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The New England Philharmonic Embraces New Odysseys

Featuring the world premiere of an NEP commission, Andy Vores' 'Drive' and the Boston premiere of 'How the Solar System Was Won' by Matthew Browne, NEP's Call for Scores Winner

Tsai Performance Center | May 2, 2015 at 8 p.m.

BOSTON | The [New England Philharmonic](#) (NEP) under the direction of [Richard Pittman](#) will present **Odysseys on May 2 at 8 p.m.** at the **Tsai Performance Center**. The concert features the world premiere of an NEP commission, **Andy Vores' "Drive,"** written for and performed by NEP's concertmaster, Danielle Maddon. **"How the Solar System Was Won"** from NEP's **Call for Scores competition winner Matthew Browne** will make its Boston premiere. **NEP Composer Laureate Gunther Schuller's "Meditation,"** and **Sergei Rachmaninoff's** final composition, his nostalgic and colorful **"Symphonic Dances,"** will complete the evening.

The NEP is a nine-time recipient of the ASCAP award for Adventurous Programming, and this 2014-15 season finale is a perfect example of how it has earned that distinction. "Basically this is a program of contrasts," said **NEP Music Director Richard Pittman**. "NEP Composer Laureate Gunther Schuller's 'Meditation' is a very early work, and it is meditative: mostly slow, lyrical, with shimmering, close harmony. Matthew Browne's 'How the Solar System Was Won,' our Call for Scores winner, is a cinematic work by an emerging young composer. This program was built around Andy Vores' new violin concerto, 'Drive,' that interprets a cross-country drive and is a kind of perpetual motion, a minimalist depiction of a long, varied journey at a mostly constant speed. Rachmaninoff's 'Symphonic Dances' is a work written at the culmination of a renowned, productive career." Pittman continues, "...each of the four works on the program is very different from the others. This is a kaleidoscopic view of musical styles in the last 100 years, a true odyssey for everyone to enjoy."

Both Andy Vores and Matthew Browne will be in attendance for the performance.

Tickets for the NEP's Odysseys concert on May 2, 2015, at 8 p.m. at the Tsai Performance Center are available at www.NEPhilharmonic.org.

About the New England Philharmonic Now performing its 38th season, the NEP under the direction of Richard Pittman is internationally renowned for its daring programming that encompasses both contemporary and traditional works. The volunteer orchestra has received nine ASCAP awards for Adventurous Programming and named Gunther Schuller composer laureate in 2013. The Boston Globe named NEP's performance of Britten's "War Requiem" as one of the Ten Best Classical Music Performances of the Year. The orchestra's illustrious past includes the installation of three landmark programs: The NEP became the first orchestra of its size to support a Composer-in-Residence (1985) and introduce a Call for Scores Program (1985) and a Young Artist Competition (1994), legacies that endure today.

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