



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2023

SPIRIT

NY Phil Announces Details of Celebration of the Trials and Triumphs of the Human Spirit

Two Orchestral Programs Conducted by Jaap van Zweden

Messiaen's *Turangalila-Symphonie*, March 17–19

J.S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion*, March 23–25

Additional Performances Presented by the NY Phil

Violinist Hilary Hahn on *Artist Spotlight*, March 7

Gamelan Ensemble Gamelan Dharma Swara on Kravis *Nightcap*, March 18

Free and Choose-What-You-Pay Events

***Take a Breath: Authentic Healing*, March 19**

***Here I Stand*, Celebrating Paul Robeson's 125th birthday, April 1–2**

Featuring a World Premiere, Part of *Composing Inclusion* Initiative

The New York Philharmonic announces details of *SPIRIT*, which explores humanity's place in the cosmos and the strength of the human spirit, March 7–April 2, 2023. *SPIRIT* is one of the NY Phil's 2022–23 season initiatives that engage with important questions of our time.

SPIRIT comprises four concert programs, two featuring the Orchestra and two more intimate NY Phil presentations.

Music Director Jaap van Zweden conducts:

- **Messiaen's *Turangalila-Symphonie***, a work the composer described as a “song of love” and a “hymn to joy, time, movement, rhythm, life and death.” Joining the Orchestra in the performance are pianist **Jean-Yves Thibaudet** and ondes martenot player **Cynthia Millar**, who makes her Philharmonic debut. The concerts take place March 17–19, 2023, in the Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall.
- **J.S. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion***, adapted from the biblical Gospel According to Matthew, brings together the whole of the composer's musical language in the service of expressing his deep personal faith. Tenor **Nicholas Phan** sings the role of the Evangelist, bass **Davóne Tines** sings Christus, and the performances also feature soprano **Amanda**

Forsythe, mezzo-soprano **Tamara Mumford**, tenor **Paul Appleby**, bass-baritone **Philippe Sly** (in his NY Phil debut), and **Musica Sacra**, directed by **Kent Tritle**. The concerts take place March 23–25, 2023, in the Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall.

The NY Phil presents:

- Violinist **Hilary Hahn** performing **J.S. Bach’s Sonata No. 1** and **Partitas Nos. 1** and **2**, March 7, 2023, on [Artist Spotlight](#), in the Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall.
- **Gamelan Dharma Swara**, one of the leading Balinese gamelan ensembles in the United States, March 18, 2023, on [Kravis Nightcap](#), in the Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio, David Geffen Hall.

Two **free and choose-what-you-pay activities** round out the celebration of *SPIRIT*:

- **Authentic Healing**, led by facilitator **Kendall Johnson-Smith**, a wellness coach and licensed therapist, on March 19, 2023, on [Take a Breath](#), the NY Phil’s new series of free 90-minute workshops focused on mental health and wellness, presented in the Griffin Sidewalk Studio, David Geffen Hall. Admission is free, but tickets are required.
- **Here I Stand**, co-presented with Lincoln Center and Mother AME Zion Church, celebrating the 125th birthday of Paul Robeson, the acclaimed professional athlete, actor, and singer whose work as a political activist stands as a towering example of the triumph of the human spirit. Multidisciplinary artist **Helga Davis** hosts this musical tribute to Robeson’s theatrical and recorded repertoire, performed by a selection of New York Philharmonic members and sung by the Grammy Award–winning operatic bass-baritone **Mark S. Doss**. The program also includes the World Premiere of *Lost Village of Seneca*, a string ensemble work by **Thomas Flippin**, performed by students from the Juilliard Music Advancement Program alongside Philharmonic members — part of the NY Phil’s *Composing Inclusion* initiative with The Juilliard School’s Preparatory Division and American Composers Forum. The event takes place on April 1, 2023, at the Griffin Sidewalk Studio and on April 2, 2023, at Mother AME Zion Church, Harlem. The April 1 event is choose-what-you-pay; the April 2 event is free (tickets not required).

Biographies

Concerts: [Paul Appleby](#), [Amanda Forsythe](#), [Gamelan Dharma Swara](#), [Cynthia Millar](#), [Tamara Mumford](#), [Musica Sacra](#) directed by [Kent Tritle](#), [Nicholas Phan](#), [Philippe Sly](#), [Jean-Yves Thibaudet](#), [Davóne Tines](#), [Jaap van Zweden](#), [New York Philharmonic](#)
Take a Breath: [Kendall Johnson-Smith](#)

Health and Safety Protocols

For up-to-date information on our health and safety protocols, visit nyphil.org/safety.

