

**A HISTORIC MOMENT FOR BRAVO! VAIL:  
JAAP VAN ZWEDEN CONDUCTS HIS FINAL CONCERTS AT THE BRAVO! VAIL MUSIC FESTIVAL AS  
MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE DALLAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

*The three concerts, on June 28, June 30, and July 1, feature works by Tchaikovsky, Mendelssohn, Prokofiev, Wagner, Haydn, and Stravinsky, plus a world premiere by Roberto Sierra, commissioned by Bravo! Vail. Guest artists appearing with Van Zweden include Grammy Award-winning pianist Garrick Ohlsson and violinist Simone Lamsma in her Bravo! Vail debut.*

VAIL, CO — This summer, Jaap Van Zweden appears at the Bravo! Vail Music Festival for the last time as Music Director of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Van Zweden — whom *Musical America* named Conductor of the Year in 2012 and whose performances the *Dallas Morning News* has hailed as “exhilarating,” “revelatory,” “intensely dramatic,” and “electrifying” — will return to Bravo! Vail next year as the New York Philharmonic’s Music Director Designate, and as their new Music Director starting with the 2018-19 season.

On June 28, Van Zweden opens the Dallas Symphony’s 2017 residency with an all-Tchaikovsky program, featuring Grammy Award-winning pianist Garrick Ohlsson in the thunderous and enduringly popular Piano Concerto No. 1. The program also includes the gorgeous lyricism and fateful optimism of the Symphony No. 4, made truly exceptional by van Zweden’s masterful pacing and the powerhouse Dallas sound.

For the orchestra’s second program, on June 30, van Zweden leads the world premiere of a newly commissioned work by Puerto Rican-born composer Roberto Sierra, *Dos piezas para orquesta*. Sierra described this work as a diptych “containing two contrasting pieces that are generated by the same musical material and creative impulse. The contrast,” he added, “is established by the lyrical and introspective nature of the first piece and the jubilant and energetic character of the second.” Next, Dutch violinist Simone Lamsma, whose playing has been described by the *Chicago Tribune* as “absolutely stunning,” joins the orchestra in her Bravo! Vail debut for Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto, one of the most beloved works in the violin repertoire. The concert concludes with Prokofiev’s irrepressible Symphony No. 5, “glorifying the grandeur of the human spirit.”

On July 1, Van Zweden, in his final appearance at Bravo! Vail as Music Director of the Dallas Symphony, leads the orchestra in works from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries, beginning with the Prelude to Wagner’s groundbreaking 1850 opera *Lohengrin*, and Haydn’s Sinfonia Concertante featuring principal orchestra members in solo roles. Van Zweden’s farewell performance culminates with Stravinsky’s thrilling masterpiece *The Rite of Spring*, which changed the course of music history with its primitive power, seductive vitality and volcanic impact.

“Jaap Van Zweden is one of the most extraordinary and generous musicians I have ever met and his presence in Vail is profoundly impactful to the whole community,” says Anne-Marie McDermott, artistic director of Bravo! Vail. “Jaap’s musicianship is awe-inspiring. His

commitment to every note, to every phrase and to every piece of music is palatable...his connection to the musicians and the audience is felt by everyone. He connects with every soloist in the most magical way and creates performances that are both thoughtful and spontaneous.”

#### ABOUT JAAP VAN ZWEDEN

Born in Amsterdam in 1960, Van Zweden began playing the violin at the age of five and eventually studied with legendary teacher Dorothy DeLay at The Juilliard School in New York City. At the age of eighteen, he became concertmaster of Amsterdam’s Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, making him the youngest person to ever hold that position. In the late 1980s, conductor Leonard Bernstein asked Van Zweden to lead the orchestra — even though he had never conducted a note in his life — while he listened from the audience. That experience made a lasting impression on Van Zweden, and in 1995 he left his position as concertmaster to pursue conducting full-time.

Over the last decade, van Zweden has become an international presence on three continents. This season he completes his ten-year tenure as Music Director of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and simultaneously is Music Director Designate in New York, anticipating his inaugural season (2018-19) as the 26th Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. He continues as Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic, a post he has held since 2012, and frequently guest-conducts many other leading orchestras including the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras, Boston Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Vienna and Berlin Philharmonics, Orchestre National de France, and Shanghai Symphony Orchestra. For the summers of 2017-19, he is the principal conductor of the Gstaad Festival Orchestra & Conducting Academy, and is also in the midst of a four-year project to conduct the first ever performances in Hong Kong of Wagner’s *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, which is being recorded for release on Naxos Records.

Emphasizing the power of music in everyday life, Van Zweden and his wife, Aaltje, established the Papageno Foundation in 1997 to support families of children with autism, working closely with music therapists to aid them in their work with autistic children. In 2015, Papageno House, a home for autistic children and young adults, opened in Laren, The Netherlands.

#### IF YOU GO

What: Jaap van Zweden’s final three concerts in Vail as Music Director of Dallas

When: TONIGHT- June 28, Friday, June 30, and Saturday, July 1; 6:00PM

Price: Lawn tickets \$28, Pavilion seats: \$44-\$109

How to Buy: [bravovail.org](http://bravovail.org) or 877.812.5700