SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

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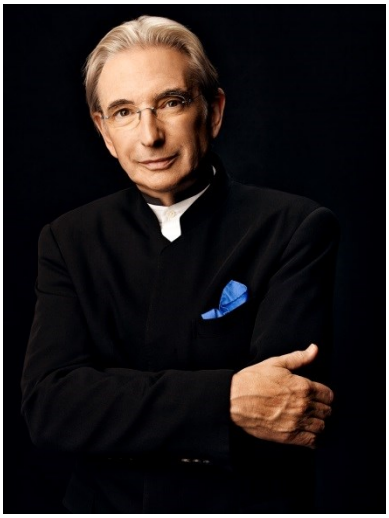
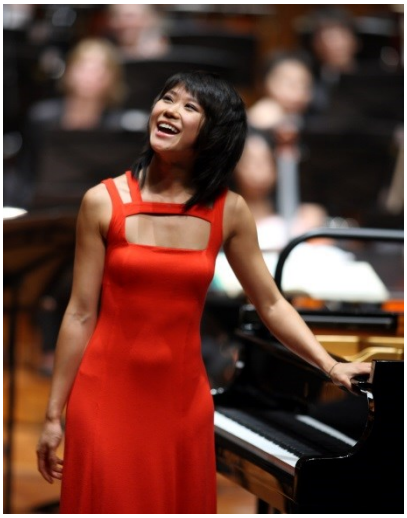

High resolution images of Michael Tilson Thomas and Yuja Wang are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's Online Photo Library

YUJA WANG JOINS MUSIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS AND THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY FOR PERFORMANCES OF PROKOFIEV'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 1 AND LITOLFF'S SCHERZO FROM *CONCERTO SYMPHONIQUE* NO. 4 MAY 22-25 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Program also includes Debussy's *Images* and short works by Fauré, Schubert, and Grieg

SAN FRANCISCO, April 30 updated May 7 in red – Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony are joined by pianist Yuja Wang for performances of Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Litolff's Scherzo from *Concerto symphonique* No. 4 on May 22-25 at Davies Symphony Hall. These concerts also feature Debussy's *Images*, Fauré's *Pavane*, Dvořák's *Legends* for Orchestra, Opus 59, no.6, Schubert's Entr'acte No. 3 in B-flat major from *Rosamunde*, and Grieg's *The Last Spring.*

These SF Symphony performances feature an almost salon style sampling of short pieces chosen by MTT to showcase the Orchestra's virtuosity. Each one reveals different facets of the orchestra, highlighting the quality of the different sections and the sensitivity and artistry of solo players in the ensemble.

Debussy's alluring orchestral triptych *Images*—including its famous three-movement centerpiece, *Ibéria*—concludes the program. Though completed in 1912, Debussy first planned the work that would eventually become *Images* in 1905, the same year in which he completed *La Mer*. The complete *Images* have been played by the San Francisco Symphony only once previously, in October 1986, with Erich Leinsdorf conducting.

Says Tilson Thomas, “Debussy is a major part of my repertoire and one of my all-time favorite composers. I came to him through my father who loved Debussy’s music very, very much. Returning to the music of Debussy is always one of the parts of my musical year to which I look most forward.”

Yuja Wang has appeared with the SFS every season since her debut at the Orchestra’s 2006 Chinese New Year concert. Her most recent SFS performance was a solo recital of works by Prokofiev, Chopin and Stravinsky in October 2013. She performed Prokofiev’s Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Orchestra in 2009, as well as on tour throughout Asia with MTT and the SFS in 2012. In the 2013-14 season the London Symphony Orchestra invited Wang to be their featured artist in the LSO Artist Portrait series, and together they toured China with Daniel Harding conducting. She also made her debut with the Hungarian National Philharmonic conducted by Zoltán Kocsis performing Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 2. Wang’s frequent summer collaborations with violinist Leonidas Kavakos were extended further with multiple tours of Europe focusing on the great violin and piano sonatas of Brahms. This past March she returned to the Los Angeles Philharmonic for concerts in Los Angeles and a subsequent U.S. tour with Gustavo Dudamel conducting, including a performance at Davies Symphony Hall. Wang returned to the Boston Symphony with Sir Andrew Davis conducting, and to the Cleveland Orchestra with Giancarlo Guerrero conducting. Wang is an exclusive recording artist for Deutsche Grammophon. For her most recent recording she collaborated with Gustavo Dudamel and the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra in performances of of Prokofiev's Concerto No. 2 and Rachmaninoff's Concerto No. 3.

Calendar editors, please note:

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS CONDUCTING

Thursday, May 22 at 8 pm
Friday, May 23 at 8 pm
Saturday, May 24 at 8 pm
Sunday, May 25 at 2 pm

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

Michael Tilson Thomas conductor
Yuja Wang piano
San Francisco Symphony

Fauré *Pavane*, Opus 50
Schubert Entr’acte No. 3 in B-flat major from *Rosamunde*, D.797
Dvořák *Legends* for Orchestra, Opus 59, no.6
Grieg *The Last Spring*, Opus 34, no.2
Prokofiev Piano Concerto No. 1 in D-flat major, Opus 10
Litolff Scherzo from *Concerto symphonique* No. 4 in D minor, Opus 102
Debussy *Images*

Tickets: $15-$171.
Available at sfsymphony.org, by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.

Audio Program Notes: Listen to a free podcast about Debussy’s *Images,* hosted by KDFC’s Rik Malone. All podcasts are archived, and can be downloaded or streamed from sfsymphony.org/podcasts and from the iTunes store.

Pre-Concert Talk: Alexandra Amati-Camperi 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.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, June 3 at 8 pm. pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and kdfc.com where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

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The May 23, 2014 concert is generously supported by Denise Hale in celebration of Michael Tilson Thomas'1s 20th anniversary as Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony.

Yuja Wang's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

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