Tickets

Tickets to New York Philharmonic performances — including *Take a Breath*, which is free but for which tickets are required — may be purchased or reserved 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 or reserved at the **Welcome Center at David Geffen Hall**. The Welcome Center opens at 10:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and at noon on Sunday. On performance evenings, the Welcome Center closes one-half hour after performance time; other evenings it closes at 6:00 p.m. For ticketing information for the April 1 *Here I Stand* event at the Griffin Sidewalk Studio, which is choose-what-you-pay, see [here](#). The April 2 *Here I Stand* event, at Mother AME Zion Church, is free and no reservations are required.

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

Event Listing for SPIRIT

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: HILARY HAHN

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Artist Spotlight

Hilary Hahn, violin

J.S. BACH

Sonata No. 1 in G minor for Violin, BWV 1001

J.S. BACH

Partita No. 1 in B minor for Violin, BWV 1002

J.S. BACH

Partita No. 2 in D minor for Violin, BWV 1004

JAAP VAN ZWEDEN CONDUCTS: MESSIAEN'S *TURANGALÎLA-SYMPHONIE*

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Friday, March 17, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 19, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Jaap van Zweden, conductor

Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano

Cynthia Millar*, ondes martenot

MESSIAEN

Turangalîla-symphonie

KRAVIS NIGHTCAP: GAMELAN DHARMA SWARA

Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Saturday, March 18, 2023, 10:30 p.m.

Kravis Nightcap

Gamelan Dharma Swara, gamelan ensemble

Program to be announced

**AUTHENTIC HEALING WITH KENDALL JOHNSON-SMITH,
PART OF TAKE A BREATH**

Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Sunday, March 19, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

Take a Breath: Authentic Healing

Kendall Johnson-Smith, facilitator

JAAP VAN ZWEDEN CONDUCTS: J.S. BACH'S ST. MATTHEW PASSION

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Thursday, March 23, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 24, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 25, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Jaap van Zweden, conductor
Nicholas Phan, tenor (Evangelist)
Davóne Tines, bass-baritone (Christus)
Amanda Forsythe, soprano
Tamara Mumford, mezzo-soprano
Paul Appleby, tenor
Philippe Sly*, bass-baritone
Musica Sacra, chorus
Kent Tritle, director

J.S. BACH

St. Matthew Passion

HERE I STAND: PAUL ROBESON'S 125TH BIRTHDAY
Co-Presented with Lincoln Center

Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center
Saturday, April 1, 2023, 8:00 p.m.

Mother AME Zion Church | 140 West 137th Street, Harlem
Sunday, April 2, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

Helga Davis, host
Mark S. Doss, bass-baritone
New York Philharmonic musicians
Students from the Juilliard Music Advancement Program

Thomas FLIPPIN *Lost Village of Seneca* (World Premiere)

Here I Stand: Paul Robeson's 125th Birthday

Even in the modern age of celebrity, it's difficult to find a contemporary analogue for Paul Robeson. An acclaimed professional athlete, actor, and singer whose work as a political activist resonates into the present day, the 125th anniversary of Robeson's birth this April provides an opportunity to take stock of his remarkable talent and accomplishments. Multidisciplinary artist Helga Davis hosts this musical tribute to Robeson's theatrical and recorded repertoire, performed by a selection of Orchestra members from the New York Philharmonic and sung by the Grammy Award-winning operatic bass-baritone Mark S. Doss, a musical heir to Robeson's legacy, who makes his Lincoln Center debut at this event.

** New York Philharmonic debut*

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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SPiRiT is presented by an **anonymous donor**.

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Generous support for Jean-Yves Thibaudet's appearances is provided by **The Donna and Marvin Schwartz Virtuoso Piano Performance Series**.

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Support for Jean-Yves Thibaudet's appearance on March 17 is provided by **The Hilaria and Alec Baldwin Foundation**.

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Thomas Flippin's *Lost Village of Seneca* is part of *Composing Inclusion*, a collaboration between the New York Philharmonic, American Composers Forum, and The Juilliard School's Preparatory Division, made possible with funding from the **Sphinx Venture Fund**.

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Photography and video are available in the New York Philharmonic's online press room, nyphil.org/pressroom, or by contacting the Public Relations Department at (212) 875-5700 or pr@nyphil.org

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