

1 **Script for NYP 10-09: Zhang/Ohlsson**

2 **by MT**

3 **(INSERT NATIONAL UNDERWRITING CREDIT #1)**

4 **(AMBIENCE UP AND UNDER)**

5 **(THEME MUSIC UP AND UNDER TO "X")**

6 **AB:** From Avery Fisher Hall in New York City, it's
7 the New York Philharmonic This Week—the weekly
8 program of concert highlights by one of the
9 world's great orchestras. And "this
10 week"...**(X)**

11 **(MUSIC: Excerpt from Martinu)**

12 **AB:** Garrick Ohlsson is the soloist in the Piano
13 Concerto No. 4 by Bohuslav Martinu,
14 "Incantation." Hello again, everybody. This
15 is Alec Baldwin inviting you to stay tuned for
16 this concert which will also include a pair of
17 symphonies: the Symphony No. 95 by Joseph
18 Haydn...and the Symphony No. 1 by Jean Sibelius.
19 Philharmonic Associate conductor Xian Zhang
20 **[shen zh-AH-ng]** will conduct...the New York
21 Philharmonic This Week.

22 **(MUSIC OUT)**

23 **(ACTUALITY: xian 01)**

24 **AB:** Philharmonic Associate Conductor Xian Zhang.
25 Ms. Zhang will take the stage shortly and when
26 she does, she'll lead the New York Philharmonic
27 in a performance of the Symphony No. 95 by
28 Joseph Haydn.

29 Haydn spent the better part of 4 decades under
30 the employ of Prince Nicholas Esterházy. When
31 the Prince died in 1791, his nephew and
32 successor—who was not a music aficionado—
33 disbanded the music establishment of the court.
34 He then put Haydn on a pension and told him
35 that he could keep the title of
36 “Kapellmeister,” but he was under no further
37 obligation to the Court. This meant that for
38 the first time in a LONG time that Haydn was
39 essentially free to do whatever he wanted.
40 So...he traveled to London at the invitation of
41 the violinist and impresario Johan Peter **[PAY-**
42 **ter]** Salomon **[ZAH-lah-moan]** and become the
43 toast of a sophisticated London. Philharmonic
44 program annotator James M. Keller continues the
45 story here:

46 **(KELLER RE HAYDN) ~2:15**

47

48 The Symphony No. 95 is the only one of the
49 twelve so-called "London" Symphonies that is
50 written in a minor key and it is also unique
51 among this set in that it forgoes a slow
52 introduction. Highlights of the symphony
53 include a set of variations in the second
54 movement and there is a beautiful cello solo in
55 the Trio section of the minuet. Here with a
56 few more thoughts about the piece is conductor
57 Xian Zhang:

58 **(ACTUALITY: xian 02)**

59 **(APPLAUSE)**

60 **AB (over applause):** And with Xian Zhang onstage
61 now, at Avery Fisher Hall, we'll hear her
62 conduct the New York Philharmonic in the
63 Symphony No. 95 in c-minor by Joseph Haydn.

64 **(MUSIC: Haydn 95)**

65 **(APPLAUSE)**

66

67

68 **MORE - MORE - MORE**

69 **AB (over applause):** Symphony No. 95 in c-minor by
70 Joseph Haydn—the third of the so-called
71 “London” Symphonies. The New York Philharmonic
72 was conducted by its Associate Conductor Xian
73 Zhang. Ms. Zhang will return to the stage in a
74 moment...and when she does, she’ll be joined by
75 pianist Garrick Ohlsson for a performance of
76 the Piano Concerto No. 4 by Bohuslav Martinu.
77 As the orchestra re-sets a bit, let’s hear some
78 of what Mr. Ohlsson had to say about his piece:

79 **(ohlsson 01)**

80 **ALT:**...let’s hear some of what Ms. Zhang had to say
81 about this piece:

82 **AB:** Composed in 1956 and cast in just two
83 movements, Martinu’s Fourth Piano Concerto was
84 completed in less than two months. He told his
85 lifelong friend and biographer Milos Safránek:
86 *“...I have been very busy. I have almost finished*
87 *the ‘magic-story’ for piano and now I’m not*
88 *sure which name would be most correct.*
89 *According to the dictionary, ‘Invocation’ is*
90 *like a prayer, and I think that it should*
91 *properly be called ‘Incantation’.”*

92

93 **MORE - MORE - MORE**

94 **AB:** The sub-title, Incantation, stuck.

95 This concerto is a virtuosic piece, with
96 percussive rhythms reminiscent of Bartók's or
97 Prokofiev. There is also an impressionistic
98 quality to the work—no doubt the influence of
99 Bohuslav's mentor, Albert Roussel [**ahl-BEAR**
100 **roo-SELL**]. Once again, Garrick Ohlsson:

101 **ALT:** Once again, Associate Conductor Xian Zhang:

102 **(APPLAUSE)**

103 **AB:** ...and with our artists on stage now, at Avery
104 Fisher Hall, we'll hear the Piano Concerto No.
105 4, "Incantation," by Bohuslav Martinu. Garrick
106 Ohlsson is the soloist...and Xian Zhang conducts
107 the New York Philharmonic.

108 **(MUSIC: Martinu)**

109 **(APPLAUSE)**

110 **AB:** Piano Concerto No. 4 from 1956 by Bohuslav
111 Martinu. Garrick Ohlsson was the soloist and
112 the New York Philharmonic was led by Associate
113 Conductor Xian Zhang.

114 **(SLIGHT PAUSE)**

115 **AB:** There is a sort of “no-nonsense” feel about
116 Garrick Ohlsson when he enters the stage, sits
117 down, and starts to play. Just as straight
118 forward is his demeanor while playing and his
119 exit from the stage. No histrionics. One might
120 not suspect, therefore, that this man possesses
121 an incredibly wide and eclectic repertoire that
122 ranges over some eighty concertos, spanning
123 from Haydn to the Martinu we just heard...and
124 into the 21st century.

125 Mr. Ohlsson’s many honors include the 1994
126 Avery Fisher Prize and a Grammy Award in 2008
127 for the third disc in a continuing series that
128 will encompass all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas.

129 **(SLIGHT PAUSE)**

130 **AB:** Following a pause for station identification,
131 our broadcast will continue with music of Jean
132 Sibelius: the Symphony No. 1 in e-minor. Xian
133 Zhang will return to conduct the New York
134 Philharmonic. I’m Alec Baldwin—I think you’re
135 REALLY going to like this one, so please stick
136 around. You’re hearing the New York
137 Philharmonic This Week...on the WFMT Radio
138 Network.

139 **(FADE OUT)**

140 **(FADE IN)**

141 **(ACTUALITY: xian 03)**

142 **AB:** Philharmonic Associate Conductor Xian Zhang
143 sharing some thoughts about the last work on
144 this week's program—the Symphony No. 1 by Jean
145 Sibelius.

146 The great conductor (and former Philharmonic
147 music-director) Artur Rodzinski once wrote
148 quote: *"Jean Sibelius is the last truly great*
149 *symphonists. In an age that saw the upheaval*
150 *of musical traditions and the birth of many new*
151 *styles, forms, and schools, Sibelius remained*
152 *true to the symphonic form and to the idiom of*
153 *his great symphonic predecessors. During his*
154 *long life, he proved many times that a creator*
155 *of power and passion need not shatter the*
156 *existing rules for originality's sake.*
157 *Moreover, Sibelius demonstrated that one can be*
158 *original if only he succeeds in transferring to*
159 *his music his own identity and, by the same*
160 *token, the identity of his people."*

161

162

163 MORE - MORE - MORE

164 **AB:** By the time he wrote his First Symphony in
165 1899, Sibelius was already a famous man. Works
166 like En Saga, the Karelian Suite, the Op. 22
167 Legends, and Finlandia propelled him to stardom
168 and the Finnish government awarded him an
169 annual pension in recognition of his talent and
170 contributions to Finnish national culture.
171 Here to tell us more is Philharmonic program
172 annotator James M. Keller:

173 **(ACTUALITY: keller 02)**

174 **AB:** A lifelong admirer of Grieg and Tchaikovsky,
175 the influence of both men is evident in the
176 Sibelius's first symphony, but the piece
177 remains decidedly original. Conductor Xian
178 Zhang agrees:

179 **(ACTUALITY: xian 04)**

180 **(APPLAUSE)**

181 **AB (over applause):** ...and once more to the stage
182 here, at Avery Fisher Hall, is Associate
183 Conductor Xian Zhang. She'll lead the New York
184 Philharmonic in a performance of the Symphony
185 No. 1 in e-minor, Op. 39, by Jean Sibelius.

186 **(MUSIC: Sibelius Op. 39)**

187 **(APPLAUSE)**

188 **AB (over applause):** Symphony No. 1 in e-minor by
189 Jean Sibelius. The New York Philharmonic
190 performed under the direction of its Associate
191 Conductor, Xian Zhang. Earlier on the program,
192 we heard Garrick Ohlsson as the soloist in
193 Martinu's Fourth Piano Concerto...and our
194 broadcast opened with the Symphony No. 95 by
195 Haydn.

196 **AB:** ...and applause continuing now for Xian Zhang,
197 who is the New York Philharmonic's Associate
198 Conductor: The Arturo Toscanini Chair. She has
199 held this position since 2005, after serving as
200 Assistant Conductor for one year. Since making
201 her Philharmonic debut conducting a Young
202 People's Concert on February 7, 2004, Ms. Zhang
203 has led numerous concerts with the Orchestra,
204 including three Annual Free Memorial Day
205 Concerts at the Cathedral Church of St. John
206 the Divine; plus a series of New York
207 Philharmonic Concerts in the Parks; and
208 performances during two of the Orchestra's
209 residencies at the Bravo! Vail Valley Music
210 Festival.

211 **MORE - MORE - MORE**

212 **AB:** We hope you can join us NEXT week...on the New
213 York Philharmonic THIS Week when Riccardo Muti
214 returns to Avery Fisher Hall for the first of
215 two back-to-back broadcasts. Mr. Muti will
216 conduct excerpts from Prokofiev's Romeo and
217 Juliet...as well as works by Elgar and Liszt. We
218 suggest that you check your local listings or
219 visit nyphil.org for more details.

220 **(INSERT END CREDITS & UNDERWRITERS)**

221 **PROMO for NYP 10-09 :30**

222 **(MUSIC TBA)**

223 **AB:** Riccardo Muti conducts selections from
224 Prokofiev's Romeo & Juliet next time, on the
225 New York Philharmonic This Week. Hi. This is
226 Alec Baldwin. Please join me for this program
227 which will also include Les Preludes by Liszt
228 and "In the South" by Sir Edward Elgar. That's
229 all next time...on THIS station:

230

231 **-END-**

232 Thank you!