

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 5, 2019

LUNAR NEW YEAR CONCERT AND GALA
Conducted by **LONG YU**

US PREMIERE of ZHOU Tian's *Gift*
NEW YORK PREMIERE of Texu KIM's *Spin-Flip*
CHEN Gang and HE Zhanhao's *The Butterfly Lovers*, Violin Concerto, with GIL SHAHAM
GERSHWIN's *Rhapsody in Blue* with HAOCHEN ZHANG

January 28, 2020

The New York Philharmonic will celebrate the Lunar New Year, welcoming the Year of the Rat with a Concert and Gala on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 7:30 p.m. Long Yu will return to conduct the US Premiere of Zhou Tian's *Gift*; the New York Premiere of Texu Kim's *Spin-Flip*; Chen Gang and He Zhanhao's *The Butterfly Lovers*, Violin Concerto, with Gil Shaham as soloist; and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, with pianist Haochen Zhang in his Philharmonic debut. The New York Philharmonic has welcomed the Lunar New Year with an annual celebration since 2012.

Chinese American composer Zhou Tian's *Gift*, written for Long Yu and the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, reflects "my own musical identity after 18 years of living abroad." Korean composer Texu Kim shares his name with a famous Korean table tennis player; *Spin-Flip* — the title of which alludes to both astrophysical phenomena and table tennis techniques — "conveys the driving energy of a (good) Ping-Pong match ... its alternating harmonic pattern and somewhat random form reflect the alternation of service and unpredictable result, respectively."

American violinist Gil Shaham recorded *The Butterfly Lovers*, which reflects both Chinese and Western traditions and was banned during the Cultural Revolution, with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra in 2007. Shanghai-born pianist Haochen Zhang — Gold Medalist of the 2009 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and recipient of a 2017 Avery Fisher Career Grant — studied with Gary Graffman, who was the soloist for the New York Philharmonic's performance of *Rhapsody in Blue* on the soundtrack of Woody Allen's *Manhattan*.

Gala events will include a pre-concert champagne reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; the concert; and a seated dinner immediately following the performance. Gala dress will be traditional Asian attire or black tie. **Starr International Foundation** is the Presenting Sponsor of the Lunar New Year Gala. The Honorary Gala Chairs are **Mr. and Mrs. Maurice R. Greenberg**. The Gala Co-Chairs are **Angela Chen, Misook and Harry Doolittle, He Mei, Ling Tian, Agnes Hsu-Tang and Oscar L. Tang, Sharon Wee and Tracy Fu, and Shirley Young**.

Biographies

[Long Yu](#), [Gil Shaham](#), [Haochen Zhang](#), [New York Philharmonic](#)

(more)

Tickets

Single tickets start at \$45 (ticket prices subject to change).

Tickets may be purchased online at nyphil.org or by calling **(212) 875-5656**, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday; and noon to 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Tickets may also be purchased at the **David Geffen Hall Box Office**. The Box Office opens at 10:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and at noon on Sunday. On performance evenings, the Box Office closes one-half hour after performance time; other evenings it closes at 6:00 p.m.

For press tickets, contact Lanore Carr at (212) 875-5714 or carrl@nyphil.org.

For information about purchasing tables or tickets to the Gala (including pre-concert reception, concert, and post-concert dinner with the artists), please contact the Office of Special Events at specialevents@nyphil.org.

Event Listing

Lunar New Year

New York Philharmonic

David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 7:30 p.m.

Long Yu, conductor
Gil Shaham, violin
Haochen Zhang*, piano

ZHOU Tian	<i>Gift</i> (US Premiere)
CHEN Gang and HE Zhanhao	<i>The Butterfly Lovers</i> , Violin Concerto
Texu KIM	<i>Spin-Flip</i> (New York Premiere)
GERSHWIN	<i>Rhapsody in Blue</i> , for Piano and Orchestra

* *New York Philharmonic debut*

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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