



**Atlanta
Symphony
Orchestra**

news

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**GUEST CONDUCTOR MICHAEL CHRISTIE
TO LEAD ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
APRIL 26, 27, and 28, 2012**

**Pianist Behzod Abduraimov To Make Atlanta Symphony Debut
Playing Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No. 1**

**Mr. Christie To Lead Atlanta Symphony Premiere
Of Weinberg's *Rhapsody on Moldavian Themes*
And Schubert's "Unfinished" Symphony No. 8**

Program Pays Homage To Composers Who Were Banned In Nazi Germany

Guest conductor Michael Christie will lead the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in a program featuring the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra premiere of Weinberg's *Rhapsody on Moldavian Themes* and the Orchestra premiere Schubert's Symphony No. 8, "Unfinished," as completed by Marcel Tyberg. Guest pianist Behzod Abduraimov will make his Atlanta Symphony debut playing Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No. 1. The performances will take place April 26, 27, and 28, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. in Atlanta Symphony Hall at the Woodruff Arts Center.

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Vice President for Artistic Planning Evans Mirageas provided the following description of the program:

Both Marcel Tyberg, who completed Schubert's immortal Unfinished Symphony, and Mieczyslaw Weinberg were victims of the Holocaust. Mendelssohn, though long dead by the 1930s, was listed prominently in an infamous book published by the Nazi propaganda machine as a composer whose music was totally banned in Germany. Tyberg perished in Auschwitz in 1944. Weinberg was only a bit more fortunate in that he was able to escape to The Soviet Union in 1939, but every other member of his family was murdered by the Nazi regime. Presenting these works in one concert is an act of memory in the month of April when Yom HaShoah — the annual commemoration of the Holocaust — is observed as well as the 2012 celebrations of Israel Independence Day which this year occurs on April 26.

These performances will mark Mr. Christie's fourth appearance with the Orchestra.

About the Repertoire

SCHUBERT

Symphony No. 8, “Unfinished”

No one is certain why Franz Schubert completed only two movements of what, by tradition, should have been a four-movement symphony. Schubert worked on the B-minor Symphony in October and November of 1822... ([more](#))

MENDELSSOHN

Piano Concerto No. 1

On May 8, 1830, 21-year-old Felix Mendelssohn departed Berlin for Italy. During his Italian sojourn, Mendelssohn received the inspiration for one of his most famous works, the Symphony No. 4 in A Major, Opus 90. But in addition to the “Italian” Symphony, Mendelssohn’s travels during this period led to the creation of yet another work—one that would prove to be remarkably popular during the German composer’s lifetime... ([more](#))

WEINBERG

Rhapsody on Moldavian Themes

Mieczysław Weinberg, the son of Jewish parents of Moldavian origin, was born in Warsaw. Weinberg studied at the Warsaw Conservatory, where he was recognized as a virtuoso pianist of great promise. When the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, Weinberg emigrated to Soviet Russia.... ([more](#))

About the Artists

Michael Christie became the Virginia G. Piper Music Director of the Phoenix Symphony in August 2005 and Music Director of the Brooklyn Philharmonic in September 2005. With his orchestras, he has embarked on a series of ambitious projects focusing on interdisciplinary collaborations with visual artists, dance companies, and theater groups, as well as on contemporary composers such as Gorecki, Ligeti, Adams, Gojov, and Tan Dun... ([more](#))

At the age of 18, **Behzod Abduraimov** achieved a sensational victory in the 2009 London International Piano Competition, winning first prize following an electrifying performance of Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No. 3. This has resulted in invitations to work with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (performing Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No.1 under Nowak) and the London Philharmonic Orchestra (playing Saint Saens’ Piano Concerto No. 2 under Tortelier)... ([more](#))

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**, currently in its 67th season, consistently affirms its position as one of America’s leading Orchestras by performing great music, presenting great artists, educating, and engaging... ([more](#))

Concert Previews

Audiences have the opportunity to learn more about the music they’ll be hearing at concerts with free [Concert Previews](#) given by composers, conductors, educators, and musical experts, all hosted by [ASO Insider and Program Annotator Ken Meltzer](#). Thursday evenings, 7:00–7:30 p.m. in Symphony Hall (unless otherwise noted). Concerts previews are **free and open to all concert ticket holders**. Speakers and locations are subject to change.

Fanfare Pre-Concert Dinner Buffet

An Atlanta Symphony tradition returns in the 2011–2012 season — *Fanfare*, the pre-concert buffet-style dining by Legendary Partners, will be available to all concertgoers at all evening Delta Classical, Superpops!, and the Cola-Cola Holiday concert performances from 6:00–8:00 p.m. ... [\(more\)](#)

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This concert is part of the Delta Classical Series and sponsored by Porsche Cars North America and Hennessy Porsche.

Delta Air Lines is the Official Airline of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra.

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Single tickets for these performances are \$21 to \$79. All single tickets for the 2011–2012 season are on sale now, and available online at atlantasymphony.org, or by calling (404) 733-5000. Tickets may also be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com, all ticketmaster outlets, and the [Woodruff Arts Center Box Office](#), located in the Woodruff Arts Center at 15th and Peachtree Streets. Box office hours are Monday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Saturday and Sunday 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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MICHAEL CHRISTIE LEADS SCHUBERT'S "UNFINISHED" SYMPHONY

Delta Classical Series

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, April 26, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, April 27, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 28, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Michael Christie, conductor
Behzod Abduraimov, piano*

SCHUBERT (completed, Tyberg)
MENDELSSOHN
WEINBERG

Symphony No. 8, "Unfinished" ‡
Piano Concerto No. 1
Rhapsody on Moldavian Themes ‡

* denotes Atlanta Symphony Orchestra debut

‡ denotes Atlanta Symphony Orchestra premiere

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