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**2007 NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS IN THE PARKS,
SPONSORED BY CIT,
TO TAKE PLACE THROUGHOUT THE METROPOLITAN AREA
JULY 9–17, 2007**

**Ludovic Morlot To Lead Six Concerts, with Violinist Stefan Jackiw
Making His Philharmonic Debut;**

**Sir Andrew Davis To Conduct Second Central Park Concert, With
Soprano Measha Brueggergosman Making Her Philharmonic Debut**

**New York Philharmonic Brass Ensemble To Open the Series at the
PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey**

**Philharmonic To Collaborate with Food Bank For New York City on
Weeklong, Citywide Food Drive in Parks in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens,
Staten Island, and the Bronx**

For the 43rd season, the New York Philharmonic will bring free music under the stars to New Yorkers in the five boroughs, Long Island, and New Jersey during the **2007 New York Philharmonic Concerts in the Parks, Sponsored by CIT, July 9–17, 2007**, at 8:00 p.m. **Ludovic Morlot** will lead six concerts, featuring Berlioz's *Le Corsaire Overture*; Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, with violinist **Stefan Jackiw** making his Philharmonic debut; and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique." **Sir Andrew Davis** will conduct the Orchestra in the final Central Park concert (July 17), with soprano **Measha Brueggergosman** making her Philharmonic debut in arias by Massenet, Catalani, and Weber, on a program that includes R. Strauss's *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks* and Musorgsky/Ravel's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. The first concert, Monday, July 9, will take place at the PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey, and will be performed by a New York Philharmonic Brass Ensemble. All concerts begin at 8:00 p.m., with fireworks following each concert except at the PNC Bank Arts Center.

In conjunction with the free parks concerts, the **New York Philharmonic** and the **Food Bank For New York City** are collaborating on a weeklong, citywide food drive. Concertgoers are invited to donate non-perishable food items at the white-and-orange
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food bins located at the main entrance to each park or next to the program stands throughout each of the parks (except at the PNC Bank Arts Center in New Jersey and Heckscher State Park in Long Island). (For more information see separate release on New York Philharmonic collaboration with Food Bank For New York City, or visit nyphil.org or foodbanknyc.org.)

The 2007 New York Philharmonic Concerts in the Parks, Sponsored by CIT, will take place in the following locations: PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, New Jersey; Prospect Park, Brooklyn; Central Park, Manhattan; Cunningham Park, Queens; Snug Harbor, Staten Island; Heckscher State Park, East Islip, Long Island; and Van Cortlandt Park, the Bronx.

The Philharmonic's annual free parks concerts have become an integral part of summer in New York, drawing loyal Philharmonic fans from all walks of life. Each year these concerts transform parks throughout the New York area into a patchwork of picnickers, and provide music lovers with an opportunity to hear the best classical music under the stars. Since their inception in 1965, the performances have delighted more than 14 million listeners, including 122,300 last summer alone.

The Philharmonic has launched a dedicated summer area of its Website, nyphil.org/summer07, detailing the Orchestra's summer 2007 activities. It will be updated over the course of the season and will include online photo albums, as well as information about the music, performers, and venues.

"It is a special pleasure each year for us to offer free concerts in the beautiful parks of the Metropolitan area," said New York Philharmonic President and Executive Director Zarin Mehta. "This year, we're delighted to welcome back two wonderful conductors, Ludovic Morlot and Sir Andrew Davis, as well as two exciting young soloists, violinist Stefan Jackiw and soprano Measha Brueggergosman, who are making their Philharmonic debuts. We extend our deepest gratitude to CIT for enabling us to give this gift to the people of New York."

"CIT is proud to serve as the sponsor of Concerts in the Parks and to support the New York Philharmonic," said CIT Chairman and CEO Jeffrey M. Peek. "By supporting this series of concerts, thousands of New Yorkers and visitors alike will be able to enjoy the wonderful music of one of the world's most esteemed orchestras in some of the most beautiful parks in New York."

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The New York Philharmonic is offering a new collector's T-shirt to celebrate the Concerts in the Parks. While they last, the T-shirts will sell for \$12 each, or two for \$20 in the parks, and \$12 each on the Philharmonic's Website, nyphil.org.

