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Opening Night Concert Bios

Florida State University Symphony Orchestra **Robert Spano, conductor** **Pedja Muzijevic, piano**

Robert Spano, currently the music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, has conducted the great orchestras of North America, including those in Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco. Overseas he has led the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Orchestra Filarmonica della Scala, Czech Philharmonic, Frankfurt Radio Sinfonie Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC Scottish, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, New Japan Philharmonic and Tonhalle Orchester. He has conducted the Chicago, Houston, Santa Fe, and Welsh National Operas, and Royal Opera at Covent Garden. In August 2005, he conducted Wagner's *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at Seattle Opera, and returns for the cycle in 2009. With a discography of nine critically acclaimed recordings for Telarc and Deutsche Grammophon made over six years, Robert Spano has garnered six Grammy Awards.

Named Musical America's 2007 Conductor of the Year, Spano was Artistic Director of the Ojai Festival in 2006, Director of the Festival of Contemporary Music at the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Tanglewood Music Center in 2003 and 2004, and from 1996 to 2004 he was Music Director of the Brooklyn Philharmonic. Head of the Conducting Fellowship Program at Tanglewood Music Center from 1998-2002, he has served on the faculties of Bowling Green State University, Curtis Institute and Oberlin Conservatory. Robert Spano lives in Atlanta. For more information visit www.robertspanomusic.com.

Pedja Muzijevic made his New York recital debut in Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall as a recipient of The Juilliard School's William Petschek Award. Recent performances include the Milwaukee Symphony, the Residentie Orkest in The Hague, Dresden Philharmonic, Shinsei Nihon Orchestra in Tokyo, Orquesta Sinfonica in Montevideo, Zagreb Philharmonic, Boston Pops, Santa Fe Pro Musica, Napa Valley Symphony and the Richmond (VA) Symphony. He has played solo recitals at Alice Tully Hall in New York, Casals Hall and Bunka Kaikan in Tokyo, Teatro Municipal in Santiago de Chile, Da Camera of Houston, The Frick Collection in New York, Arizona Friends of Chamber Music in Tucson, and the Aldeburgh Festival in Great Britain. He made his Carnegie Hall debut in 2007 with the Oberlin Orchestra and Robert Spano.

His many festival engagements encompass performances at Tanglewood, Mostly Mozart, Newport, OK Mozart, Bay Chamber Concerts, San Miguel de Allende, Aldeburgh, Lucerne, Holland, Melbourne, Aix-en-Provence, Dubrovnik, Merano and Bratislava Festivals. Mr. Muzijevic's chamber music performances include Bargemusic, Great Performers Series at Lincoln Center and 92nd Street Y in New York, Theatre du Chatelet in Paris, with the Boston Symphony Chamber Players at Tanglewood, for La Jolla Music Society (CA), and Da Camera in Houston. He has toured with Mikhail Baryshnikov in "*Solos with Piano or not...*" and with Simon Keenlyside in Trisha Brown's staged version of Schubert's *Winterreise*. He is the Director of Music Programming at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in New York City. For more information please visit www.pedjamuzijevic.com.