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March 25, 2014

The New England Philharmonic 2013-14 Season Finale
Features the World Premiere of David Rakowski's *Zephyrs* &
the Boston Premiere of Gunther Schuller's *Dramatic Overture*

Concert will also include Roy Harris' *Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra*
and Sergei Prokofiev's *Symphony no. 7*

May 3, 2014 at 8 p.m. | Boston University's Tsai Performance Center

BOSTON MASSACHUSETTS — On May 3, 2014, at 8 p.m., the [New England Philharmonic](#) (NEP), under the direction of [Richard Pittman](#), will present their 2013-14 season finale. The evening commences with a piece that [NEP Composer Laureate Gunther Schuller](#) considers one of his best early works, *Dramatic Overture*, inspired by Berlioz's *Corsair Overture*. The world premiere of the *Dramatic Overture* was conducted by Dmitri Mitropoulos with the New York Philharmonic in 1957. Mitropoulos was the earliest prominent conductor to establish Schuller's international reputation as an important composer through frequent performances of his music.

Whetting the audience's anticipation for NEP's 2014-15 season, this concert will feature the world premiere of [NEP Composer-in-Residence David Rakowski's](#) *Zephyrs*, the first movement of *Dance Episodes, Symphony no. 5*, written for the NEP. NEP will present the world premiere of the entire piece next season.

The concert returns to the 20th century with **Roy Harris' *Fantasy for Piano and Orchestra*** that he wrote in 1951 for his wife, Johanna Harris. [Stephen Drury](#) will be featured on piano. The evening concludes with Sergei Prokofiev's *Symphony no. 7*, which was written one year before his early death. Many audience members will recognize the familiar lyrical theme in the first movement from the film *Dr. Zhivago* where it was used to describe the remote, frozen Russian landscape where Zhivago seeks refuge.

Somewhat unusually, the three older works on the program were written in close proximity to one another: Schuller in 1951, Prokofiev in 1953, and Harris in 1954. Although all three works share a certain kinship, they are as different from one another as the three men who wrote them.

About the New England Philharmonic Now in its 37th season, the NEP, under the direction of Richard Pittman, is internationally renowned for its daring programming encompassing both contemporary and traditional works. In 2013, the volunteer orchestra was awarded its 9th ASCAP award for Adventurous Programming and named Gunther Schuller Composer Laureate. In 2012 the *Boston Globe* named NEP's Britten *War Requiem* as one of the 10 best Classical Music Performances of the year. The orchestra's illustrious past includes the installation of three landmark programs. In 1985 NEP became the first orchestra of its size to support a Composer-in-Residence and introduce a Call for Scores Program, and in 1994 the NEP began their Young Artists Competition, legacies that endure today. Since 1997, NEP has had the privilege of serving as the orchestra-in-residence at Simmons College.

For tickets and information check out: www.nephilharmonic.org or 855-4-NEPHIL (637445)

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Venue & Ticket Info
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685 Commonwealth Avenue
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Tickets : \$35, \$10 Students

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