FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: January 18, 2012

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES PROJECT DEBUSSY,
THE BSO’S FOURTH ANNUAL FASHION CONTEST, FEBRUARY 2 AT SYMPHONY HALL

ELEVEN FASHION STUDENTS FROM AROUND BOSTON WILL CREATE
EVENING WEAR INSPIRED BY THE MUSIC OF DEBUSSY TO DISPLAY AT SYMPHONY HALL

The Boston Symphony Orchestra will present Project Debussy, a unique fashion contest featuring fashion inspired by the music of Claude Debussy, scheduled in conjunction with upcoming BSO concerts featuring Debussy’s La Mer, on February 2 at Symphony Hall. The Project Debussy contest will feature evening wear designs by eleven talented fashion students affiliated with schools throughout the greater Boston area. Symphony Hall doors will open at 7 p.m. on February 2, allowing patrons to view and vote on the dresses, presented by models chosen by the designers, and enjoy the festive Symphony Hall atmosphere before taking their seats for the 8 p.m. concert. The winner of Project Debussy will be announced at a special post-concert fashion event and reception in Higginson Hall, following the performance.

Project Debussy is the fourth fashion competition based on the works of a composer held at Symphony Hall. The first event was Project Mozart, which took place during the 2008-09 season, followed by Project Tchaikovsky (2009-10) and Project Beethoven (2010-11). Past winners of the competition include Lowander Lee from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design (Project Mozart), Rain Delisle from Massachusetts College of Art and Design (Project Tchaikovsky); and Maria Canada from Rhode Island School of Design (Project Beethoven).

The eleven contestants competing in the Project Debussy contest are Kowoon Jeong, The School of Fashion Design; JanFrevic Lujares, Massachusetts College of Arts and Design; Htwe Htwe Han, Yannery Burgos, and Katie Suji Kim, Mount Ida College; Kaitlyn Gonfrade and Amanda Simonelli, Framingham State University; Megan Coffman, Amanda Erickson, and Lindsey Holcomb, Lasell College; and Teresa Calabro, Fisher College. Each contestant has been given $100 towards the production of his or her design. For downloadable photos of the designs, click here: https://www.box.com/s/hq2e6s5lo2y8o29mxy7p.

The winner of Project Debussy will be determined by a judging panel including Catheline van den Branden, President and Executive Director of the French Cultural Center; fashion designer Sara Campbell; Jonathan Soroff, features writer and social columnist from the Improper Bostonian; Alan Bilzerian, owner of the Alan Bilzerian clothing boutique; and Althea Blackford, Executive Producer & Host of Style it Up. Jared Bowen, Emmy Award-winning arts reporter for WGBH’s Greater Boston, will serve as the emcee for the
Februrary 2nd post-concert event. Fashion fans around the world will also be able to vote for a “people’s choice” award at www.facebook.com/bostonsymphony or www.twitter.com/bostonsymphony, by entering the favored entry, along with the phrase #projectdeb.

The French Cultural Center will be providing a special grant of $1,000 for the winner of Project Debussy. Copley Place will be providing gift bags for the designers and models. Hearts on Fire has generously offered a piece of diamond jewelry as a prize, and the shop will allow contestants to pull from its own collection to accessorize their models.

Project Debussy is made possible with support from Boston Magazine, fashion consultant Kathy Benharris, photographer William Downey, makeup artist Debra Macki, and Brandon Keith Hair.

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions for the BSO’s 2011-2012 season are available by calling the BSO Subscription Office at 888-266-7575 or online through the BSO’s website (www.bso.org). Single tickets are priced from $20 to $120, with Open Rehearsals priced at $20 each (general admission). Regular-season Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts on Tuesday and Thursday evenings are priced from $30 to $110; Friday afternoons are priced from $30 to $105; concerts on Friday and Saturday evenings are priced from $32 to $120. Tickets may be purchased by phone through SymphonyCharge (617-266-1200 or 888-266-1200), online through the BSO’s website (www.bso.org), or in person at the Symphony Hall Box Office (301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston). There is a $6.25 service fee for all tickets purchased online or by phone through SymphonyCharge.

A limited number of Rush Tickets for Boston Symphony Orchestra subscription concerts on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Friday afternoons are set aside to be sold on the day of a performance. These tickets are sold at $9 each, one to a customer, at the Symphony Hall Box Office on Fridays beginning at 10 a.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 5 p.m.

The BSO’s <40=$20 program allows patrons under the age of 40 to purchase tickets for $20. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis on both the orchestra and balcony levels. There is a limit of one pair per performance, but patrons may attend as many performances as desired.

The Boston Symphony Orchestra offers groups advanced ticket reservations and flexible payment options for BSO concerts at Symphony Hall. Groups of 20 or more may take advantage of ticket discounts, backstage tours, clinics, and master classes. Pre- and post-concert dining options and private function space are available. More information is available through the group sales office at groupsales@bso.org.

The BSO College Card and High School Card are the best way for students and aspiring young musicians to experience the BSO on a regular basis. For only $25 (College Card) or $10 (High School Card) students can attend most BSO concerts at no additional cost by registering the card online to receive text and email notifications of real-time ticket availability.

American Express, MasterCard, Visa, Diners Club, and Discover, and cash (in person only) are all accepted at the Symphony Hall Box Office. Gift certificates are available in any amount and may be used toward the purchase of tickets (subject to availability) to any Boston Symphony Orchestra or Boston Pops performance at Symphony Hall or Tanglewood. Gift certificates may also be used at the Symphony Shop to purchase merchandise.

Patrons with disabilities can access Symphony Hall through the Massachusetts Avenue lobby or the Cohen Wing on Huntington Avenue. An access service center, accessible restrooms, and elevators are available inside the Cohen Wing entrance. For ticket information, call the Access Services Administrator at 617-638-9431 or TDD/TTY 617-638-9289.

SPONSORSHIPS

UBS is proud to be the Season Sponsor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and inaugural Lead Sponsor of the BSO Academy School Initiative at the Thomas A. Edison School in Brighton, MA. EMC
Corporation is the supporting partner of the 2011-12 BSO season. The Fairmont Copley Plaza Boston, together with Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, is the Official Hotel of the BSO. Commonwealth Worldwide Chauffeured Transportation is the Official Chauffeured Transportation Provider of the BSO. The Evening Open Rehearsal series is supported by Harvard University Extension School and Harvard Summer School.

All programs and artists are subject to change. For current program information, dial 617-CONCERT (266-2378). For further information, call the Boston Symphony Orchestra at 617-266-1492. The Boston Symphony Orchestra is online at www.bso.org.

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BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PROGRAM LISTING, FEBRUARY 2-4, 2012

Thursday, February 2, 8 p.m.
Friday, February 3, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 4, 8 p.m.

Charles Dutoit, conductor
Gautier Capuçon, cello

STRAUSS Suite from Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme
DUTILLEUX Tout un monde lointain, for cello and orchestra
DEBUSSY La Mer