



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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34TH SEASON OPENS OCTOBER 23 WITH NY PREMIERE BY DAVID LUDWIG

Ludwig Concerto Written For and Performed by His New Bride, Violinist Bella Hristova

Jaime Laredo Conducts Concert also featuring works by Weber and Brahms

(White Plains, New York) — The Westchester Philharmonic opens its 34th season at the Performing Arts Center on **Sunday, October 23rd at 3 pm** with the return of **Principal Conductor Jaime Laredo** leading **violinist Bella Hristova** and a new work by her husband composer **David Ludwig**. A consortium of seven orchestras have commissioned Ludwig to compose his first violin concerto for the 2013 Avery Fisher Career Grant winner Hristova, in celebration of their recent marriage (which was presided over by Maestro Laredo).

The premiere of the full-length concerto took place in March with the Vermont Symphony, with subsequent performances with the Kansas City Symphony Orchestra (MO), Louisville Orchestra (KY), Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra (IA), and Reno Chamber Orchestra (NV). David Ludwig's prior commissions include Carnegie Hall, Philadelphia Orchestra, eighth blackbird, Ravinia, and many more. He has been hailed as "A composer with something urgent to say" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*) and *The New York Times* described his work as "Arresting, dramatically hued...", "resourceful and emotionally charged...", "charming and imaginative..."

Book-ending this "romantic" new work are two Romantic period giants: Weber's beloved and final work, the Overture to his English opera *Oberon* and Brahms' Fourth and final symphony, which is often regarded as his crowning achievement.

A pre-concert discussion with the artists will take place at 2 pm in The Concert Hall before the performance. A free open rehearsal is scheduled from 11 am until 1:30. "Phil Families" attending the rehearsal are also invited backstage for coffee and donuts and children will have a chance to meet some of the musicians.

Subscribers to the Philharmonic's main stage series will keep the fun going at the Phil's popular season Kick-Off Party featuring delectable desserts and music which immediately follows the concert.

[PRESS PHOTOS AND ARTIST BIOS FOR DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

October 23, 2016 at 3 pm

Jaime Laredo, conducting

Bella Hristova, violin

David Ludwig, composer

The Emily and Eugene Grant Opening Series

Soon after her unforgettable Tchaikovsky with the Phil in 2014, Bella Hristova and composer David Ludwig were married (with Jaime Laredo presiding!), so the Philharmonic commissioned Mr. Ludwig to write a concerto for his new bride. David Ludwig's prior commissions include Carnegie Hall, Philadelphia Orchestra, eighth blackbird, Ravinia, and many more. Book-ending this "romantic" new work are two Romantic period giants, Weber (*Oberon Overture*) and Brahms, whose fourth and final symphony is regarded as his crowning achievement.

Post-concert event: Subscriber-only 34th Season Kick-Off Party. Free for subscribers or by invitation.

General Information and Tickets

All performances will take place in The Concert Hall at The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, New York. A free pre-concert discussion with the artists takes place inside the concert hall at 2 pm.

Single tickets range from \$97-\$40. Four and 5-concert subscriptions range from \$105-\$406. Concert-goers 25 years of age or under pay half-price for single concert tickets. Group discounts are also available. To purchase, call the Westchester Philharmonic at (914) 682-3707 ext. 10 or visit westchesterphil.org. Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card accepted.

Open Rehearsals

Free open rehearsals with the orchestra are scheduled for October 23, February 12, April 9 and June 18 from 11 am – 1:30pm in The Concert Hall. Children and families welcome. Coffee and donuts will be served backstage for “Phil Families” where kids may also meet Phil musicians. Please visit westchesterphil.org for information before attending.

About the Westchester Philharmonic

Now in its 34th season, the Westchester Philharmonic is the oldest, continuously running professional symphony orchestra and largest performing arts organization of any kind in Westchester County. The Philharmonic’s main stage concert series makes its home at the 1,300 seat Concert Hall at the Purchase Performing Arts Center, with outdoor concerts, chamber concerts, children’s programs, and special events throughout the area, attracting savvy music-lovers from Rockland, Bergen, Fairfield, and Putnam counties, New York City, and beyond.

