SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

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Images of Semyon Bychkov are downloadable from the SF Symphony online photo library

SEMYON BYCHKOV CONDUCTS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY IN ITS TWO SEASON OPENING CONCERT WEEKS SEPTEMBER 5-8 AND SEPTEMBER 12-15, 2012

Pinchas Zukerman performs Bruch's Violin Concerto with the Orchestra September 5-8

SAN FRANCISCO, August 1, 2012 — Guest conductor Semyon Bychkov leads the San Francisco Symphony in the first two weeks of concerts of its 2012-13 season for performances of Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1 featuring Pinchas Zukerman, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Wagner's Overture to *Tannhäuser* September 5-8, and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11 and Schubert's Symphony in B minor, "Unfinished" September 12-15 at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco.

Following these two concert weeks, Michael Tilson Thomas leads the San Francisco Symphony in Gala week festivities including the 101st season Gala concert with guest soloist Joshua Bell in honor of Marcia and John Goldman on Wednesday, September 19, its All-San Francisco concert for community groups on Thursday, September 20 at 8pm and free outdoor concert in Justin Herman Plaza across from the Ferry Building at 5pm on Friday, September 21.

Semyon Bychkov has been a frequent guest of the San Francisco Symphony since 1989, last conducting the Orchestra in works by R. Strauss and Schumann in November 2011. Since leaving St. Petersburg in the mid 70s, Semyon Bychkov has been a guest on the podiums of the world's finest orchestras. With his time carefully balanced between operatic and symphonic repertoire, he has recently appeared in Europe with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Vienna, Berlin and Munich Philharmonics, the London Symphony Orchestra and the BBC Symphony Orchestra, as well as the opera houses of Paris, Vienna, Madrid, Milan and London, where he conducted *Elektra* (2003), *The Queen of Spades* (2006), *Lohengrin* (2009), *Don Carlos* (2009), *Tannhäuser* (2010) and *La bohème* (2012). In the United States, he regularly conducts the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, the Chicago, Los Angeles and New York Philharmonic Orchestras, and will shortly be returning to the Metropolitan Opera for performances of *Otello* which will be broadcast across the world live in HD.

Violinist Pinchas Zukerman is currently in his fourteenth season as Music Director of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, where he has announced he will depart at the conclusion of the 2014-15 season. Zukerman has led the National Arts Centre Orchestra on numerous successful tours, and champions the work of contemporary Canadian composers. Zukerman is also in his fourth season as Principal Guest Conductor of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London, and this year will lead them on a tour of Switzerland, Russia and the United Kingdom. In the 2012-13 season he will perform numerous guest appearances as soloist and conductor with orchestras including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Maarinsky State Theatre Orchestra and the Israel Philharmonic and in recital in Salzburg, Prague, Philadelphia and beyond. In July 2012 he marked his 100th performance with the New York Philharmonic. His chamber ensemble, the Zukerman Chamber Players, appears at the Ravinia and Toronto summer music festivals this year. He also chairs the Pinchas Zukerman Performance Program at the Manhattan School of Music. Interviews with Zukerman are featured in *Orchestra of Exiles*, a new documentary film about the genesis of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and its founder Bronislaw Huberman. Pinchas Zukerman first appeared with the San Francisco Symphony in 1969.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Davies Symphony Hall

Wednesday, September 5 at 10 am (Open Rehearsal)
Wednesday, September 5 at 8pm
Thursday, September 6 at 8 pm
Friday, September 7 at 8 pm
Saturday, Sept 8 at 8 pm

Semyon Bychkov *conductor*
Pinchas Zukerman *violin*
San Francisco Symphony

Wagner Overture to *Tannhäuser* [Dresden version]
Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Opus 26
Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Opus 64

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Davies Symphony Hall

Wednesday, September 12 at 8 pm

Thursday, September 13 at 2 pm
Friday, September 14 at 8 pm
Saturday, September 15 at 8 pm

Semyon Bychkov *conductor*
San Francisco Symphony

Schubert Symphony in B minor, "Unfinished"
Shostakovich Symphony No. 11 in G minor, Opus 105, *The Year 1905*

PRE-CONCERT TALK: Susan Key will give an "Inside Music" talk from the stage one hour prior to each concert. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open 15 minutes before.

AUDIO PROGRAM NOTES: Free audio podcasts about Bruch's Violin Concerto, Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 and Shostakovich's Symphony No. 11 will be downloadable from sfsymphony.org/podcasts and from the iTunes store.

BROADCAST: These concerts will be broadcast on Classical 89.9/90.3/104.9 KDFC and kdfc.com at a later date to be announced.

CD SIGNINGS: Pinchas Zukerman will sign copies of his CDs in the Symphony Store following the performances on Thursday, September 6 and Saturday, September 8.

TICKETS: Open Rehearsal: $22 general, $40 reserved. Concerts: $15-$150. Available at sfsymphony.org, 415-864-6000, or the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.

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