



JAAP VAN ZWEDEN
MUSIC DIRECTOR

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 29, 2023

NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC OPENING GALA

**Jaap van Zweden Begins His Farewell Season as Music Director
Conducting Works by Beethoven and Tchaikovsky
Plus Dvořák's Cello Concerto, with Yo-Yo Ma as Soloist**

Gala Honors Deborah Borda's Contributions to the NY Phil

September 27, 2023

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall

The New York Philharmonic marks the start of the 2023–24 season with its **Opening Gala, September 27, 2023**, at the Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall. Jaap van Zweden leads the NY Phil in Beethoven's *Egmont Overture*, Tchaikovsky's *Capriccio italien*, and — joined by virtuoso Yo-Yo Ma as soloist — Dvořák's Cello Concerto.

The evening also officially launches Jaap van Zweden's farewell season as Music Director. Van Zweden presided over the launch of the NY Phil's *Project 19* commissioning initiative, introduced a new approach to programming that used music as a lens to engage with today's cultural conversations, and ushered in a new era for the Orchestra with the opening of the transformed David Geffen Hall in October 2022.

The Gala honors Deborah Borda — the Orchestra's former President and CEO, and current Executive Advisor to the President and Board of Directors — who over 14 years revitalized the New York Philharmonic, working with NY Phil and Lincoln Center leadership to transform David Geffen Hall and deepen connections with New York City communities. In June 2023 the NY Phil Board named her an [Honorary Member](#) of the Philharmonic-Symphony Society of New York for her "outstanding service to the organization and the world of music."

"The New York Philharmonic's 2023–24 season Opening Gala is a triple celebration," said President and CEO Gary Ginstling. "The evening celebrates the start of a new season, the NY Phil's second in our magnificently renovated David Geffen Hall. We also honor Jaap van Zweden as he begins his farewell season as Music Director, and pay tribute to Deborah Borda, my predecessor, whose tenure has been truly historic. Thanks to them we are poised to enter an era of excitement and reinvention."

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Gala events include a cocktail reception from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on the Leon and Norma Hess Grand Promenade; the concert, which begins at 7:30 p.m.; a seated dinner immediately following the performance, attended by the artists, also on the Hess Grand Promenade; and an after-party immediately following the performance in the Kenneth C. Griffin Sidewalk Studio. Gala dress will be black tie.

The Honorary Gala Co-Chairs are **Julie Andrews, Bradley Cooper, Renée Fleming, Frank Gehry, Carolina Herrera, Karen and Richard LeFrak, Yo-Yo Ma, John A. Paulson, Steinway & Sons, Jaap van Zweden, and John Williams.**

The lead sponsors are **GRoW @ Annenberg, Jennifer and Bud Gruenberg, Linda and Mitch Hart, Leni and Peter May, Oscar L. Tang and H.M. Agnes Hsu-Tang, Barbara Tober, Daria L. and Eric J. Wallach, and one anonymous donor.**

Biographies

[Deborah Borda](#), [Jaap van Zweden](#), [Yo-Yo Ma](#), [New York Philharmonic](#)

Tickets

Tickets to New York Philharmonic performances 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 **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 more information about the entire Gala evening, which includes a cocktail reception, the 7:30 p.m. concert, and a post-concert dinner and after-party, please visit nyphil.org/openinggala, call the Office of Special Events at (646) 870-4054, or email specialevents@nyphil.org.

Availability for the Opening Gala is limited.

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

(more)

Event Listing

OPENING GALA

Wu Tsai Theater, David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center

Wednesday, September 27, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

Jaap van Zweden, conductor
Yo-Yo Ma, cello

BEETHOVEN	<i>Egmont Overture</i>
TCHAIKOVSKY	<i>Capriccio italien</i>
DVOŘÁK	Cello Concerto

ALL PROGRAMS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Contacts

Adam Crane, Vice President, External Affairs
(347) 654-1787; cranea@nyphil.org

Dinah Lu, Director, Public Relations
(347) 289-5180; lud@nyphil.org

Caroline Heaney, Publicist
(301) 318-1926; heaneyc@nyphil.org

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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