THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION ANNOUNCES 2016/2017 MUSIC SEASON

Season Kicks off with Special Concert Featuring Mezzo-Soprano Denyce Graves

Full Schedule Below

WASHINGTON—The Phillips Collection announced today the 76th concert season for the museum’s prestigious music series. Beginning in late September, Phillips Music will open the first of 37 planned performances across the Sunday Concert series, Leading International Composers, Thursday Music, and concerts in partnership with the University of Maryland’s School of Music.

The success and reputation of concerts held at the Phillips is due to the continual search for exceptional talent and the curation of a series based on the philosophy Duncan Phillips wanted for his collection.

“Music and its ability to interact with visual art continues to be held in high esteem at the Phillips,” said Director Dorothy Kosinski. “Our founder Duncan Phillips was drawn to experiencing and being challenged by music and visual art in the same setting. Decades since the museum hosted its first gathering in the iconic Music Room, this season continues to keep alive the same artistic spirit and aim. The performances ahead are certain to take audiences on a powerful journey that is once again greatly enhanced by the beautiful environment in which the music is heard.”

Some of the world’s most notable musicians have performed as part of Phillips Music over the years, as well as many promising young artists. While performers make their own selections, the concerts this season correspond with themes of movement and discovery and resonate with exhibitions and programs museum-wide.

“All music lends us the opportunity for celebration, reflection, and inspiration,” said Director of Music Caroline Mousset. “Building on the extraordinary success of our 75th anniversary season, the Phillips has planned myriad events this season to celebrate the past, present, and future of Phillips Music. It’s a season that embraces all genres of music for audiences of all ages.”

SUNDAY CONCERTS
The Sunday Concert series features an impressive roster of award-winning talent, both familiar and new. As the longest continuously running series in Washington, DC, Sunday Concerts regularly feature works from classic and living composers. This season includes numerous special engagements and debuts.
The Phillips Music season opens with acclaimed mezzo-soprano and DC native Denyce Graves (September 25), who will be making her Phillips debut. A graduate of Duke Ellington School of the Arts and alumna of Oberlin Conservatory and New England Conservatory, Graves began her professional career as part of the Wolf Trap Opera Company. She has performed numerous times with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, including her debut in the title role of Carmen in 1995.

Rahim AlHaj (October 23) makes his Phillips debut in a concert playing the oud, one of the oldest of all string instruments. Born in Baghdad, AlHaj was eventually forced to leave Iraq because of his activism against Saddam Hussein’s regime. He was awarded a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2015.

Part of this season’s line-up are two winners of the prestigious Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels, including Russian pianist and 2010 title holder Denis Kozhukhin (October 16) as well as Czech pianist Lukáš Vondráček (November 6) who won this year. Aristo Sham (November 27), this year’s winner of the New York International Piano Competition, will also perform. Romanian cellist Andrei Ionita (March 19), winner of the International Tchaikovsky Competition in 2015, will make his DC debut with South Korean pianist Yekwon Sunwoo.

Carter Brey (December 4), principal cellist of the New York Philharmonic since 1996, will perform a concert with major works by American composers Elliott Carter and Leon Kirchner. Joined and accompanied by Benjamin Pasternack on piano, the concert will also include Pasternack’s own transcription of selections from Leonard Bernstein’s On the Town.

Just in time for the holidays, Canadian pianist Stewart Goodyear (December 18) returns to the Phillips with his own arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s Nutcracker from his 2015 recording of the complete ballet score.

Celebrated German violinist and 1993 winner of the Paganini Competition, Isabelle Faust (January 22) makes her Phillips debut and will perform violin solo classics by J. S. Bach. During the same month, French cellist Jean-Guihen Queyras (January 29) will perform all six of Bach’s cello suites.

With a reputation for “flash mob” concerts, violin trio Trilogy (February 5) will make its U.S. debut at the Phillips. Trilogy’s repertory include unique versions of music from the 18th to the 21st centuries—from Vivaldi to Daft Punk.
American violinist **Anne Akiko-Meyers** (April 23) will perform 21st-century works, including the world premiere of *O Magnum Mysterium*, which was composed especially for her by Morten Lauridsen.

This season concludes with a performance by legendary classical violinist **Kyung Wha Chung** (May 7), who made her impressive debut at age nine with the Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra. Chung’s performance at the Phillips celebrates her recent return to the stage after a decade-long absence following an injury that nearly ended her career.

**LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPOSERS**

In 2009, European embassies in Washington, DC, and The Phillips Collection joined forces to create an unprecedented concert series: Leading European Composers. Presenting some of the greatest living composers of our time, this series is unique in that the composers introduce their works with performers they specifically select for the occasion. Last season, Phillips Music broadened its scope to create Leading International Composers to infuse the concert season with the best of global contemporary music. Starting this year, each composer will also interact with students and faculty at the University of Maryland’s School of Music, a Phillips partner.

A Pulitzer Prize winner and Grammy Award nominee, composer **Zhou Long** (December 8) was born in Beijing, China, in 1953 and began his studies at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing in 1977. He later went on to attend Columbia University and earned his doctorate there in 1993; he is currently Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance. Zhou Long’s music embraces elements of traditional Chinese music and American symphonic music. The performance will feature musicians from the ensemble Music From China playing traditional Chinese instruments.

Born in 1954, Swedish composer **Anders Hillborg** (March 9) studied counterpoint, composition, and electronic music at the Royal College of Music in Stockholm between 1976 and 1982. Since graduation, Hillborg has worked as a full-time composer, with a significant number of orchestra, chamber, and choral works. Performing at the concert are the Calder Quartet, clarinetist Magnus Holmmander, and Axiom Brass.

