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NY

## **ELCCNY NEWS**

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**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY**  
Restoring A National Historic Landmark  
presents

### **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Music Director

#### **ORGAN CONCERT**

**DAVID ROBERTSON, Conductor**

**PAOLO BORDIGNON, Organist**

**MONDAY, JUNE 29, 2020**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH, NEW YORK**

**CONCERT TO FEATURE THE 12,400+ PIPE AEOLIAN SKINNER OF ST. BART'S  
NEW YORK CITY'S LARGEST PIPE ORGAN**

**Instrument's "Celestial Division" Housed in the Newly Restored Great Dome**

**16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY WORKS FOR ORGAN AND ORCHESTRA**

**Gigout, Jongen, Bach, Fauré, Duruflé, Gabrieli, Beach, Saint-Saëns, Elgar**

**STOKOWSKI'S ORCHESTRATION OF BACH LITTLE FUGUE IN G MINOR**

**Selection Returns the Conductor's Spirit to His First American Musical Home**

**As Organist and Choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's, 1905 – 1908**

**CONCERT SUPPORTS THE RESTORATION OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH  
DESIGNATED A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK IN 2016**

**Gala Dinner to Honor Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and Mutual of America Financial Group**

St. Bartholomew's Conservancy presents The Philadelphia Orchestra in a concert of organ compositions from Bach to Saint-Saëns, Elgar to Beach – Monday, June 29, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Bartholomew's Church, 325 Park Avenue, New York. David Robertson will conduct. Paolo Bordignon, St. Bartholomew's Organist and Choirmaster, will perform on the largest pipe organ in New York City (12,400+ pipes), including its "Celestial Division" housed in the newly restored St. Bartholomew's Great Dome.

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## **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA Organ Concert at St. Bartholomew's Church NYC ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY Page Two**

The repertoire will include selections and excerpts of compositions for organ and orchestra from the 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries – works by the French and Belgian composers Gigout (a pupil of Saint-Saëns), Jongen, Fauré (“Pie Jesu” from Requiem), Duruflé (whose musical training spanned the Rouen Cathedral to Notre Dame), Saint-Saëns (the finale of his Symphony No. 3, “Organ”); Gabrieli’s late 16<sup>th</sup> century Canzon in Double Echo; a late work by American composer Amy Beach, Prelude on an Old Folk Tune; Elgar’s *Pomp and Circumstance* March No. 1; and two works by Bach, including Leopold Stokowski’s orchestration of the master’s Little Fugue in G minor. Full concert repertoire is listed below.

General Admission Tickets begin at \$75, and can be purchased online at [www.stbconservancy.org/phil-orch-organ-concert](http://www.stbconservancy.org/phil-orch-organ-concert) or by phone at 212-710-9694.

With this performance by The Philadelphia Orchestra, the spirit of Leopold Stokowski returns to New York. In 1905, St. Bartholomew’s Church, located at the time on Madison Avenue, brought the then unknown conductor from Europe to New York to become its Organist and Choirmaster. Stokowski’s arrival in the City prompted noteworthy changes in musical performance, beginning with adding female voices to a church choir.

The St. Bartholomew’s Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ, a superb example of the American Classic Organ, is the largest in New York City and among the largest in the world. A full history of the instrument is available at: [www.stbarts.org/music/pipe-organ/](http://www.stbarts.org/music/pipe-organ/). Completed in 1930, St. Bartholomew’s Church on Park Avenue is likewise an outstanding example of the work of architect Bertram G. Goodhue. The building’s main entrance is through the renowned Triple Portal, designed in 1903 by Stanford White of McKim, Mead & White, and inspired by the porch of France’s Abbey Church of St. Gilles-du-Gard, one of Medieval Europe’s grandest pilgrimage destinations. Its bronze doors and friezes are the work of distinguished American sculptors Philip Martiny, Herbert Adams, and Andrew O’Connor, the last in collaboration with sculptor Daniel Chester French. The interior contains works by architectural sculptor Lee Lawrie and mosaicist and muralist Hildreth Meière, whose work can also be seen at Rockefeller Center and Temple Emanu-El. In 2016 St. Bartholomew’s Church and Community House were designated a National Historic Landmark.

