

THE NEW YORK POPS

SKITCH HENDERSON FOUNDER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 7, 2008

Contact: James M. Johnson
212-765-7677 / james@nypops.org

THE NEW YORK POPS SHOWCASES GERSHWIN WITH ANDREW LITTON AT CARNEGIE HALL JANUARY 25, 2008

Internationally renowned conductor Andrew Litton debuts with The New York Pops as pianist and conductor in an all-Gershwin program including the New York premiere of *Dayful of Song*.

NEW YORK – The New York Pops will celebrate the music of George Gershwin at Carnegie Hall on January 25 at 8:00 PM with Andrew Litton at the podium and on the piano. The concert, entitled **Gershwin: Great Moments from *Porgy and Bess* and *Dayful of Song***, includes the New York premiere of a collection of seven previously unpublished Gershwin tunes arranged by Mr. Litton and Sid Ramin.

Making his New York Pops debut as pianist and conductor, **Andrew Litton** recently concluded an acclaimed 12-year tenure as Music Director of the Dallas Symphony. During that time, he produced 27 new recordings, six nationally televised concerts and made four Carnegie Hall appearances and three major European tours. In the past year, Litton brought the Bergen Philharmonic to Amsterdam's Concertgebouw and Carnegie Hall, made the Norwegian orchestra's long awaited debut at the London BBC Proms, returned for his fifth season as Artistic Director of the Minnesota Orchestra Sommerfest, and appeared again with the Chicago Symphony at the Ravinia Festival before launching into an intensive fall guest conducting throughout North America, Europe, and Japan.



Dallas Symphony Music Director Emeritus Andrew Litton conducts The New York Pops January 25, 2008.

In 1995, through the George and Ira Gershwin collection at the Library of Congress, Mr. Litton was granted access to songs that had never been performed or published in manuscript form. With the help of arranger Sid Ramin, seven of these unfinished manuscripts and sketches for piano have become part of the new fully orchestrated Gershwin song collection titled *Dayful of Song*. The January 25 performance will be the New York premiere of the piece.

The program that evening will also include a concert suite of *Porgy and Bess*, arranged by Mr. Litton. The Gershwin opera is of special significance due to the orchestra's late founder Skitch Henderson's Grammy-winning recording of the masterpiece featuring Leontyne Price and William Warfield. The recording will be on display in the Skitch Henderson Museum at The Silo

MORE → → →

THE NEW YORK POPS SHOWCASES GERSHWIN WITH ANDREW LITTON AT CARNEGIE HALL JANUARY 25, 2008

Page 2 of 3

in New Milford, Connecticut during a 2008 celebration of the 90th anniversary of Skitch Henderson's birth.

On January 25, Mr. Litton will share the stage with four vocal soloists and 151 singers from the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Chorus. The *Porgy and Bess* cast includes **Morenike Fadayomi** singing the roles of Bess and Clara. A member of the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, Düsseldorf since 1997, Ms. Fadayomi has performed the role of Bess with the Los Angeles Opera and the Washington National Opera. Soprano **Angela Renée Simpson** has performed across the country, including roles with Washington National Opera, Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera, San Diego Opera, Miami Opera, Piedmont Opera and New York City Opera. **Howard Haskin**, tenor, received a Grammy nomination for a live recording of his performance as the Jailer/Grand Inquisitor in Dallapiccola's *Il Prigioniero* with Charles Dutoit and the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal. Bass-Baritone **Kevin Short** has performed around the world in roles ranging from Osmin in Mozart's *Abduction from the Seraglio* and Verdi's *Attila* to Escamillo in Bizet's *Carmen* and the Count and Figaro in *The Marriage of Figaro*. As director of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra Chorus, **David R. Davidson** has prepared the chorus for many recordings, tours and performances with renowned conductors and orchestras.



Morenike Fadayomi, Soprano



Angela Renée Simpson, Soprano



Howard Haskin, Tenor



Kevin Short, Bass-Baritone

The January 25 concert is supported in part by a generous donation from National Endowment for the Arts. The entire program is printed below:

Friday, January 25, 2008, 8:00PM, Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage
The New York Pops, Skitch Henderson, *Founder*
Andrew Litton, *Conductor and Piano*
Morenike Fadayomi, *Soprano*
Angela Renée Simpson, *Soprano*
Howard Haskin, *Tenor*
Kevin Short, *Bass-Baritone*
Dallas Symphony Orchestra Chorus, David R. Davidson, *Director*

GREAT MOMENTS FROM PORGY AND BESS George Gershwin (1898-1937)

George Gershwin (arr. William D. Brohn)

Crazy for You Overture

MORE → → →

**THE NEW YORK POPS SHOWCASES GERSHWIN WITH ANDREW LITTON AT
CARNEGIE HALL JANUARY 25, 2008**

Page 3 of 3

George Gershwin (arr. Sid Ramin and Andrew Litton) Dayful of Song
Andrew Litton, *Piano*

INTERMISSION

George Gershwin/Ira Gershwin/Dubose Heyward Porgy and Bess: Concert Suite
(arr. Andrew Litton)
Morenike Fadayomi, *Bess/Clara*
Angela Renée Simpson, *Serena*
Howard Haskin, *Sportin' Life*
Kevin Short, *Porgy*
Dallas Symphony Orchestra Chorus, David R. Davidson, *Director*

Now celebrating its 25th season, The New York Pops <www.newyorkpops.org> was founded by former NBC Music Director Skitch Henderson in 1983 to give New York a permanent professional symphonic pops orchestra that would create greater public awareness and appreciation of America's rich and diverse musical heritage. The orchestra is now the largest independent symphonic pops orchestra in the United States.

The next concert in The New York Pops 25th Anniversary Season at Carnegie Hall is: **Friday, February 8, 2008 at 8:00PM – *Swingin' With Marvin***. The wildly talented and entertaining conductor and pianist **Marvin Hamlisch** returns in a concert of jazz and swing-era favorites. He will be joined by guest artists **Dee Dee Bridgewater, Nikki Yanofsky, Sal Andolina** and **The Jazz Ambassadors**.

Tickets, priced at \$27, \$31, \$41, \$68, \$88, and \$98, are available at the Carnegie Hall Box Office, 154 West 57th Street. Tickets may also be charged to major credit cards by calling CarnegieCharge at 212-247-7800 or by visiting www.carnegiehall.org.

Delta Air Lines is the official airline of The New York Pops. The Marriott New York East Side is the official hotel of The New York Pops. The New York Pops is a not-for-profit corporation supported solely through the generosity of individual donations, institutional grants, and concert income.

Dates, artists and programs are subject to change.

Contact:

James M. Johnson (The New York Pops)

Telephone: 212-765-7677 / E-mail: james@nypops.org