The performances this season are coordinated closely with the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China and the Embassy of Sweden. All Leading International Composer events conclude with a celebratory reception hosted by the embassy partner.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CONCERTS**

Last fall, the Phillips and the University of Maryland (UMD) launched a bold partnership with a shared vision to dramatically transform scholarship and innovation in the arts. As part of this ongoing collaboration and exchange, there will be two concerts this season that feature UMD School of Music performers. Students are also invited to attend Phillips Music concerts and have the chance to participate in master classes with the Phillips’s Leading International Composers.
At the same time that Jacob Lawrence’s epic 60-panel *Migration Series* is on view at the Phillips, the UMD School of Music will perform Derek Bermel’s musical score *Migration Series*, directly inspired by Lawrence’s work (December 2). The concert will feature the Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band, Chamber Singers, and Wind Orchestra.

**SUNDAY CONCERTS 2016/2017**

September 25, 2016  Denyce Graves & Laura Ward, *mezzo-soprano & piano*
October 2, 2016  Niklas Walentin, Christina Bjørkøe, & Sø Percussion
with conductor Jean Thorel, *violin, piano, & percussion*
October 9, 2016  Ralph Kirshbaum & Shai Wosner, *cello & piano*
October 16, 2016  Denis Kozhukhin, *piano*
October 23, 2016  Rahim AlHaj & friends, *oud*
October 30, 2016  Heath Quartet
November 6, 2016  Lukáš Vondráček, *piano*
November 13, 2016  Vadym Kholodenko, *piano*
November 20, 2016  Nadia Sirota & Liam Byrne, *viola & viol*
November 27, 2016  Aristo Sham, *piano*
December 4, 2016  Carter Brey & Benjamin Pasternack, *cello & piano*
December 11, 2016  Alexander Sitkovetsky & Wu Qian, *violin & piano*
December 18, 2016  Stewart Goodyear, *piano*
January 8, 2017  Stephen Kovacevich, *piano*
January 15, 2017  Lise de la Salle, *piano*
January 22, 2017  Isabelle Faust, *violin*
January 29, 2017  Jean-Guihen Queyras, *cello*
February 5, 2017  Trilogy, *violin trio*
February 12, 2017  Signum Quartet
February 19, 2017  Morgenstern Trio
February 26, 2017  Dennis Russell Davies & Maki Namekawa, *duo pianos*
March 5, 2017  Marc Bouchkov & Katia Skanavi, *violin & piano*
March 12, 2017  Teo Gheorghiu, *piano*
March 19, 2017  Andrei Ionità & Yekwon Sunwoo, *cello & piano*
March 26, 2017  Jupiter Quartet
April 2, 2017  Anthony Marwood & Aleksandar Madžar, *violin & piano*
April 9, 2017  Gould Piano Trio & Robert Plane, *clarinet*
April 16, 2017  Lukas Geniušas, *piano*
April 23, 2017  Anne Akiko-Meyers, *violin*
April 30, 2017  Quatuor Danel
May 7, 2017  Kyung Wha Chung, *violin*

**LEADING INTERNATIONAL COMPOSERS**

December 8, 2016  Zhou Long, *China*
March 9, 2017  Anders Hillborg, *Sweden*

**THURSDAY MUSIC**

October 27, 2016  Ultra Violet & The Factory Tribute
January 19, 2017  So-Mang Jeagal, *piano*
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CONCERTS
October 13, 2016  UMD Chamber Concert: Henri at 100: Mystery & Memory, 6 pm
December 2, 2016  UMD & Derek Bermel at Dekelboum Concert Hall, 8 pm

CONCERT INFORMATION AND TICKETING
Reservations are strongly recommended. Tickets on sale August 16; online reservations are available until 9 am on the morning of each performance. Tickets and up-to-date concert programs are available here: www.phillipscollection.org/music. UMD concert tickets are available for purchase here: www.theclarice.umd.edu

Tickets for the Sunday Concerts and Leading International Composers are $40, $20 for members and students with ID (unless otherwise noted) and include museum admission for the day of the concert. Thursday Music tickets are $20, $8 for members and students with ID.

Seats are unreserved, and early arrival is recommended. Sunday Concerts are held in the Music Room at 4 pm (unless otherwise noted). Thursday Music concerts and Leading International Composers are held in the Music Room at 6 pm; composers conclude with informal conversations between audience and performers.

ABOUT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION
The Phillips Collection, America’s first museum of Modern art, is one of the world’s most distinguished collections of Impressionist and Modern American and European art. Stressing the continuity between art of the past and present, it offers a strikingly original and experimental approach to Modern art by combining works of different nationalities and periods in displays that change frequently. The setting is similarly unconventional, featuring small rooms, a domestic scale, and a personal atmosphere. Artists represented in the collection include Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Claude Monet, Honoré Daumier, Georgia O’Keeffe, Arthur Dove, Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and Richard Diebenkorn, among others. The permanent collection has grown to include more than 1,000 photographs, many by American photographers Berenice Abbott, Esther Bubley, and Bruce Davidson, and works by contemporary artists such as Anslem Kiefer, Wolfgang Laib, Whitfield Lovell, and Leo Villareal. The Phillips Collection regularly organizes acclaimed special exhibitions, many of which travel internationally. The Intersections series features projects by contemporary artists responding to art and spaces in the museum. The Phillips also produces award-winning education programs for K–12 teachers and students, as well as for adults. The University of Maryland Center for Art and Knowledge at The Phillips Collection is the museum’s nexus for academic work, scholarly exchange, and interdisciplinary collaborations. Since 1941, the museum has hosted Sunday Concerts in its wood-paneled Music Room. The Phillips Collection is a private, non-government museum, supported primarily by donations.

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