The Gala evening will also feature a cocktail reception and post-concert dinner honoring Dr. Barbaralee Diamonstein-Spielvogel and Mutual of America Financial Group for their support of the restoration and preservation of the St. Bartholomew’s site. For more information, contact The JFM Group at [StBConservancy@thejfmgroup.com](mailto:StBConservancy@thejfmgroup.com) or go to [www.stbconservancy.org/gala-organ-concert](http://www.stbconservancy.org/gala-organ-concert).

### **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

The Philadelphia Orchestra is one of the world’s preeminent orchestras. It strives to share the transformative power of music with the widest possible audience, and to create joy, connection, and excitement through music in the Philadelphia region, across the country, and around the world.

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## **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA Organ Concert at St. Bartholomew's Church NYC ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY Page Three**

Through innovative programming, robust educational initiatives, and an ongoing commitment to the communities that it serves, the ensemble is on a path to create an expansive future for classical music, and to further the place of the arts in an open and democratic society.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin is now in his eighth season as the eighth music director of The Philadelphia Orchestra. His connection to the ensemble's musicians has been praised by both concertgoers and critics, and he is embraced by the musicians of the Orchestra, audiences, and the community.

*Your* Philadelphia Orchestra takes great pride in its hometown, performing for the people of Philadelphia year-round, from Verizon Hall to community centers, the Mann Center to Penn's Landing, classrooms to hospitals, and over the airwaves and online. The Orchestra continues to discover new and inventive ways to nurture its relationship with loyal patrons.

The Philadelphia Orchestra continues the tradition of educational and community engagement for listeners of all ages. It launched its **HEAR** initiative in 2016 to become a major force for good in every community that it serves. HEAR is a portfolio of integrated initiatives that promotes **H**ealth, champions music **E**ducation, enables broad **A**ccess to Orchestra performances, and maximizes impact through **R**esearch. The Orchestra's award-winning education and community initiatives engage over 50,000 students, families, and community members through programs such as PlayINs, side-by-sides, PopUP concerts, Free Neighborhood Concerts, School Concerts, sensory-friendly concerts, the School Partnership Program and School Ensemble Program, and All City Orchestra Fellowships.

Through concerts, tours, residencies, and recordings, the Orchestra is a global ambassador. It performs annually at Carnegie Hall, the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and the Bravo! Vail Music Festival. The Orchestra also has a rich history of touring, having first performed outside Philadelphia in the earliest days of its founding. It was the first American orchestra to perform in the People's Republic of China in 1973, launching a now-five-decade commitment of people-to-people exchange.

The Orchestra also makes live recordings available on popular digital music services and as part of the Listen on Demand section of its website. Under Yannick's leadership, the Orchestra returned to recording, with seven celebrated CDs on the prestigious Deutsche Grammophon label. The Orchestra also reaches thousands of radio listeners with weekly broadcasts on WRTI-FM and SiriusXM. For more information, please visit [www.philorch.org](http://www.philorch.org).

### **DAVID ROBERTSON, CONDUCTOR**

David Robertson – conductor, artist, thinker, and American musical visionary – occupies some of the most prominent platforms on the international music scene. A highly sought-after podium figure in the worlds of opera, orchestral music, and new music, Robertson is celebrated worldwide as a champion of contemporary composers, an ingenious and adventurous programmer, and a masterful communicator whose passionate advocacy for the art form is widely recognized.

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## **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA Organ Concert at St. Bartholomew's Church NYC ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY Page Four**

Robertson has served in numerous artistic leadership positions, such as Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and a transformative 13-year tenure as Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, solidifying its status as among the nation's most innovative, establishing fruitful relationships with a spectrum of artists, and garnering a 2014 Grammy Award for the Nonesuch release of John Adams' *City Noir*. Earlier artistic leadership positions include at the Orchestre National de Lyon; as a protégé of Pierre Boulez, the Ensemble InterContemporain; as Principal Guest at the BBC Symphony Orchestra; and as a Perspectives Artist at Carnegie Hall, where he has conducted numerous orchestras. He appears regularly with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Czech Philharmonic, Bayerischen Rundfunk, and other major European orchestras and festivals. Robertson continues a longstanding and rich collaboration with the New York Philharmonic, and conducts numerous North American ensembles, including the Montreal, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, National, Houston and Dallas Symphony Orchestras, and the Juilliard Orchestra, where he serves as Director of Conducting Studies, Distinguished Visiting Faculty.

