:00 p.m.

\*Check local listings for broadcast and program information.

(more)

## Artists

**Andrey Boreyko** is currently chief conductor of the Bern Symphony Orchestra as well as principal guest conductor of the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra (SWR). Starting in the 2009–10 season he will also become the general music director of the Düsseldorf Symphony, where he will conduct one opera production per season at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein. As a guest conductor, Andrey Boreyko's engagements have included concerts with the Berlin, Munich, and Royal Stockholm, and Oslo philharmonics; Leipzig Gewandhaus, NDR Symphony, German Symphony, Berlin, Danish National, and Zurich's Tonhalle orchestras; Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI Turin; Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw; and Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, among others. In North America he has conducted the orchestras of New York, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Detroit, Dallas, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. He recently made his debuts with the Hong Kong and Seoul Philharmonic orchestras, and appeared at the Pacific Music Festival. Future appearances include return visits to the Toronto Symphony, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra, Wiener Symphoniker, and Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala di Milano.

Mr. Boreyko's discography includes Arvo Pärt's *Lamentate* and Valentin Silvestrov's Symphony No. 6, both recorded with the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra (SWR) and released by ECM records Munich. In 2006 Hänssler CLASSIC released a live recording — with the SWR — of Shostakovich's Symphony No. 4 and the world premiere recording of the original version of the Suite Op. 29 a from the opera, *Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*.

Andrey Boreyko was born in St. Petersburg and graduated summa cum laude from the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory. International recognition came in 1987, when he won diplomas and prizes at the Grzegorz Fitelberg conductors' competition in Katowice and again in 1989 at the Kiril Kondrashin conductors' competition in Amsterdam. He has held positions as music director of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra (2001–06); principal guest conductor of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (2000–03); chief conductor of the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra (2004–08); and music director of the Jena Philharmonic Orchestra (1998–2003). Mr. Boreyko made his New York Philharmonic debut in December 2007.

Violinist **Gil Shaham** is internationally recognized by audiences and critics alike as one of today's most virtuosic and engaging classical artists. In addition to his many orchestral engagements, he regularly tours in recital with pianist Akira Eguchi. He also enjoys musical collaboration with his family, including his wife, violinist Adele Anthony, his sister, pianist Orli Shaham, and his brother-in-law, conductor David Robertson. In spring 2007 his dream of bringing together friends and colleagues for chamber music came to fruition in a tour of Brahms programs, culminating in a series of three concerts at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall.

(more)

Among Mr. Shaham's more than two dozen concerto and solo CDs are a number of bestsellers that have earned prestigious awards, including multiple Grammys, a Grand Prix du Disque, Diapason d'Or, and Gramophone Editor's Choice. Mr. Shaham's most recent recordings have been produced for his own label, Canary Classics, and include *The Fauré Album* with Akira Eguchi, *The Prokofiev Album* with Orli Shaham, and *Mozart in Paris*.

Gil Shaham was born in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, in 1971. He moved with his parents to Israel where, at the age of seven, he began violin studies with Samuel Bernstein of the Rubin Academy of Music and was granted annual scholarships by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation. In 1981, while studying with Haim Taub in Jerusalem, he made debuts with the Jerusalem Symphony and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra. That same year he began his studies with Dorothy DeLay and Jens Ellerman at Aspen. In 1982, after taking first prize in Israel's Claremont Competition, he became a scholarship student at The Juilliard School where he worked with Ms. DeLay and Hyo Kang. He has also studied at Columbia University.

Gil Shaham was awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant in 1990. He plays the 1699 "Countess Polignac" Stradivarius. He last performed with the New York Philharmonic in December 2007, playing Dvořák's violin Concerto in A minor.

### **Repertoire**

**Anatoly Lyadov's** former teacher, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, was among the many friends and admirers who tried to spur the composer to a major work. Lyadov was taken with the idea of composing an opera, but the years passed, and though three successive poets started librettos for him, none of the projects ever reached completion. All that ever came to musical fruition were some sketches, which Lyadov eventually exploited for brief tone poems, or "legends," as he preferred to call them. *Kikimora*, composed in 1909, depicts a witch from Russian folk mythology, a tiny but malevolent spirit who sits at a spinning wheel. The work is scored for a full late Romantic orchestra, with a huge percussion section, including the obligatory xylophone — a prerequisite for evoking rattling skeletons. *Kikimora* was first performed by the New York Philharmonic in December 1932, led by Issay Dobrowen. Its most recent performance was in May 2005, led by Hans Graf.

