



## Press Release

For release: 10 April 2014

### **Alan Gilbert, Music Director of New York Philharmonic, to give Royal Philharmonic Society Lecture in 2015**

**Alan Gilbert**, Music Director of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra, will give the Royal Philharmonic Society [RPS] Lecture in 2015. The lecture will take place at 7pm on Wednesday 15 April 2015 at Milton Court Concert Hall.

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**, Director of the BBC Proms and Controller of BBC Radio 3, 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). 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 comments:

*"It is a great honor to be invited to give the Royal Philharmonic Society Lecture when the New York Philharmonic will be in London on our Europe/Spring 2015 tour. The subject of classical music and its future is always in my mind, so being able to address them by following a line of important composers, critics and administrators in this high-profile forum will be both a challenge and a pleasure."*

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.

#### **Further press information from:**

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Tickets and further details at [www.barbican.org](http://www.barbican.org)

[royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk](http://royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk)

[alangilbert.com](http://alangilbert.com)

[nyphil.org](http://nyphil.org)

Notes to editors:

\* New York's own Philharmonic Society was formed in 1842 and has strong parallels with the RPS. The founder of the New York Philharmonic, Ureli Corelli Hill travelled to Europe in the 1830s and attended concerts in London by the Philharmonic Society. Following his travels and experiences and taking inspiration from the Philharmonic Society of London, he returned to New York and founded the New York Philharmonic.

In Autumn 2013, the RPS marked its Bicentenary by making a return visit to New York City, with a month of exhibitions, talks and concerts, including the US premiere of Frieze by Mark-Anthony Turnage, a new work inspired by the Society's most famous commission, Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony, and jointly commissioned by the RPS, BBC Proms and the New York Philharmonic.