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About CIT

Founded in 1908, CIT Group Inc. (NYSE: CIT) is a leading global commercial and consumer finance company headquartered in New York City with more than \$74 billion in managed assets. CIT, a member of the Fortune 500 and the S&P 500 Index, provides innovative financing solutions, leasing products, and expert advisory services to clients in more than 30 industries worldwide. www.cit.com

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Artists

Frenchman **Ludovic Morlot** is quickly establishing a reputation as a fine international conductor. Already in great demand in North America, he returns to the Boston and Chicago Symphony Orchestras in the 2006–07 season. In Europe Mr. Morlot returns to the Ensemble Intercontemporain in Paris, and makes his debut with the Rotterdam Philharmonic and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestras. In future seasons he will work for the first time with the Deutsches Symphonie Orchester Berlin; Zurich's Tonhalle; Orchestre de la Suisse Romande; and Budapest Festival Orchestra. He will also return to the Far East and the Orchestra Ensemble Kanazawa in Japan, and will make his Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra debut.

Mr. Morlot has maintained a close working relationship with the Boston Symphony Orchestra since 2001, when he was the Seiji Ozawa Fellowship Conductor at the Tanglewood Music Center. This is his final season as that orchestra's assistant conductor, a position he has held since 2004. He also assisted with the Paris production of Schoenberg's *Erwartung* and Poulenc's *La Voix humaine* with Jessye Norman and the Orchestre National de Lyon, during his time as its conductor-in-residence under David Robertson (2002–04). Trained as a violinist, Mr. Morlot studied conducting as a pupil of the late Charles Bruck at the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock, Maine. He continued his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London under Sir Colin Davis, and then at the Royal College of Music as recipient of the Norman del Mar Conducting Fellowship. Mr. Morlot made his New York Philharmonic conducting debut in March 2006, replacing previously scheduled conductor Christoph von Dohnányi. He returned to conduct concerts in May 2006.

Sir Andrew Davis has been music director of the Lyric Opera of Chicago since 2000, as well as artistic advisor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra since the 2005–06 season. He is conductor laureate of the Toronto Symphony and the BBC Symphony, and former music director of the Glyndebourne Festival Opera. Born in 1944 in Hertfordshire, England, he studied at King's College, Cambridge, where he was an organ scholar before taking up the baton. His diverse repertoire ranges from Baroque to contemporary, and his conducting credits span the symphonic, operatic, and choral worlds.

With the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Sir Andrew has led concerts at the London Proms and on tour to Hong Kong, Japan, the U.S., and Europe. He has conducted the world's
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major orchestras, from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to the Berlin Philharmonic and Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw, and at international opera houses including The Metropolitan Opera, Milan's Teatro alla Scala, and at the Bayreuth Festival. In 1992 he was named a Commander of the British Empire for his services to British Music, and in 1999 he was made a Knight Bachelor in the New Year's Honours List.

In the 2006–07 season, in addition to numerous operas at the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Sir Andrew leads the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in concerts in Pittsburgh and at Carnegie Hall, as well as on a European tour. He conducts the London Philharmonia in London and on tour in an Elgar celebration, and makes appearances with the Toronto, Dallas, Detroit, and BBC symphony orchestras. Sir Andrew made his New York Philharmonic debut in 1974, and most recently performed with the Orchestra in January 2004.

At age 20, violinist **Stefan Jackiw** has embarked on an impressive performing career. In recent seasons he has performed with the Minnesota Orchestra, Naples Philharmonic; Indianapolis, Oregon, Pittsburgh, and Rochester symphony orchestras; Orchestra of St. Luke's at Caramoor, Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Boston Pops, with which he made his debut in 1997, playing the Wieniawski Violin Concerto No. 2 under Keith Lockhart.

In spring 2000 he made his European debut in London to critical acclaim, playing the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E minor with the Philharmonia Orchestra under Benjamin Zander. In Europe, he has also performed with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Strasbourg, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and, most recently, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic. He is also an active recitalist, having already performed on numerous important series. In the summer of 2001 Mr. Jackiw was invited to the Schleswig-Holstein Festival, where Christoph Eschenbach presented him in a collaborative recital. He has performed on the Rising Stars Series of the Ravinia Festival, and on the Boston Celebrity Series in recital at Jordan Hall. In 2004 he gave his New York recital debut on the Accolades series at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as his Paris recital debut on the Concerts du Jeudi series at the Louvre.

Born to two physicists, Mr. Jackiw began playing the violin at the age of four. His past teachers include Zinaida Gilels and Michèle Auclair. Currently, he is a student at Harvard University, as well as an artist diploma candidate at the New England Conservatory, where he studies with Donald Weilerstein. In 2002 Mr. Jackiw was awarded the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. These concerts mark his Philharmonic debut.

Canadian soprano **Measha Brueggergosman**'s 2006–07 performances include appearances with Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra; Peter Oundjian and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra; Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco

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Symphony; Franz Welser-Möst and the Cleveland Orchestra; and Gustavo Dudamel with the Israel Philharmonic and on a European tour with the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra. She will perform solo recitals at London's Wigmore Hall, Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels, University Musical Society's Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Hertz Hall in Berkeley, California, and other venues.

