



PRESS RELEASE

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Conductor Paul Haas Continues Farewell Season With the Award-Winning Orchestra in Carnegie Hall in Music of Brahms and Tchaikovsky.

Avery Fisher Award-Winner Efe Baltacigil Makes Carnegie Hall Début.

In his final season as music director, **Paul Haas** conducts the award-winning **New York Youth Symphony** in Brahms' Symphony No. 4 and Tchaikovsky's "Variations on a Rococo Theme," featuring the young Turkish cellist **Efe Baltacigil**, 2006 winner of the Avery Fisher Career Grant. The 112-member orchestra will also perform a commissioned work entitled *Tapu'at*, by Paul Fowler. The second of three performances of the orchestra's 44th season will take place on **Sunday, February 25, 2007, at 2pm.**

Efe Baltacigil, Associate Principal Cellist of The Philadelphia Orchestra, came to the attention of the musical world when he and pianist Emanuel Ax performed Beethoven's Cello Sonata No. 1 at a Philadelphia Orchestra concert with only 10 minutes of rehearsal. Mr. Baltacigil and Mr. Ax, the evening's soloist, were called upon when a winter snowstorm prevented most of the Orchestra from reaching the concert hall. A graduate of The Curtis Institute of Music, Efe Baltacigil is a winner of the 2005 Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

Conductor **Paul Haas** returns to the podium during his fifth and final season as the 14th music director of the New York Youth Symphony. In addition to serving as the Brooklyn Philharmonic's assistant conductor, Mr. Haas has led performances of the National Symphony Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic, and Fort Worth Symphony, among others. Following a successful début performance as music director of REWIND in June, *The New York Times* proclaimed that REWIND "refits the classical experience for a new century," and the *San Francisco Chronicle* noted that "something momentous has occurred."

Paul Fowler is the 68th orchestral composer of the nationally recognized First Music series, underwritten annually by the Mary Flagler Cary Charitable Trust. Mr. Fowler received a B.M. in Composition and Voice from Ithaca College and a M.M. in Composition from the University of Michigan. His music has been performed across the United States, Germany, Norway, and Japan. He is a student of Gregory Woodward, Michael Daugherty, and Susan Botti.

The **New York Youth Symphony** is the most awarded youth program of its kind in the nation, recognized regularly for its innovative educational programs for talented young musicians. Founded in 1963 as an orchestra to showcase the tri-state area's most gifted musicians, ages 12 to 22, its activities have since grown to encompass programs in chamber music, conducting, composition, chorus, and jazz. As *The New York Times* has reported, "The remarkable concerts that this orchestra plays every season are a tribute to both the enthusiasm and the polish that its young musicians bring to the task and to the focus and professionalism that the orchestra's music directors develop in them."

Tickets range from \$7 to \$55 and are available online at carnegiehall.org, by phone at (212) 581-5933, or by visiting the Carnegie Hall box office. For subscriptions, group tickets, and other information, please call (212) 581-5933 or go to www.nyyouthsymphony.org.