Founded in 1983 as the New Orchestra of Westchester under the leadership of Music Director Paul Lustig Dunkel (who became Music Director Emeritus in 2008), the orchestra was later re-named the Westchester Philharmonic. Renowned artists who have performed with the Phil include Joshua Bell, Jeremy Denk, Branford Marsalis, Midori, Garrick Ohlsson, Itzhak Perlman, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Gil Shaham, Isaac Stern, and André Watts. The Philharmonic is proudly led by two principal conductors: renowned violinist Jaime Laredo and Grammy-award winning music director, Ted Sperling.

Among the many new works commissioned and premiered by the Westchester Philharmonic is Melinda Wagner’s Concerto for Flute, Strings and Percussion, which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1999. A new commission by David Ludwig is scheduled for debut during the 2016-17 season.

The Westchester Philharmonic has a rich history of supporting artists of diverse backgrounds and is setting a new standard for how mid-size regional symphony orchestras can have an impact on the face of classical music. Many of the composers whose works have been commissioned or premiered with the Philharmonic come from diverse backgrounds and/or are women. In fact, in just the past eight seasons the Phil has engaged 27 conductors or guest soloists of African-American, Hispanic, and Asian backgrounds. Women conductors and composers have appeared in seven of the last ten seasons.

The orchestra’s award-winning education program reaches thousands of elementary school students each year and culminates in a full orchestra concert. The Phil also partners with local organizations to present free and low-cost chamber concerts, as well as to provide subsidized seating at main stage concerts, welcoming hundreds of area residents each year who might not otherwise have an opportunity to attend.

The orchestra is comprised of the finest professional free-lance musicians from around the greater metropolitan area, who also perform regularly with the New York City Ballet, Orchestra St. Luke’s, Orpheus, Mostly Mozart, and for many Broadway shows. Members of the Phil hold faculty positions at Juilliard, Mannes, Manhattan School of Music, Purchase Conservatory, Vassar and Bard Colleges, and at local public schools.

*This season is made possible with public funds from the **New York State Council on the Arts** with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.*

*This season is also made possible, in part, by **ArtsWestchester** with funds from Westchester County Government.*



Westchester Philharmonic

THE 2016-17 MAIN STAGE SEASON

- October 23 at 3 pm** **Jaime Laredo, conducting**
Bella Hristova, violin
David Ludwig, composer
Weber: Oberon Overture
David Ludwig: Violin Concerto (*NY premiere*)
Brahms: Symphony No. 4
**Pre-concert chat at 2 pm *Post-concert subscriber-only Kick-Off Party at 5 pm*
- December 18 at 3 pm** **Ted Sperling, conducting**
Ashley Brown, vocals
Ji, piano
Winter Pops
Louis Armstrong: *What a Wonderful World*
Rodgers & Hammerstein: *Hello, Young Lovers*
Bernstein: *Candide* Overture
Schubert: *Ave Maria*
Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2, Mvmt. 3
Tchaikovsky: Waltz from *Serenade for Strings*
More works TBD
**Post-concert After-Party with the stars.*
- February 12 at 3 pm** **Ted Sperling, conducting**
Julia Bullock, soprano
The Friends & Family Concert
Glinka: Russlan & Ludmilla Overture
Josephine Baker: La conga Blicoti & J'ai deux amours
Gershwin: Summertime & Walking the Dog
Bernstein: A Julia de Burgos
Mozart: "Deh vieni non tardar" (from *Le nozze di Figaro*)
Stravinsky: Firebird Suite
**Pre-concert Instrument Petting Zoo. Kids 17 and under attend concert free.*
- April 9 at 3 pm** **Jaime Laredo, violin soloist-leader**
Joseph Kalichstein, piano
Sharon Robinson, cello
40th Anniversary of the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio
Mozart: Piano Quartet No. 1 in G minor
Bach: Brandenburg Concerto No. 5
Beethoven: Triple Concerto
- June 18 at 3 pm** **Andrew Litton, conducting**
Conrad Tao, piano
Burgers, Beers & B-flat Minor
Weber: Overture to *Euryanthe*
Tchaikovsky: Piano Concerto No. 1
Dvorak: New World Symphony
**Post-concert Father's Day Barbeque: Burgers, Beers & B-flat Minor*

4 and 5-Concert subscriptions: \$406-\$150

Single tickets: \$97-\$40

Winter Pops After-Party: \$30

June Barbeque: \$25 adults/\$12 children

Tickets: (914) 682-3707 or westchesterphil.org

Concerts are presented at:

The Concert Hall, The Performing Arts Center Purchase College,
735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY