



Celebrity Series of Boston
Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

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For Immediate Release

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Celebrity Series of Boston
Gary Dunning, President and Executive Director
Presents
Academy of St. Martin in the Fields
with Joshua Bell, director and solo violin
on Sunday, April 15th at 3pm
at Symphony Hall

(Boston) Celebrity Series of Boston will present **Academy of St. Martin in the Fields with Joshua Bell** on Sunday, April 15, 2011 at 3pm at Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston. Media partner is 99.5 All Classical.

Tickets for Academy of St. Martin in the Fields with Joshua Bell start at \$65, and are available online at www.celebrityseries.org, by calling CelebrityCharge at (617) 482-6661 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., or at the Symphony Hall box office, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston.

This is the ninth appearance with the **Celebrity Series of Boston** for the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields and the sixth appearance for Joshua Bell.

The **Academy of St. Martin in the Fields** is considered one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world, and is renowned for its polished and refined sound, rooted in outstanding musicianship. Formed in 1958 from a group of leading London musicians, and working without a conductor, the Academy gave its first performance in its namesake church on 13th November 1959. Today, the Academy performs over 100 concerts around the world each year, with as many as 15 tours each season. In 1993, the Academy became the first and only orchestra to be awarded the Queen's Award for Export.

The Academy's partnership with its founder Sir Neville Marriner remains the most recorded pairing of orchestra and conductor and, with over 500 recordings under its belt, the Academy is one of the most recorded chamber orchestras in the world. Originally directed by Sir Neville from the leader's chair, the collegiate spirit and flexibility of the original small, conductorless ensemble remains an Academy hallmark. This tradition continues today with the appointment of **virtuoso violinist Joshua Bell** as its new Music Director with effect from September 2011.

Violinist Joshua Bell has enchanted audiences worldwide with his virtuosity and tone of rare beauty, earning him the title "classical music superstar." An Avery Fisher Prize recipient and Musical America's 2010 Instrumentalist of the Year, Bell is The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields' newly named Music Director. Bell came to national attention at age 14 in his debut with Riccardo Muti and the Philadelphia

(more)

Orchestra. Today he is equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestra leader and composer who performs his own cadenzas to several of the major concerto repertoire.

Bell's 2011 festival appearances include Ravinia, Tanglewood, Verbier and Mostly Mozart. He performs with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Montreal, Dallas, Colorado, Atlanta, San Francisco and National Symphony orchestras. A Carnegie Hall recital, appearances with the New York Philharmonic and European tours conclude 2011. 2012 includes a U.S. recital tour and a tour with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields in the U.S. Bell tours Europe with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Vladimir Jurowski and in recital with Jeremy Denk.

An exclusive Sony Classical artist, *French Impressions*, his new album of French sonatas with Jeremy Denk was released in January, 2012.

Since his first LP recording at 18, Bell has recorded more than 36 CDs garnering Mercury, Grammy, Gramophone and Echo Klassik Awards. Recent releases include *At Home With Friends*, the *Defiance* soundtrack, *Vivaldi's The Four Seasons* and *The Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto* with the Berlin Philharmonic. He has recorded critically acclaimed performances of Sibelius and Goldmark and the Beethoven and Mendelssohn concertos both featuring his own cadenzas; and the Oscar winning soundtrack, *The Red Violin*.

Bell received his first violin at age four and by age 12 was serious about the instrument, thanks to violinist and pedagogue Josef Gingold. Bell performs on the 1713 Huberman Stradivarius.

The All-Beethoven program for this performance is as follows:

Beethoven

Coriolan Overture, Opus 62

Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 61

Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Opus 92

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 73rd 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. 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 Amy & Joshua Boger; The Little Family Foundation; Susanne Marcus Collins Foundation; The John S. and Cynthia Reed Foundation; Tufts Health Plan; Foley & Lardner LLP; Parametric Technology Corporation; Charlesbank Capital Partners; Susan Pravda & Gabor Garai, Honorary Consul General of Hungary, and the Hungarian Society of Massachusetts; Comcast; Massachusetts Cultural Council; New England Foundation for the Arts; and The D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC.

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