Robertson continues to build upon his deep conducting relationship with The Metropolitan Opera, including James Robinson's premier production of *Porgy and Bess* (2019), and the premier of Phelim McDermott's celebrated production of *Così fan tutte* (2018). Since his 1996 Met Opera debut, *The Makropulos Case*, he has conducted a breathtaking range of projects, including the Met premiere of John Adams' *The Death of Klinghoffer* (2014); the 2016 revival of Janáček's *Jenůfa*; and many favorites. Robertson conducts at the world's most prestigious opera houses, including La Scala, Rome, Théâtre du Châtelet, San Francisco and Santa Fe Operas.

Robertson is the recipient of numerous awards, and in 2010 was made a Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Government of France. He is devoted to supporting young musicians and has worked with students at festivals ranging from Aspen to Tanglewood to Lucerne.

### **PAOLO BORDIGNON, ORGANIST**

Paolo Bordignon Organist and Choirmaster of St. Bartholomew's Church, previously served as St. Bart's Associate Music Director from 2005 to 2014, and then served as the Director of Music at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Houston before recently returning to New York. He is harpsichordist of the New York Philharmonic and performed in the 2018-19 season with Camerata Pacifica, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, ECCO, the Florida Orchestra, and Trans-Siberian Arts Festival tour with the Sejong Soloists. He has been a frequent organ recitalist at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Bordignon has participated in festivals including Aspen, Bard, Bridgehampton, Grand Tetons, Mostly Mozart, and Palm Beach, as well as New York Fashion Week. He has collaborated with Renée Fleming, James Galway, Wynton Marsalis, Bobby McFerrin, Midori, Itzhak Perlman, and with composers Philip Glass and Elliott Carter as soloist in their concerti. Born in Toronto of Italian heritage, Dr. Bordignon is a graduate of St. Michael's Choir School, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the Juilliard School. He is an associate of the Royal Conservatory of Music and a fellow of the Royal Canadian College of Organists

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**THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA Organ Concert at St. Bartholomew's Church NYC  
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**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CONSERVANCY**

The St. Bartholomew's Conservancy is an independent tax-exempt nonprofit organization. Its mission is to help fund restoring and preserving the exterior and gardens of the St. Bartholomew's site, long a celebrated New York City Landmark and one of the City's recently designated National Historic Landmarks.

To date, the Conservancy has contributed over \$2.5 million to essential restoration and preservation projects, including Great Dome restoration, drainage and roof replacement, retiling the Park Avenue Terrace, and restoring stone and iron work. By helping bring this remarkable architectural gem back to life the Conservancy seeks to enhance the beauty of Park Avenue while heightening public awareness of the importance of preserving historic buildings and open space in densely populated urban areas. For more information please visit [www.stbconservancy.org](http://www.stbconservancy.org).

**THE ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S SITE**

Recognized the world over for their masterful integration of architecture and art, St. Bartholomew's Church and Community House were completed in 1930. Romanesque in form with rich Byzantine decoration, the two stylistically akin structures and their abutting gardens sit astride a full block of Park Avenue between 50th and 51st Streets in midtown Manhattan. So situated, they create an airy oasis amidst an otherwise dense corridor of soaring office towers. The site was designated a New York City Landmark in 1967, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, and designated a National Historic Landmark on October 31, 2016.



**JUNE 29, 2020, 7pm**  
**St. Bartholomew's Church**  
**325 Park Avenue, New York**

**THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

**David Robertson, Conductor**

**Paolo Bordignon, Organist**

Gigout	<i>Grand cheour dialogué</i>
Jongen	Toccata from <i>Symphonie concertante</i>
Bach / Stokowski	Little Fugue in G minor
Bach	Sinfonia from Cantata No. 29
Fauré	"Pie Jesu" from Requiem (vocalist TBA)
Durufié	Scherzo
Gabrieli	Canzon in Double Echo
Beach	Prelude on an Old Folk Tune ("The Fair Hills of Eire, O!")
Saint-Saëns	Finale from Symphony No. 3, "Organ"
Elgar	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> March No. 1

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