

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERT Dance Like a Firebird

Saturday, November 12, 2022, 2:00 p.m. 16,805th Concert

Christopher James Lees, Conductor (New York Philharmonic debut) Full Circle Souljahs, Creative Partner (New York Philharmonic debut) Ana "Rokafella" Garcia, Director / Choreographer Justin Jay Hines, Host Doug Fitch, Director / Designer

Wu Tsai Theater David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center Home of the New York Philharmonic

This concert will last approximately one hour; there will be no intermission. It is preceded by YPC Overtures, beginning at 1:00 p.m. on the Leon and Norma Hess Grand Promenade and Hearst Tier 1. Lead support for Young People's Concerts is provided by **Evalyn E.** and Stephen E. Milman.

Major support for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program is provided by **Susan and Elihu Rose.**



November 12, 2022

Christopher James Lees, Conductor (New York Philharmonic debut) Full Circle Souljahs, Creative Partner (New York Philharmonic debut) Ana "Rokafella" Garcia, Director / Choreographer Justin Jay Hines, Host

Doug Fitch, Director / Designer

STRAVINSKY (1882–1971)

Suite from The Firebird (1919 version) Introduction The Firebird and Its Dance; Variation of the Firebird The Princesses' Round-Dance (Khorovod) Infernal Dance of King Kashchei Lullaby Finale

New York Philharmonic VERY YOUNG COMPOSER Isai RABIU (b. 2005) Wonder (2022; World Premiere of complete work)

FULL CIRCLE SOULJAHS Gabriel Kwikstep Dionisio, Frank Concepcion, Odylle Bgirl Mantis Beder, TJ Rocka James, Bboy Shamgod, Hurricane, Dancers

THIS CONCERT WILL BE PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION.

Support for Young People's Concerts is provided by **The Theodore H. Barth Foundation** and **The Brodsky Family Foundation**.

Additional funding for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program is provided by **Muna and Basem Hishmeh; Mr. and Mrs. A. Slade Mills, Jr.**; and **Billy Rose Foundation**.

Today's performance by Full Circle Souljahs was created and rehearsed at The Point CDC in the Bronx.

Select New York Philharmonic performances are streamed on NYPhil+ (nyphil.org/plus), which hosts new and historic performance videos and broadcasts, and syndicated on *The New York Philharmonic This Week* (nyphil.org/thisweek), the award-winning weekly radio series.

Follow the NY Phil on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube, and at nyphil.org.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING ARE ONLY PERMITTED DURING APPLAUSE. 20 | NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

About the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program

C reated by Director Jon Deak, a composer and former New York Philharmonic Associate Principal Bass, the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program (VYC) is an after-school initiative that provides children ages 9–15 with the opportunity to transform their ideas into finished compositions to be performed by professional musicians. Participants hone their creations by collaborating with Philharmonic Teaching Artists in workshops and rehearsals, culminating in astonishing works of art that reveal the power of children's imaginations. From its origins in New York City more than 25 years ago, VYC has inspired programs across the United States and around the world. For more information, visit nyphil.org/vyc.

About This Very Young Composer

Wonder

Isai Rabiu (b. 2005)



Isai Rabiu began studying percussion and set drums with Lou Grassi at a very young age, and has since studied a variety of styles of percussion through a number of youth orchestras, including Face the Music. At age eight he was featured as a soloist with the Interschool Youth Orchestra at Morningside at Symphony Space in Manhattan. In 2014 he joined the Manna House Music Junior Jazz Ensemble, focusing on jazz performance, and was accepted into the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program (VYC). He progressively wrote a number of works that were performed by

NY Phil musicians, and in 2017, at age ten, he attended the premiere of his *Aye Ni llu* at an NY Phil YPC at Lincoln Center and when it was reprised later that year in Shanghai. That same year he also became a member of ASCAP; joined the Visionary Youth Orchestra in New York; performed at a number of venues around the city while learning from their exceptional teachers; and was selected to premiere his *Knight Fury* in the MATA Jr. Festival in New York. In 2018 Rabiu was accepted into Face the Music's experimental Sound Bite Orchestra, and the Special Music School's composition program. He has studied with composers Dr. Jared Miller, Dr. Lauren Loiacono, and Dr. Howie Kenty. A graduate of the Special Music School in Manhattan, Isai Rabiu is using his "gap year" to take private music lessons as well as college composition classes at Berklee College of Music, and study at NYU Tandon School of Engineering. While auditioning for music composition programs around the country, he continues to write experimental compositions.

About Wonder — a selection of which was performed on an NY Phil Young People's Concert in March 2022, when he was still working on the piece — he wrote:

The piece is partly inspired by the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. I explore what it means to be original or unique. It is also meant to evoke a progressive feeling of wonder throughout the piece, exploring the actual word through orchestration and notation.

New York Philharmonic

2022–2023 SEASON JAAP VAN ZWEDEN, Music Director Leonard Bernstein, Laureate Conductor, 1943–1990 Kurt Masur, Music Director Emeritus, 1991–2015

VIOLINS

Frank Huang Concertmaster The Charles E. Culpeper Chair

Sheryl Staples Principal Associate Concertmaster The Elizabeth G. Beinecke Chair

Michelle Kim Assistant Concertmaster The William Petschek Family Chair

Quan Ge

Hae-Young Ham The Mr. and Mrs. Timothy M. George Chair

Lisa GiHae Kim

Kuan Cheng Lu

Kerry McDermott

Su Hyun Park

Anna Rabinova

Fiona Simon The Shirley Bacot Shamel Chair

Sharon Yamada Elizabeth Zeltser+ The William and Elfriede Ulrich Chair

Yulia Ziskel The Friends and Patrons Chair

Qianqian Li Principal

Lisa Eunsoo Kim* In Memory of Laura Mitchell

Soohyun Kwon The Joan and Joel I. Picket Chair

Duoming Ba

Hannah Choi Marilyn Dubow The Sue and Eugene Mercy, Jr. Chair I-Jung Huang Dasol Jeong Alina Kobialka Hyunju Lee Kyung Ji Min Marié Schwalbach Na Sun The Gary W. Parr Chair Audrey Wright Jin Suk Yu Andi Zhang

VIOLAS

Cynthia Phelps Principal The Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Rose Chair

Rebecca Young* The Joan and Joel Smilow Chair

Cong Wu^{**} The Norma and Lloyd Chazen Chair Dorian Rence

Leah Ferguson Katherine Greene The Mr. and Mrs. William J. McDonough Chair Vivek Kamath Peter Kenote Kenneth Mirkin Robert Rinehart The Mr. and Mrs. G. Chris Andersen Chair

CELLOS

Carter Brey Principal The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Chair Patrick Jee***

The Paul and Diane Guenther Chair

Elizabeth Dyson+ The Mr. and Mrs. James E. Buckman Chair

Alexei Yupanqui Gonzales

Maria Kitsopoulos The Secular Society Chair

Sumire Kudo Qiang Tu

Nathan Vickery Ru-Pei Yeh

The Credit Suisse Chair in honor of Paul Calello

BASSES

Timothy Cobb Principal Max Zeugner* The Herbert M. Citrin Chair Blake Hinson** Satoshi Okamoto

Randall Butler The Ludmila S. and Carl B. Hess Chair David J. Grossman Isaac Trapkus+ Rion Wentworth

FLUTES

Robert Langevin Principal The Lila Acheson Wallace Chair

Alison Fierst* Yoobin Son

Mindy Kaufman The Edward and Priscilla Pilcher Chair

PICCOLO

Mindy Kaufman

OBOES

Liang Wang Principal The Alice Tully Chair

Sherry Sylar*

Robert Botti The Lizabeth and Frank Newman Chair

Ryan Roberts

ENGLISH HORN

Ryan Roberts

CLARINETS

Anthony McGill Principal The Edna and W. Van Alan Clark Chair

Pascual Martínez Forteza*** The Honey M. Kurtz Family Chair

E-FLAT CLARINET

Pascual Martínez Forteza

Instruments made possible, in part, by **The Richard S. and Karen LeFrak Endowment Fund.** The Digital Organ is made possible by **Ronnie P. Ackman and Lawrence D. Ackman. Steinway** is the Official Piano of the New York Philharmonic and David Geffen Hall.

BASS CLARINET

BASSOONS

Judith LeClair Principal The Pels Family Chair

Kim Laskowski* Roger Nye The Rosalind Miranda Chair in memory of Shirley and Bill Cohen

CONTRABASSOON

HORNS

Principal Richard Deane* R. Allen Spanjer The Rosalind Miranda Chair

The Ruth F. and Alan J. Broder Chair Leelanee Sterrett Randy C. Gardner++ Alana Vegter++

TRUMPETS

Christopher Martin Principal The Paula Levin Chair Matthew Muckey* Ethan Bensdorf Thomas Smith

TROMBONES

Joseph Alessi Principal The Gurnee F. and Marjorie L. Hart Chair Colin Williams*

David Finlayson The Donna and Benjamin M. Rosen Chair

BASS TROMBONE

George Curran The Daria L. and William C. Foster Chair

TUBA Alan Baer Principal

TIMPANI

Markus Rhoten Principal The Carlos Moseley Chair Kyle Zerna**

PERCUSSION

Christopher S. Lamb Principal The Constance R. Hoguet Friends of the Philharmonic Chair

Daniel Druckman* The Mr. and Mrs. Ronald J. Ulrich Chair

Kyle Zerna

HARP

Nancy Allen Principal

KEYBOARD In Memory of Paul Jacobs

HARPSICHORD Paolo Bordignon

PIANO

Eric Huebner The Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Piano Chair

ORGAN Kent Tritle

LIBRARIANS

Lawrence Tarlow Principal Sara Griffin**

ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

DeAnne Eisch Orchestra Personnel Manager

STAGE REPRESENTATIVE Joseph Faretta

AUDIO DIRECTOR Lawrence Rock

- * Associate Principal
- ** Assistant Principal *** Acting Associate
- Principal + On Leave
- ++ Replacement / Extra

The New York Philharmonic uses the revolving seating method for section string players who are listed alphabetically in the roster.

HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

Emanuel Ax Stanley Drucker Zubin Mehta

Programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

The Artists



Christopher James Lees serves as resident conductor of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra and principal conductor of the Charlotte Symphony Youth Orchestra. In

addition to conducting more than 50 performances a season, he has stepped in to conduct classical subscription concerts on four occasions, including a gala performance with Grammy Award-winning artist and jazz legend Branford Marsalis in May 2021.

This season Lees makes his debuts with the New York Philharmonic and the New World Symphony. An active guest conductor, he has returned for performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Rochester Philharmonic. and the Houston. Detroit, Milwaukee, North Carolina, Portland, Winston-Salem, and Flint symphony orchestras. Additional engagements have taken him to the National Arts Centre Orchestra (Ottawa). Orchestra de chambre de Paris, Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra, and Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, and to the Music in the Mountains Festival and Festival Internacional de Inverno de Campos do Jordão in Brazil.

Only the second American Gustavo Dudamel Conducting Fellow with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Lees made his debut with that orchestra in April 2013 and returned for concerts in February 2015. He has served as an assistant conductor for some of the world's leading conductors, including Dudamel, Paavo Järvi, Herbert Blomstedt, Leonard Slatkin, David Robertson, Robert Spano, Marin Alsop, Pablo Heras-Casado, Stéphane Denève, and Susanna Mälkki. After two summers of study with Robert Spano at the Aspen Music Festival and School, Lees was named winner of both the 2011 James Conlon Conducting Prize and the 2012 Aspen Conducting Prize, respectively. In 2013 Lees returned to Aspen for a third summer as assistant conductor.

An active pianist and equally comfortable in the opera pit, Lees has served as music director or assistant conductor for operas ranging from Verdi's Aida. Mozart's Don Giovanni, and Britten's Peter Grimes to Andriessen's De Materie. John Harbison's The Great Gatsby, and Rota's Il capello di paglia di Firenze. A dedicated advocate for the music of our time. Lees has premiered more than 150 works by a diverse range of artists and several Pulitzer Prize-winning composers, including John Adams, William Bolcom, John Corigliano, Jennifer Higdon, Joseph Schwantner. Steven Stucky, Caroline Shaw, Roger Reynolds, and Julia Wolfe.



Full Circle Souljahs is a Bronx-based street dance company / crew supported by the nonprofit organization Full Circle Prod (FCP) Inc. Under the direction of world-renowned hip-hop dance duo Kwikstep and Rokafella, the vision is to

preserve and embrace New York City hiphop dance culture as it evolves onstage, in a cypha — a circular dance floor on which they perform their street or club dance, a shape reflecting their circular formation that connects their dance styles with their African roots — as well as in classrooms and in your heart! Inspired by the street and brought into theaters, Full Circle offers a complete spectrum of hip-hop culture that is approachable and straight from the soul.



