



PHILHARMONIE
DE PARIS

Press Release

FRANCE'S NEW INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR MUSIC, THE PHILHARMONIE DE PARIS, OPENS JANUARY 14th 2015

The Philharmonie de Paris, designed by the renowned French architect Jean Nouvel, will open in Parc de la Villette in Paris in January 2015 as a world-class centre for music with unrivalled facilities for classical and contemporary music.

The 23,000 sq metres building over six floors will include:

- A fully flexible 'Grande Salle' with a capacity of 2,400 seats, combining innovative acoustics, architecture and flexible stage design to create a totally immersive experience of music.
- Fifteen rehearsal rooms ranging in capacity from a full orchestra down to studios for individual practice or chamber ensembles.
- 8,600 sq metres education centre opening into the park with 15 workshops spaces, a fully equipped recording studio and spaces for lectures.

- 800 sq metres exhibition space for temporary exhibitions relating to the music programme.
- 200 seat conference hall for symposia, seminars, small concerts and screenings, and education project and rehearsals that are open to the public.
- A panoramic restaurant on the top floor with spectacular views over Paris, park level café and bars.
- Spacious terraces and foyers for the best visitor experience throughout the building.

The new building will complete the Philharmonie de Paris campus at Parc de la Villette, which also includes a 1,000 seat concert hall Philharmonie 2 (formerly La Cité de la Musique), a 250 seat Amphitheatre, Mediatheque and Museum of Music.

The Philharmonie de Paris will be a permanent home for the Orchestre de Paris and the Ensemble Intercontemporain, and three associate ensembles, Les Arts Florissants, the Orchestre de chambre de Paris and the Orchestre national d'Île-de-France.

The Philharmonie de Paris will benefit from strong international ties with the world's leading orchestras as special guests. These include the Berliner Philharmoniker, London Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, the Budapest Festival Orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe, the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Mariinsky Theatre Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Simon Bolivar Symphonic Orchestra of Venezuela and the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, all of which are performing in the opening season.

Laurent Bayle, President of the Philharmonie de Paris, said: "With the opening of the Philharmonie de Paris, we will realise a dream to revolutionise the experience of music and make it part of the lives of everyone, most particularly for young people. We will use every means to reach this new generation, with open house all day long to music-making of all kinds and at all levels, and unprecedented access to the live experience of music

through digital media, all within one world-class campus, making the Philharmonie the largest music centre in the world.”

For links to the full programme for the opening season go to:
www.saison-2015.philharmoniedeparis.fr/en

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Notes to Editors:

Parc de La Villette, with an area of 55 hectares, and developed from the former La Villette cattle market, is the largest urban cultural park in Paris, stretching from the Porte de la Villette to the Porte de Pantin on the Northeast side of the city. The La Villette Project now encompasses landscaped gardens and open spaces, as well as a wide range of cultural, science and technology centres including Paris Conservatory, La Grande

Halle, Le Zénith, The City of Sciences and Industry...) as well as the newly developed Philharmonie de Paris complex.

Laurent Bayle, Chairman of the Philharmonie de Paris, Managing Director of Cité de la Musique and President of Salle Pleyel, began his career as Associate Director of the Theatre de l'Est Lyonnais (1976-1977). He created in 1982 *Musica*, festival of contemporary music in Strasbourg and was appointed Artistic Director of IRCAM (Institut de Recherche et de Coordination Acoustique/Musique) in 1987, becoming its General Director in 1992, when Pierre Boulez retired from that position. He has been Managing Director of the Cité de la musique since 2001. In 2006, at the request of the government and the city of Paris, he was appointed as Chairman of the Philharmonie de Paris, and has overseen the development of the new building, opening in 2015.

Jean Nouvel, the world renowned French architect studied at the école des Beaux-Arts in Paris and was a founding member of Mars 1976 and Syndicat de l'Architecture. He has received numerous awards including the Aga Khan Award for Architecture and the Pritzker Prize in 2008. Among his celebrated buildings are the Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris; the Culture and Congress Centre, Lucerne; the Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis; the Torre Agbar, Barcelona; the Musée du quai Branly, Paris, Fondation Cartier, Paris, and the Louvre Abu Dhabi (in progress).