



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MARCH AT THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BRINGS JAZZ, ROCK, STAR WARS AND BEETHOVEN**

**ATLANTA** – March brings a plethora of musical genres to thrill audiences and fans of the Grammy® Award-winning Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO). Offering unparalleled variety, three **Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE** concerts feature popular, jazz and rock music, an offsite **Around the A, presented by PNC** travels to Agnes Scott College to honor Rosa Parks, and a full roster of **Classical & Family** concerts including Wagner and Liszt, piano legend André Watts performing Ravel’s Concerto for Left Hand, the ASO Chorus joining for Beethoven’s profound *Missa solemnis* and a sold out performance featuring violin megastar Itzhak Perlman playing Mahler under the direction of former ASO Music Director Yoel Levi. March is topped off with a full weekend of *Star Wars* in the ASO’s **Movies in Concert** series.

On [March 13 and 14](#), the pop culture film classic *Star Wars* comes to life as the ASO performs the score when *Star Wars: Return of the Jedi* takes over Symphony Hall on a massive 40-foot screen. The ASO’s **Movies in Concert** series offers the opportunity for a rare and spectacular movie/concert experience to an increasingly diverse audience.

The ASO goes on a field trip [March 8](#) to Atlanta’s Agnes Scott College to present “Around the A: Rosa Parks, ‘Mother of Civil Rights.’” Performed on International Women’s Day as a nod to all female trailblazers, PNC presents the **Around the A** series which ASO launched last fall to bring people together through the transformative power of music. Tickets are free; seating is first come, first served.

The first of three March concerts in the **Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE** series takes place [March 20](#) with “An Intimate Evening with David Foster: Hitman Tour.” Foster’s remarkable body of work includes 16 Grammy Awards, an Emmy, a Golden Globe and three Oscar nominations for “Best Original Song.” He is especially known for discovering new talent, including the now famous Celine Dion, Josh Groban and Michael Bublé. Nearly everyone will recognize his songs since they are entwined with our culture; he will play hit after hit in this intimate concert.

Quickly following on [March 23](#), Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis comes to Atlanta Symphony Hall. With 15 of today’s finest jazz soloists and ensemble players, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra has been the resident orchestra at that iconic New York City venue since 1988 and Atlanta

audience will enjoy this group's rhythms, tunes, unique to the jazz genre in this second **Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE** presentation in the month.

In the month's third **Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE** concert on [March 28](#), the Alan Parsons Project brings progressive rock to Symphony Hall. Beginning his storied career as an assistant engineer at the famed Abbey Road Studios, Alan Parsons quickly became one of the most sought-after names in the recording industry following his work on Pink Floyd's "the Dark Side of the Moon." He ultimately formed The Alan Parsons Project, a multi-platinum selling progressive rock act; he performs some of those Billboard Top 40 hits in Atlanta, including "Eye in the Sky," "Time" and "Don't Answer Me."

On [March 5 and 7](#), one of the busiest conductors alive, Emmanuel Villaume, returns to the ASO stage for an evening of lavish Romanticism. An uncharacteristically tender nursery song opens the concert by the lion of German music, Richard Wagner, composed as a Christmas present for his wife, Cosima, and their infant son. Franz Liszt, Cosima's father, composed the next piece on the program, thus the program title: "The In-Laws." The thundering piano virtuoso Andrew von Oeyen performs the Liszt concerto in the style of the composer himself, who was famous for sending women into fainting spells with his playing. Also on the program is the Saint-Saëns "Organ" Symphony, a perennial favorite. Ticket holders are invited to a conversation with Maestro Villaume immediately following the Saturday performance.

On [March 11](#), the ASO presents a special concert event with violin megastar Itzhak Perlman playing a gem of the violin repertoire, the Bruch Concerto No. 1, under the esteemed baton of former ASO Music Director Yoel Levi. The concert also features Verdi's Overture to *La forza del destino* and Mahler's "Titan" Symphony No. 1. The concert is sold out.

[March 19 and 21](#) was formerly programmed to be an all-Beethoven concert however, due to André Watts recovering from a nerve injury to his left hand, the legendary pianist will instead perform the Ravel Concerto for Left Hand, reworked to play with his right hand. Maestro Robert Spano also leads the ASO in Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, one of the greatest revelations of symphonic music. Ticket holders are invited to a free discussion of the evening's repertoire before each concert.

The month's final **Classical & Family** concert on [March 26 and 27](#) features one of the most profound works in the choral repertoire, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*. Marking not only the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's birth but also the ASO's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, Music Director Robert Spano assembles stellar voices from the opera world and the internationally acclaimed Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus for an unforgettable performance of the Beethoven masterpiece. A few weeks after the Atlanta concerts, the ASO will perform the *Missa Solemnis* in New York's Carnegie Hall, furthering the music organization's mission to be an international force in music-making, provide an endless source of inspiration to Atlantans, and export the city's uniqueness to communities around the globe.

For a complete listing of Atlanta Symphony Orchestra concerts and events, visit [www.atlantasymphony.org](http://www.atlantasymphony.org).

**Additional March program details (\* indicates ASO debut):**

**The In-Laws: Wagner and Liszt**

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, March 5, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Emmanuel Villaume, conductor

Andrew von Oeyen, piano

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

WAGNER:

*Siegfried Idyll*

LISZT:

Piano Concerto No. 1

SAINT-SAËNS:

Symphony No. 3, "Organ"

**SOLD OUT -- A Special Evening with Itzhak Perlman and Conductor Yoel Levi -- SOLD OUT**

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

March 11, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Yoel Levi, conductor

Itzhak Perlman, violin

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

VERDI:

Overture to *La forza del destino*

BRUCH:

Violin Concerto No. 1

MAHLER:

Symphony No. 1, "Titan"

**André Watts Plays Ravel's Concerto for the Left Hand**

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, March 19, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

Robert Spano, conductor

André Watts, piano

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

RAVEL: Le tombeau de Couperin

RAVEL: Piano Concerto for the Left Hand

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 7

**Beethoven at 250: *Missa solemnis***

Atlanta Symphony Hall, Memorial Arts Building, Woodruff Arts Center

Thursday, March 26, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 27, 2019, 8:00 p.m.

Robert Spano, conductor

Susanna Phillips, soprano

Sasha Cooke, mezzo-soprano

Benjamin Bliss, tenor

Matthew Rose, bass

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

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