Percussionist, composer, and educator **Justin Jay Hines** has performed with the New York Philharmonic, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Santa Fe Chamber

Music Festival, Moab Music Festival, Alarm Will Sound, and Chamber Music Society of Detroit. He has served as a New York Philharmonic Lead Teaching Artist in New York City and Japan since 1997; today's performance marks his fourth appearance as host on an NY Phil Young People's Concert. Hines has also collaborated with The Juilliard School: St. Louis Symphony; New World Symphony: The 92nd Street Y. New York: Lincoln Center Education: Carnegie Hall: and the Caramoor Center for the Arts as a leader of aesthetic education experiences. His classical compositions have been performed by his group Classical Jam at venues throughout the United States and Asia. Currently he is a composition mentor for the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers Program, and the artistic director of Living Arts Collaborative, Inc. He is a recipient of Manhattan School of Music's Pablo Casals Award for Community Outreach, and recently joined the Manhattan School of Music faculty.



Stage director and designer **Doug Fitch** has created productions for major opera houses around the world. With the New York Philharmonic he has collaborated on

productions of Ligeti's Le Grand Macabre, Janáček's The Cunning Little Vixen, A Dancer's Dream (presenting Stravinsky's The Fairy's Kiss and Petrushka), and HK Gruber's Gloria – A Pia Tale, and previously directed and designed a NY Phil Young People's Concert and several Verv Young People's Concerts. He directed Suzanne Farrin's Dolce la Morte at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, commissioned by MetLiveArts, and his Tanglewood production of Elliott Carter's What Next? was filmed and screened at The Museum of Modern Art. Fitch's production of Orphic Moments (comprising works by Matthew Aucoin alongside Gluck) was featured at National Sawdust. Salzburg's State Theater, and The Rose Theater at Jazz at Lincoln Center. Le Grand Macabre was remounted at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. Punkitititi, his devised show starring Geoff Sobelle, was commissioned by the Salzburg Marionette Theater and MozartWoche2020, and returned in 2021.

Jaap van Zweden and the New York Philharmonic



Jaap van Zweden became Music Director of the New York Philharmonic in 2018; in the 2022–23 season he presides over the Orchestra's return to the new David Geffen Hall. He is also Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic since 2012, and becomes Music Director of the Seoul Philharmonic in 2024. He has appeared as guest with the Orchestre de Paris; Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw and Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestras; Vienna, Berlin, and Los Angeles philharmonic orchestras; and London Symphony, Chicago Symphony, and Cleveland orchestras.

Jaap van Zweden's NY Phil recordings include David Lang's *prisoner of the state* and Julia Wolfe's Grammy-nominated *Fire in my mouth* (Decca Gold). He conducted the firstever performances in Hong Kong of Wagner's *Ring* Cycle, the Naxos recording of which led the Hong Kong Philharmonic to be named the 2019 *Gramophone* Orchestra of the year. His performance of Wagner's *Parsifal* received the Edison Award for Best Opera Recording in 2012.

Born in Amsterdam, Jaap van Zweden became the youngest-ever concertmaster of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra at age 19. He began his conducting career almost 20 years later, was named *MusicalAmerica's* 2012 Conductor of the Year, and was awarded the prestigious Concertgebouw Prize in 2020. In 1997 he and his wife, Aaltje, established the Papageno Foundation to support families of children with autism. The New York Philharmonic connects with millions of music lovers each season through live concerts in New York and around the world, as well as broadcasts, recordings, and education programs. The 2022-23 season marks a new chapter in the life of America's longest living orchestra with the opening of the new David Geffen Hall and programming that engages with today's cultural conversations through explorations of HOME, LIBERATION, SPIRIT, and EARTH, in addition to the premieres of 16 works. This marks the return from the pandemic, when the NY Phil launched NY Phil Bandwagon, presenting free performances across the city, and 2021-22 concerts at other New York City venues.

The Philharmonic has commissioned and / or premiered important works, from Dvořák's *New World* Symphony to Tania León's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Stride*. The Orchestra has released more than 2,000 recordings since 1917, streams performances on NYPhil+, and shares its extensive history free online through the New York Philharmonic Shelby White & Leon Levy Digital Archives.

Founded in 1842, the New York Philharmonic is the oldest symphony orchestra in the United States, and one of the oldest in the world. Jaap van Zweden became Music Director in 2018–19, succeeding titans including Bernstein, Toscanini, and Mahler.