



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS NEW VIOLIN CONCERTO
WITH FAMILIAR MASTERWORKS BY MUSSORGSKY AND RACHMANINOV**

ATLANTA – Violin virtuoso Leila Josefowicz returns to Atlanta Symphony Hall to perform the **Violin Concerto** by Helen Grime with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Manze on Thursday, June 8 and Saturday, June 10 at 8:00pm.

The program also features Mussorgsky’s *Night on Bald Mountain*, made popular in Disney’s animated film *Fantasia*, and Rachmaninov’s *Symphony No. 3*, a work that moves between lyricism and exhilaration to a blazing finish. It is the second to last program in the 2022-23 Delta Classical Series.

Josefowicz is known for championing new works for the violin and gave the U.S. Premiere of the Grimes Concerto last November. *The St. Louis American* wrote that Josefowicz, “almost never rested and almost always played at a feverish pitch. Josefowicz looked like she could have thrown out her shoulder by how violently she whipped pages forward in her copy of the score. The concerto ended on a gorgeous note of discord.”

The Violin Concerto was first premiered in Stockholm in 2016. Grimes described her Concerto by writing: “In one continuous movement, the piece falls into three main sections but features extensive dreamlike interlinking passages that connect them. Violent, virtuosic music covering the whole range of the violin is contrasted with more delicate and reflective filigree material that features oscillating natural harmonic passages and searching melodies.”

Josefowicz can be seen discussing Grimes’ Violin Concerto in [this video](#) from the Saint Louis Symphony.

Thursday evening features a pre-concert Chamber Recital with members of the ASO performing music by Mozart, Villa-Lobos, and Alyssa Morris.

About Leila Josefowicz

Leila Josefowicz’s passionate advocacy of contemporary music for the violin is reflected in her diverse programs and enthusiasm for performing new works. In recognition of her outstanding achievement and excellence in music, she won the 2018 Avery Fisher Prize and was awarded a

prestigious MacArthur Fellowship in 2008, joining prominent scientists, writers and musicians who have made unique contributions to contemporary life.

A favorite of living composers, Josefowicz has premiered many concertos, including those by Colin Matthews, Steven Mackey and Esa-Pekka Salonen, all written specially for her. Josefowicz enjoyed a close working relationship with the late Oliver Knussen, performing various concerti, including his violin concerto, together over 30 times.

Highlights of recent seasons include Josefowicz working with the Berliner Philharmoniker, Washington's National Symphony Orchestra, Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, and The Cleveland and Philadelphia orchestras. Alongside John Novacek, with whom she has enjoyed a close collaboration since 1985, Josefowicz has performed recitals at world-renowned venues such as New York's Zankel Hall and Park Avenue Armory, Washington DC's Kennedy Center and Library of Congress and London's Wigmore Hall.

Josefowicz has released several recordings and received Grammy nominations for her recordings of Scheherazade.2 with the St. Louis Symphony conducted by David Robertson, and Esa-Pekka Salonen's Violin Concerto with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by the composer.

About Andrew Manze

Andrew Manze is the Chief Conductor of the NDR Radiophilharmonie and Principal Guest Conductor of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. In great demand as a guest conductor across the globe, Manze has conducted the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Oslo Philharmonic and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hallé and Chamber Orchestra of Europe, among others.

Manze was Principal Conductor and Artistic Director of the Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra, where he made a number of recordings. He was also Principal Guest Conductor of the Norwegian Radio Symphony Orchestra and held the title of Associate Guest Conductor of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra for four seasons.

As a violinist, Manze released an astonishing variety of recordings, many of them award-winning. Manze is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music and Visiting Professor at the Oslo Academy. He teaches, writes about, and edits music, as well as broadcasting regularly on radio and television.

About Helen Grime

The music of Scottish composer Helen Grime has been performed by leading orchestras around the world, among them the London Symphony Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin and Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra. Conductors who have championed her music include Sir Simon Rattle, Sir Mark Elder, Pierre Boulez, Kent Nagano, Oliver Knussen, George Benjamin, Daniel Harding, Marin Alsop and Thomas Dausgaard.

Born in 1981, Helen Grime attended St Mary's Music School in Edinburgh and studied at the Royal College of Music with Julian Anderson and Edwin Roxburgh (composition) and John Anderson (oboe). She came to public attention in 2003, when her Oboe Concerto won a British Composer Award. In 2008 she was awarded a Leonard Bernstein Fellowship to attend the Tanglewood Music Center where she studied with John Harbison, Michael Gandolfi, Shulamit Ran and Augusta Read Thomas. She was Associate Composer to the Hallé Orchestra in Manchester and Composer in Residence at Wigmore Hall in London.

She is currently Professor of Composition at the Royal Academy of Music in London. Recent works have been commissioned by the London Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, London Philharmonic Orchestra, Tanglewood Music Center, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the BBC.

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) is in its 78th season with Nathalie Stutzmann as only the fifth Music Director in the history of the Orchestra, and the only woman to ever hold the position. Maestro Stutzmann will continue the ASO's mission of bringing new and exciting composers and guest artists to Atlanta.

The ASO is one of the leading orchestras in the United States, performing more than 150 concerts each year from the Delta Classical, Movies in Concert, Family Concert, and Coca-Cola Holiday series, as well as the Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE concerts and many community and education concerts.

In addition, the ASO performs with the 200+ voice, all-volunteer ASO Chorus, originally founded in 1970 by Robert Shaw, and currently under the Direction of Norman Mackenzie. The chorus was featured on nine of the ASO's Grammy-award winning recordings.

CALENDAR LISTING

Thursday, June 8, 8:00pm
Saturday, June 10, 8:00pm
Atlanta Symphony Hall

Andrew Manze, conductor
Leila Josefowicz, violin
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

MUSSORGSKY: *Night on Bald Mountain*
HELEN GRIME: Violin Concerto
RACHMANINOV: Symphony No. 3

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