



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Shannon McSweeney-LeMay,  
Public Relations Manager @ 845.295-2420  
[smcsweeney@BethelWoodsCenter.org](mailto:smcsweeney@BethelWoodsCenter.org)  
*Hi-Res photos available upon request*

## **NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC RETURNS TO BETHEL WOODS CENTER FOR THE ARTS**

*Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>*  
Bramwell Tovey, *Conductor*  
Joyce Yang, *Piano*

**BETHEL, NY (April 7, 2008) -- The New York Philharmonic** will return to the Pavilion Stage for a third consecutive season on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. This will be an exceptional evening with The New York Philharmonic; the nation's longest running active symphony orchestra which will present its 14,656<sup>th</sup> concert — a milestone unmatched by any other orchestra in the world. The evening's performance will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display.

**Bramwell Tovey** will lead the Orchestra in Shostakovich's *Festive Overture*, Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 2* with **Joyce Yang** as soloist, as well as selections from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*.

A musician of striking versatility, **Bramwell Tovey** is acknowledged around the world for his artistic depth and his warm, charismatic personality on the podium. His career as a conductor is enhanced by his work as a composer and pianist, lending him a remarkable musical perspective.

Mr. Tovey's tenures as music director of the Vancouver Symphony, Luxembourg Philharmonic, and Winnipeg Symphony orchestras have been characterized by his expertise in the opera, choral, and British repertoire. He garnered a 2007 Grammy Award for his recording with violinist James Ehnes and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Tovey was recently named principal guest conductor for the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, and he works frequently with the Toronto Symphony, Montreal Symphony, Royal Philharmonic, and Bournemouth Symphony orchestras, among many others. He has presided as host and conductor of the New York Philharmonic's *Summertime Classics* series at Avery Fisher Hall since its founding in 2004, a role he continues this summer.

A champion of contemporary music, during his tenure in Winnipeg Mr. Tovey developed a New Music Festival. As a composer, he was honored with the Best Canadian Classical Composition Juno Award in 2003 for his *Requiem for a Charred Skull*. His *Urban Runway*, a co-commission for the New York Philharmonic and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, will be premiered in New York on July 3 and 4, and he is at work on a full-length opera for the Calgary Opera, *The Inventor*, to premiere in January 2011.

Bramwell Tovey has been awarded honorary degrees, including a fellowship from the Royal Academy of Music in London; honorary doctorates of law from the Universities of Winnipeg and Manitoba and Kwantlen University College; and a Royal Conservatory of Music fellowship in Toronto. In 1999, he received the M. Joan Chalmers National Award for Artistic Direction, a Canadian prize awarded to artists for outstanding contributions in the performing arts.

In June 2005, at age 19, **Joyce Yang** was awarded the silver medal at the Twelfth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, as well as the Steve De Groote Memorial Award for the Best Performance of Chamber Music, and the Beverley Taylor Smith Award for the Best Performance of a New Work. She has since performed with ensembles including The Philadelphia Orchestra, New York Philharmonic and the Chicago, Houston, Indianapolis, and National symphony orchestras.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Yang began piano lessons at age four from her aunt; over the next few years she won several Korean national piano competitions. By age ten she had entered the Korean National Conservatory, and subsequently made a number of concerto and recital appearances in Seoul and Taejon. She moved to the United States in 1997 to begin studies at the pre-college division of The Juilliard School; in her first year there she won its Pre-College Division Concerto Competition. When she was 12 she won The Philadelphia Orchestra's Greenfield Competition.

Ms. Yang, currently a student at Juilliard, is featured in *In the Heart of Music*, the film documentary about the 2005 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, and she has released her debut CD on harmonia mundi usa label.

The **New York Philharmonic** is the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States and one of the oldest in the world. Lorin Maazel became Music Director in 2002, succeeding Kurt Masur in a distinguished line of 20th-century musical giants that has included Bernstein, Zubin Mehta, and Pierre Boulez; Mahler, Walter, and Toscanini. Since the Orchestra was founded in 1842 it has championed the new music of its time, commissioning or premiering many important works, from Dvořák's Symphony No. 9, *From the New World* (1893) and Gershwin's *An American in Paris* (1928) to John Adams's Pulitzer Prize-winning *On the Transmigration of Souls* (2002, the CD of which received three Grammy Awards) and Esa-Pekka Salonen's Piano Concerto (2007).

The Philharmonic has long played a leading role in American musical life, and over the last century has become renowned around the globe, having appeared in 422 cities in 59 countries on five continents, including, most recently, Taipei, Kaohsiung, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Beijing on Asia 2008; and in Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as the first American orchestra to perform there. Long a media pioneer, the Philharmonic began radio broadcasts in 1922, and is currently represented by *The New York Philharmonic This Week*; the program is syndicated nationally 52 weeks per year, streamed on the Orchestra's Website, nyphil.org, and carried on XM Satellite Radio. In addition, the Orchestra's concerts are now broadcast throughout Europe on BBC Radio 3. On television, in the 1950s and '60s the Philharmonic inspired a generation of music lovers through Leonard Bernstein's Young People's Concerts, telecast on CBS; its presence on television has continued with annual appearances on PBS's *Live From Lincoln Center*, which began with that series' inaugural episode in 1976. In 2003 it made television history as the first Orchestra ever to perform live on the Grammy Awards telecast, one of the most-watched television events worldwide.

The New York Philharmonic may be the most recorded orchestra in history, with more than 1,500 authorized releases to its credit, starting with its first pressing in 1917. The Internet has expanded the Orchestra's reach, and in 2006 the Philharmonic became the first major American orchestra to offer downloadable concerts, recorded live, which are available on the DG Concerts label, exclusively on iTunes.

On June 4, 2007, the New York Philharmonic proudly announced a new partnership with Credit Suisse, its first-ever and exclusive Global Sponsor.

Good seats are still available. Reserved ticket prices are \$95.00, \$65.00, \$45.00 and \$30.00 for lawn. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for an 8:00 p.m. performance. Parking is free. Concert attendees are invited to also visit the acclaimed new Museum at Bethel Woods, which is reserved exclusively for them after 1:00pm. Tickets and Museum admission are available at [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org), by phone at 845-454-3388 or at the Bethel Woods Box office.

###

**About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts:**

The mission of the not-for-profit Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is to present compelling programs that educate, entertain and engage audiences of all ages, to improve the quality of life and the vitality of our region. Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is located approximately 90 minutes from New York City at the site of the original 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY. The 15,000-seat outdoor performing arts venue and the soon-to-be-opened Museum at Bethel Woods are set within 2,000 bucolic acres. The main pavilion covers 4,500 seats with another 10,000 on a natural sloping lawn while offering unique backdrops including the original festival site and the majesty of the surrounding Sullivan County countryside. The venue presents a diverse selection of popular artists, a range of orchestral performances, community events and music and arts educational opportunities. By providing artists with the opportunity to perform on one of music's most legendary grounds, Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is committed to being a world-class cultural destination. In addition, The Museum at Bethel Woods will further embed this arts campus as one of the premier sites in New York State.

[www.bethelwoodscenter.org](http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org)