One of the most important Soviet-era composers, **Aram Khachaturian** was born in Tbilisi, Georgia, in 1903. His orchestral music — strongly influenced by the folk music of his Armenian heritage — is characterized by color and energy, combining sure-footed symphonic writing with a flair for the surprising and exotic. The **Violin Concerto**, written in 1940, is dedicated to David Oistrakh, who performed the premiere in Moscow that same year. The Philharmonic has performed the concerto only once before, in September 2001 under Kurt Masur, with Silvia Marcovici as soloist.

**Giya Kancheli** is one of the most distinguished living composers of the Republic of Georgia. His music is noted for its spirituality and intense, dramatic emotional expression. Composed in 1992, his *Abii ne viderem* (*I turned away that I might not see*) sets a solo alto flute against a string orchestra (with piano, harpsichord, and bass guitar) in a dramatic alternation of sound and silence. Of the piece, the composer wrote, "Recently I heard a quite accurate expression, 'All the other artistic genres try to affect us  
(more)"

through conviction while music catches us off guard.’ Indeed, the phenomenon of music possesses this rare quality. Most often, however, I am usually struck by that mysterious silence which precedes the birth of a sound. A world of sounds also exists after which silence is perceived as music. Within my modest possibilities, I decided to touch this complex problem in *Abii ne viderem*.” These concerts mark the Philharmonic’s first performances of the work.

What awakened the world to a 28-year-old Russian composer named **Igor Stravinsky** was his score for *The Firebird*, a two-scene ballet produced in Paris in 1910 by the Ballets Russes. Russian folklore lent the work its plot and vivid characters: Ivan, a young Tsarevich, the mystical Firebird, the ogre Kashchei, and 13 imprisoned princesses (one destined to marry Ivan). It has endured as one of Stravinsky’s most popular works. Over time the composer developed three concert suites from the original ballet: the first, in 1911; a second, from 1919, which is the most widely performed and is presented on this program; the third, in 1946. The Philharmonic first performed the 1919 version of *The Firebird* Suite in February 1921, with Walter Damrosch conducting the New York Symphony (which merged with the New York Philharmonic in 1928 to form today’s New York Philharmonic). The most recent performance was on tour in Europe in May 2007, led by Music Director Lorin Maazel.

\* \* \*

**Credit Suisse** is the Global Sponsor of the New York Philharmonic.

\* \* \*

Gil Shaham’s appearance is made possible by a gift from the **Florence Blau Trust**.

\* \* \*

Programs of the New York Philharmonic are supported, in part, by public funds from the **New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts**, and the **National Endowment for the Arts**.

\* \* \*

Single tickets for these performances are \$30 to \$109. Tickets for Pre-Concert Talks are \$5. Tickets for Open Rehearsals are \$16. All tickets may be purchased online at **nyphil.org** or by calling **(212) 875-5656**, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. daily. Tickets may also be purchased at the **Avery Fisher Hall Box Office**, Lincoln Center, Broadway at 65th Street. The Box Office opens at 10:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and at noon on Sunday. On performance evenings, the Box Office closes one-half hour after performance time; other evenings it closes at 6:00 p.m. A limited number of \$12 tickets for select concerts may be available through the Internet for students within 10 days of the performance, or in person the day of. Valid identification is required. To determine ticket availability, call the Philharmonic’s Customer Relations Department at **(212) 875-5656**. [Ticket prices subject to change.]

The Philharmonic’s **24-hour hotline, (212) 875-5709**, provides information on this and other New York Philharmonic programs. For press tickets, call Lanore Carr in the New York Philharmonic Public Relations Department at (212) 875-5714, or e-mail her at [carrl@nyphil.org](mailto:carrl@nyphil.org).

\* \* \*

(more)

**New York Philharmonic**

Avery Fisher Hall

Wednesday, November 12, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

*Open Rehearsal — 9:45 a.m.*

Thursday, November 13, 2008, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, November 15, 2008, 8:00 p.m.

Pre-Concert Talk (one hour before each concert) with composer and conductor Victoria Bond
--

Andrey Boreyko, conductor

Gil Shaham, violin

LYADOV

KHACHATURIAN

Giya KANCHELI

STRAVINSKY

*Kikimora*

Violin Concerto

*Abii ne viderem*

*The Firebird Suite (1919)*

###

<p><i>Photography is available in the New York Philharmonic online newsroom, <a href="http://nyphil.org/newsroom">nyphil.org/newsroom</a>, or by contacting the Public Relations Department: (212) 875-5700; <a href="mailto:PR@nyphil.org">PR@nyphil.org</a>.</i></p>
--