Highlights of Ms. Brueggergosman's recent seasons include Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites* at the Vancouver Opera, Puccini's *Turandot* with Cincinnati Opera, as well as concert performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Leonard Slatkin; Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos; National Arts Centre Orchestra with Patrick Summers; Boston Symphony Orchestra with Hans Graf; and Toronto Symphony Orchestra under Jiri Behlolavek. Her second CD release, *Extase*, offers Berlioz's *Les Nuits d'été* and Massenet opera arias with Yoav Talmi and the Orchestre Symphonique de Québec. Ms. Brueggergosman studied at the University of Toronto with Mary Morrison and pursued postgraduate studies in Germany with Edith Wiens. She also has worked with Christoph Eschenbach, Ruth Falcon, Brigitte Fassbaender, Margo Garrett, Håkan Hagegård, Jessye Norman, Rudolf Piernay, and Thomas Quasthoff. This concert marks her Philharmonic debut.

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The New York Philharmonic Concerts in the Parks are sponsored by **CIT**, with major support also provided by **The City of New York**, through the Department of Cultural Affairs, Kate D. Levin, Commissioner, **The Starr Foundation**, **The Carson Family Charitable Trust**, and the **Arthur Ross Foundation**.

Additional support is provided by **The Bodman Foundation**, **Herman Goldman Foundation**, **The Marc Haas Foundation**, **Victor Herbert Foundation**, **The Seth Sprague Educational and Charitable Foundation**, and **The Staten Island Foundation**.

The Concerts in the Parks are presented in cooperation with the **City of New York Department of Parks and Recreation**, **Michael Bloomberg, Mayor**; **Adrian Benepe, Commissioner**; the five **Borough Presidents**; and the **City Council of New York**. Fireworks by Bay Fireworks in Central Park, Cunningham Park, Prospect Park, Van Cortlandt Park, and Snug Harbor. Fireworks by Grucci in Heckscher State Park.

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2007 NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC CONCERTS IN THE PARKS,
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Program I

New York Philharmonic Brass Ensemble

Monday, July 9

PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel, NJ

- Take the Garden State Parkway to exit #116

Program II

Ludovic Morlot, conductor

Stefan Jackiw, violin*

BERLIOZ
MENDELSSOHN
TCHAIKOVSKY

Le Corsaire Overture
Violin Concerto
Symphony No. 6, "Pathétique"

Tuesday, July 10

Prospect Park, Brooklyn

- Enter at Grand Army Plaza, Prospect Park West at 9th Street or Bartel-Pritchard Circle at the intersection of Prospect Park West, Prospect Park Southwest and 15th Street

Wednesday, July 11

The Great Lawn, Central Park, Manhattan

- Westside entrances: West 81st or 86th Streets at Central Park West
- Eastside entrances: East 79th or 85th Streets at Fifth Avenue

Thursday, July 12

Cunningham Park, Queens

- Enter at 193rd Street, near 81st Avenue or Union Turnpike. Concert site is at 193rd Street Field

Friday, July 13

Snug Harbor, Staten Island

- Enter site at Fillmore Street, or Snug Harbor Road, and head towards South Meadows Concert Stage

Saturday, July 14

Heckscher State Park, East Islip, Long Island

- Take the Heckscher State Parkway to Heckscher State Park. Concert site is at the North Field

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Monday, July 16

Van Cortlandt Park, Bronx

- Enter the park from Broadway, near West 251st Street. Concert site is north of the baseball fields.

Program III

Sir Andrew Davis, conductor

Measha Brueggergosman, soprano*

R. STRAUSS

WEBER

MASSENET

CATALANI

MUSORGSKY/Ravel

Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks

“Und ob die Wolke” from *Der Freischütz*

“Il est doux, il est bon” from *Hérodiade*

“Ebben? Ne andrò lontana” from *La Wally*

Pictures at an Exhibition

Tuesday, July 17

The Great Lawn, Central Park, Manhattan

- Westside entrances: West 81st or 86th Streets at Central Park West
- Eastside entrances: East 79th or 85th Streets at Fifth Avenue

All concerts begin at 8:00 p.m. and will be followed by fireworks in all locations except New Jersey. For further information, call the New York Philharmonic hotline: (212) 875-5709, or visit the Philharmonic's website, **nyphil.org**.

**denotes Philharmonic debut*

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All programs subject to change

A full range of color and black & white photographs is available by contacting the New York Philharmonic Public Relations department: (212) 875-5700 or PR@nyphil.org.