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Sawallisch Honored in WHYY-TV Special Production, October 8

PHILADELPHIA, September 19, 2013 —WHYY-TV will air ***Sawallisch: The Philadelphia Orchestra Tribute*** on Tuesday, October 8 at 8:00 p.m., honoring the late maestro Wolfgang Sawallisch, who led the acclaimed ensemble from 1993 to 2003. This program airs during WHYY-TV's Fall Arts premiere week, featuring new episodes of WHYY local productions *Friday Arts*, *On Canvas* and *On Stage at Curtis*.

Sawallisch: The Philadelphia Orchestra Tribute honors The Philadelphia Orchestra's beloved conductor Wolfgang Sawallisch and looks at the Orchestra's past while shining a light on its bright future. Featuring current music director Yannick Nézet-Séguin leading the ensemble in a May 2013 tribute concert with performances of music by Janáček, Schumann and Dvořák, the program includes interviews with orchestra members and employees who worked with Sawallisch, alongside segments of exclusive interviews conducted by WHYY's Marty Moss-Coane at the Maestro's home in Germany.

"Wolfgang Sawallisch is one of the great inspirations for me as I lead The Philadelphia Orchestra into the future," said Nézet-Séguin about the program. "I am honored to follow in his legacy, a musician among musicians, leading this great orchestra in the most humble and sincere way possible."

"I miss Philadelphia very much," said Sawallisch in his interview with Moss-Coane in 2008. "In my heart, (leading The Philadelphia Orchestra) has been the greatest experience."

The Philadelphia Orchestra's sixth music director, Wolfgang Sawallisch fostered the rich tradition of the Orchestra's legendary Philadelphia Sound while strengthening its artistic future. Sawallisch became conductor laureate of the Orchestra in September 2003, directly following the conclusion of his tenure as music director. His vision for the Orchestra's 100th Anniversary Season in 1999-2000, made up exclusively of music written since the ensemble's creation in 1900, resulted in critical and popular acclaim. Sawallisch passed away in February 2013 at his home in Germany. He was 89 years old.

"WHYY takes pride in showcasing the vibrant arts and culture community of Philadelphia," said Bill Marrazzo, WHYY president and CEO. "The Philadelphia Orchestra is one of this city's most paramount and long-established cultural institutions, and we are thrilled to pay tribute to the Orchestra's rich history through this special production."



Sawallisch: *The Philadelphia Orchestra Tribute* is produced by Ed Cunningham. Trudi Brown is Executive Producer. Performance recorded in collaboration with The Philadelphia Orchestra. Made possible by the Neubauer Family Foundation. Learn more at WHYY.org/sawallisch.

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