

National Centre for the Performing Arts Orchestra

Friday, November 7 8 PM

Lü Jia Conductor

Yuja Wang Piano

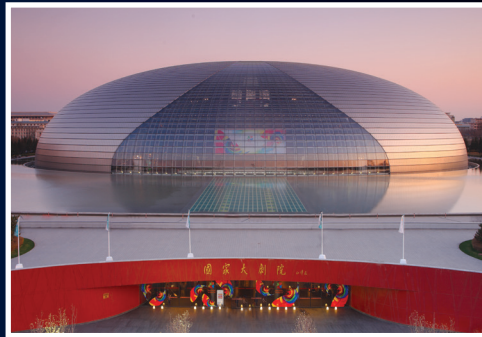
Qigang Chen *Wu Xing*

Ravel Piano Concerto in G major

Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5

The Philadelphia Orchestra is proud to present the first tour in North America of the National Centre for the Performing Arts Orchestra, along with Philadelphia trained Chinese pianist and audience favorite Yuja Wang. The Orchestra is the National Centre's long-term strategic partner in China. Celebrating almost 10 years as the unmistakable "crown jewel" of China's performing arts, the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing has become the country's indisputable leading institution for performing arts and the city's great landmark of its dynamic cultural life, and now ranks among the finest spaces for the world's classical music events.

The concert will also mark the 35th anniversary of official relations between The United States and China. This is a celebration you will not want to miss!



Yuja Wang



Audiences were mesmerized when The Philadelphia Orchestra performed the work in 2013 for the first time in 30 years. Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* premiered on Good Friday in 1727. Nearly 300 years later, Philadelphia audiences can experience the groundbreaking creation much as the original 18th-century audience did that Easter weekend. Recounting the New Testament story of Jesus Christ's final days—from the Last Supper to the Crucifixion—Bach calls for large-scale forces and a divided orchestra. Renowned stage director James Alexander's brilliant minimalist staging enhances the storytelling. Bass-baritone Andrew Foster-Williams, mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill, and tenor Andrew Staples as the Evangelist reprise their roles from those sold-out performances. Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts this grand event.

St. Matthew Passion

Wednesday, April 1 8 PM

Saturday, April 4 8 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Carolyn Sampson Soprano

Karen Cargill Mezzo-soprano

Andrew Staples Tenor (Evangelist)

Andrew Foster-Williams Bass-baritone

Phillippe Sly Bass-baritone (Jesus)

Westminster Symphonic Choir

Joe Miller Director

James Alexander Stage Director

Jon H. Weir Lighting Designer

Bach The Passion According to St. Matthew

This is a Symphony V.O production

“... the St. Matthew Passion showed the kind of strong artistic stands that Nézet-Séguin will take.”

—The Philadelphia Inquirer