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## **Legendary Pianist Murray Perahia Returns to Arlene Schnitzer Hall for April 10 Recital**

*“Perahia’s virtuosity, never fussy, narcissistic or quirky, generates a heightened sense of drama in whatever he plays. At 67, his gifts as a storyteller have deepened.”— LA Times*

(Portland, OR) Portland Piano International is proud to welcome the return of pianist Murray Perahia to Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Saturday, April 10 at 2 pm. Often described as the greatest living American pianist, Mr. Perahia has made several acclaimed appearances in Portland over the past four decades. His entire recital program will be announced closer to the recital date.

Tickets for Mr. Perahia and all Portland Piano International events are available at [portlandpiano.org](http://portlandpiano.org) any time or 503.288.1388 during normal business hours of 9 am-4 pm Monday through Thursday. Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall is located at 1037 SW Broadway in Portland.

### **About Murray Perahia**

In the more than 40 years he has been performing on the concert stage, American pianist Murray Perahia has become one of the most sought-after and cherished pianists of our time, performing in all of the major international music centers and with every leading orchestra. He is the Principal Guest Conductor of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, with whom he has toured as conductor and pianist throughout the United States, Europe, Japan and South East Asia.

Born in New York, Mr. Perahia started playing piano at the age of four, and later attended Mannes College where he majored in conducting and composition. His summers were spent at the Marlboro Festival, where he collaborated with such musicians as Rudolf Serkin, Pablo Casals and the members of the Budapest String Quartet. He also studied at the time with Mieczyslaw Horszowski. In subsequent years, he developed a close friendship with Vladimir Horowitz, whose perspective and personality were an abiding inspiration. In 1972 Mr. Perahia won the Leeds International Piano Competition, and in 1973 he gave his first concert at the Aldeburgh Festival, where he worked closely with Benjamin Britten and Peter Pears, accompanying the latter in many lieder recitals. Mr. Perahia was co-artistic director of the Festival from 1981 to 1989.

In the 2014-15 season, apart from touring Europe and the Middle East, Mr. Perahia embarked on a ten-city tour of Asia with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, conducting and performing works by Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Stravinsky. His Spring 2015 recital tour of the United States included performances in New York’s Carnegie Hall, Los Angeles’s Disney Hall, and Chicago’s Symphony Hall, with further appearances scheduled in Rohnert Park, Tucson, Scottsdale, Kalamazoo, Sarasota and Savannah. Mr. Perahia’s past season

included a much awaited recital debut in Australia as well as a residency with the Berlin Philharmonic.

Mr. Perahia has a wide and varied discography. Sony Classical has issued a special boxed set edition of all his recordings including several DVDs entitled *The First 40 Years*. His recording of Brahms Händel Variations, which won the Gramophone Award in 2011, was described as “one of the most rewarding Brahms recitals currently available.” Some of his previous solo recordings feature a 5-CD boxed set of his Chopin recordings, Bach’s Partitas Nos. 1, 5, and 6 and Beethoven’s Piano Sonatas, Opp. 14, 26, and 28. He is the recipient of two Grammy awards for his recordings of Chopin’s complete Etudes and Bach’s English Suites Nos. 1, 3, and 6, and several Gramophone Awards including the first ever granted Piano Award in 2012.

Recently, Mr. Perahia embarked on an ambitious project to edit the complete Beethoven Sonatas for the Henle Urtext Edition. He also produced and edited numerous hours of recordings of recently discovered master classes by the legendary pianist, Alfred Cortot, which resulted in the highly acclaimed Sony CD release, *Alfred Cortot: The Master Classes*.

Mr. Perahia is an honorary fellow of the Royal Academy of Music, and he holds honorary doctorates from Oxford University, the Royal College of Music, Leeds University, and Duke University. In 2004, he was awarded an honorary KBE by Her Majesty The Queen, in recognition of his outstanding service to music.

**Portland Piano International** is dedicated to presenting the finest pianists in the world in recital settings and outreach activities for the purpose of enriching and educating our community. Funders and sponsors include the Oregon Community Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Work for Art, James F. and Marion Miller Foundation, Oregon Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Portland Piano Company, Higgins Restaurant, Portland State University and All Classical Media.

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