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Press Materials: [pbs.org/pressroom](http://pbs.org/pressroom) or [thirteen.org/pressroom](http://thirteen.org/pressroom)

*Great Performances* Celebrates the Reopening of David Geffen Hall with Gala Concert Special from The New York Philharmonic Friday, November 4 on PBS

**Synopsis:**

This concert special led by the New York Philharmonic Music Director **Jaap van Zweden** inaugurates the newly renovated David Geffen Hall. Recorded October 28, the concert features a performance of “Ode to Joy” as the finale of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony along with a world premiere work by Puerto Rican composer **Angélica Negrón** celebrating the ritual of gathering around music and art. Presenting a celebratory look at the orchestra’s future, ***Great Performances: NY Phil Reopening of David Geffen Hall*** premieres Friday, November 4 at 9 p.m. ETon PBS ([check local listings](http://www.pbs.org/tv_schedules/)), [pbs.org/gperf](http://www.pbs.org/gperf) and the [PBS Video app](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/) as part of ***Great Performances’*** 50th anniversary season.

**Musical Selections:**

* “Ode to Joy” as the finale of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9
* “You Are the Prelude” – Composed by Angélica Negrón with text by Ricardo Alberto Maldonado

**Notable Talent:**

* Jaap van Zweden, NY Phil Music Director – Conductor
* Joélle Harvey – Soprano
* Kelley O’Connor – Mezzo-soprano
* Issachah Savage – Tenor
* Davóne Tines – Bass
* The New York Philharmonic Chorus (Director: Malcolm J. Merriweather)

**Notable Facts:**

* Angélica Negrón’s world premiere was commissioned by NY Phil.
* Bass Davóne Tines makes his NY Phil debut in this concert.
* The October 2022 reopening of David Geffen Hall is taking place two years earlier than originally projected.

**Short Listing:**

Celebrate with a performance of Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” led by Music Director Jaap van Zweden.

**Long Listing:**

Celebrate this newly reopened home of the New York Philharmonic with a performance of Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” conducted by the NY Phil’s Music Director Jaap van Zweden along with a world premiere by Puerto Rican composer Angélica Negrón.

**Series Overview:**

Throughout its 50-year history on PBS, ***Great Performances***has provided an unparalleled showcase of the best in all genres of the performing arts, serving as America’s most prestigious and enduring broadcaster of cultural programming. Showcasing a diverse range of artists from around the world, the series has earned 67 Emmy Awards and six Peabody Awards. The [***Great Performances*** website](https://www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/) hosts exclusive videos, interviews, photos, full episodes and more. The series is produced by The WNET Group. ***Great Performances***is available for streaming concurrent with broadcast on [PBS.org](http://pbs.org/) and the [PBS Video App,](https://www.pbs.org/pbs-video-app/) available on iOS, Android, Roku streaming devices, Apple TV, Android TV, Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Chromecast and VIZIO.

**Websites:**

<http://pbs.org/gperf>, [http://facebook.com/GreatPerformances](http://www.facebook.com/GreatPerformances), [@GPerfPBS](http://twitter.com/gperfpbs), <http://youtube.com/greatperformancespbs>, [giphy.com/great-performances](https://giphy.com/great-performances/) #GreatPerformancesPBS

**Production Credits:**

Directed for television by Habib Azar, ***Great Performances: NY Phil Reopening of David Geffen Hall*** is a production of The WNET Group. For ***Great Performances*,** producers are Bill Kabel, Julie Leonard and Mitch Owgang; Bill O’Donnell is series producer and David Horn is executive producer.

**Funding:**

Series funding for ***Great Performances*** is provided by The Joseph & Robert Cornell Memorial Foundation, the Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Arts Fund, the LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust, Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III, the Abra Prentice Foundation, LLC, Jody and John Arnhold, The Starr Foundation, The Philip and Janice Levin Foundation, the Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, the Thea Petschek Iervolino Foundation, Seton J. Melvin, the Estate of Worthington Mayo-Smith, the Jack Lawrence Trust, and Ellen and James S. Marcus. Funding for ***Great Performances: NY Phil Reopening of David Geffen Hall*** was provided by Leni and Peter May.

**About NY Phil**

The New York Philharmonic connects with up to 50 million 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 reimagined 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 WorldSymphony” 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.

**About The WNET Group**

[The WNET Group](http://wnet.org/) creates inspiring media content and meaningful experiences for diverse audiences nationwide. It is the community-supported home of New York’s [THIRTEEN](http://thirteen.org/)–America’s flagship PBS station–[WLIW21,](http://wliw.org/) THIRTEEN PBSKids, WLIW World and Create; [NJ PBS,](https://www.mynjpbs.org/) New Jersey’s statewide public television network; Long Island’s only NPR station WLIW-FM[; ALL ARTS,](http://allarts.org/) the arts and culture media provider; and newsroom [NJ Spotlight News.](https://www.njspotlightnews.org/) Through these channels and streaming platforms, The WNET Group brings arts, culture, education, news, documentary, entertainment and DIY programming to more than five million viewers each month. The WNET Group’s award-winning productions include signature PBS series ***Nature***, ***Great******Performances***, ***American******Masters***, ***PBS NewsHour Weekend*** and ***Amanpour and Company***and trusted local news programs ***MetroFocus*** and ***NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi***. Inspiring curiosity and nurturing dreams, The WNET Group’s award-winning Kids’ Media and Education team produces the PBS KIDS series ***Cyberchase***, interactive ***Mission US*** history games, and resources for families, teachers and caregivers. A leading nonprofit public media producer for nearly 60 years, The WNET Group presents and distributes content that fosters lifelong learning, including multiplatform initiatives addressing poverty, jobs, economic opportunity, social justice, understanding and the environment. Through Passport, station members can stream new and archival programming anytime, anywhere. The WNET Group represents the best in public media. Join us.

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