FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 26, 2012
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CONCERTMASTER DAVID COUCHERON
TO PERFORM SIBELIUS VIOLIN CONCERTO
MAY 31, JUNE 1–2, 2012

Music Director Robert Spano To Lead Atlanta Symphony Premiere
Of Magnus Lindberg's *Arena*

Program To Also Include Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5

ORCHESTRA TO HOST FINAL SYMPHONY SOCIAL
OF 2011-12 SEASON

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS TO PERFORM
PRE-CONCERT CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL
THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2012

Concertmaster David Coucheron will take center stage to perform Sibelius's Violin Concerto with Music Director Robert Spano and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra May 31, June 1–2, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Spano will also lead the Orchestra in Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and the Atlanta Symphony premiere of Magnus Lindberg's *Arena*. The performances will take place in Atlanta Symphony Hall at the Woodruff Arts Center.

Mr. Coucheron, a 27-year-old Norwegian violinist, is the youngest concertmaster among any major U.S. Orchestra. Of his upcoming performance, he has said, "The Sibelius Violin Concerto is one of my absolute favorite violin concertos — both to listen to and to perform. I'm very excited to play this great piece of music with Robert Spano and my colleagues in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra."

Prior to the concert on Thursday, May 31, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., the Orchestra will host its final Symphony Social of the 2011-12 season at the German Cultural Center in Midtown. Designed as a networking event for young professionals, the event will include hors d'oeuvres and specialty cocktails and the opportunity to mingle with Atlanta Symphony musicians. Tickets are $20, must be purchased in advance, and include admission to the evening's Orchestra performance. For more information, contact the Group & Corporate Sales Office at 404-733-4848 or asogroups@woodruffcenter.org.

Also prior to the performance on Thursday, May 31, 2012, ASO Insider and Program Annotator Ken Meltzer and members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra will host a pre-concert chamber music recital

from 6:45–7:30 p.m. in Atlanta Symphony Hall. The program will include selections from Tchaikovsky's string sextet "Souvenir de Florence." The chamber music recital is **free and open to all concert ticket holders**.

About the Repertoire

MAGNUS LINDBERG ***Arena***

The contemporary Finnish composer Magnus Lindberg studied at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. His composition teachers included Einojuhani Rautavaara and Paavo Heininen… (more)

SIBELIUS **Violin Concerto**

"Dreamt I was twelve years old and a virtuoso," reads a 1915 entry in the diary of Jean Sibelius, made while the composer was at work on his Sonatina for Violin and Piano. As a young man, Sibelius was a highly accomplished violinist who had aspirations to become a great instrumentalist… (more)

TCHAIKOVSKY **Symphony No. 5**

In the spring of 1888, after a highly successful three-month conducting tour of Western Europe, Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky returned to Russia. Tchaikovsky was then determined to focus his attentions on composing… (more)

About the Artists

David Coucheron joined the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra as **Concertmaster** in September 2010. Originally from Oslo, Norway, Mr.Coucheron began playing violin at the age of three… (more)

Music Director Robert Spano, currently in his 11th season as music director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, is recognized internationally as one of the most imaginative conductors today. Since 2001 he has invigorated and expanded the Orchestra's repertoire while elevating the ensemble to new levels of international prominence and acclaim... (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 presented by Delta Air Lines and Turner Broadcasting System.

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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CONCERTMASTER DAVID COUCHERON PERFORMS SIBELIUS

Delta Classical Series

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, May 31, 2012, 8:00 p.m.
Friday, June 1, 2012, 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 2, 2012, 8:00 p.m.

Robert Spano, conductor
David Coucheron, violin
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

MAGNUS LINDBERG	*Arena* ‡
SIBELIUS	Violin Concerto
TCHAIKOVSKY	Symphony No. 5

‡ *denotes Atlanta Symphony Orchestra premiere*

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