

Press Release

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Royal Philharmonic Society Lecture

Alan Gilbert: *Orchestras in the 21st Century; A New Paradigm*

Wednesday 15 April at 7pm

Milton Court Concert Hall, Silk Street, London EC2Y 9BH

With significant changes at the top of the world's leading orchestras on the horizon, there is a timely opportunity to hear from **Alan Gilbert**, Music Director of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, who gives this year's prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society Lecture, entitled '*Orchestras in the 21st Century; a new paradigm.*'

In a provocative and lively call to arms, **Alan Gilbert** will set out his challenge to orchestras and musicians on their role in the 21st century. Gilbert will argue that in order to be truly successful, leadership can't just come from the top down. He comments: "*Of course vision and leadership are important, but a crucial ingredient for success is the extent to which musicians are able to rethink their role beyond the concert hall stage. What is needed is nothing less than new definition of what it means to be a musician.*"

The RPS Lecture provides a distinguished platform for leading practitioners and thinkers to discuss the future of classical music. Recent speakers have included Roger Wright, former Director of the BBC Proms and Controller of BBC Radio 3, former Master of the Queen's Music, Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, neuroscientist Susan Greenfield, composer Steve Reich and music journalist and writer, Alex Ross.

The first native New Yorker to hold the post of Music Director at the New York Philharmonic, Alan Gilbert has been praised for '*helping to change the template for what an American orchestra can be*' – (New York Times). He has recently announced that he will step down from his position at the New York Philharmonic at the end of the summer 2017. This will be his first lecture outside America, and continues a relationship forged between the New York Philharmonic and Royal Philharmonic Society during the RPS Bicentenary in 2013.

Alan Gilbert will be in London to lead the New York Philharmonic in their second International Associate residency at the Barbican (17-19 April 2015), which is part of the Orchestra's EUROPE/SPRING 2015 tour.

Tickets: £10 Box office: barbican.org.uk +44 (0)20 7638 8891

Further press information and press ticket requests to

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