



**Media Contact**  
Virginia Brown  
704.714.5112  
[vbrown@charlottesymphony.org](mailto:vbrown@charlottesymphony.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PIANO GREAT YEFIM BRONFMAN STEPS IN FOR CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY OPENING NIGHT**

**AUGUST 10, 2017 | CHARLOTTE, NC**— Time-honored piano great Yefim Bronfman will perform at the Charlotte Symphony’s Opening Night gala to kick off its 2017-18 season on September 12, 2017 at Belk Theater at Blumenthal Performing Arts Center.

Bronfman replaces Lang Lang, who regrettably announced a cancelation of all concerts through the middle of September, as recommended by his doctor, due to inflammation in his left arm. Lang Lang will take this time to rest and allow his arm to heal.

“Of course I am concerned for my friend Lang Lang as he works through his injury, and we wish him a very speedy recovery,” says Music Director Christopher Warren-Green. “We are beyond excited at Fima’s willingness to make room in his schedule and step in. He is truly one of the titans of piano performance and this is an incredible compliment to the quality of our orchestra here in Charlotte.”

Nearly 25 years following his Charlotte Symphony debut, Bronfman, known as Fima, returns to the Queen City to perform Beethoven’s Emperor Concerto for this special one-night-only event.

Winner of the prestigious Avery Fisher Prize in 1991, Bronfman is one of the world’s most sought-after guest artists, working regularly with top conductors and orchestras, including the Vienna, New York and Los Angeles philharmonics, Cleveland and Philadelphia orchestras, and the symphonies of Boston, San Francisco, and Seattle, among many others.

He has been nominated for six Grammy Awards, one of which he won in 1997 with Esa-Pekka Salonen and the Los Angeles Philharmonic for their recording of the three Bartók Piano Concerti.

Soviet-born Bronfman moved to Israel as a teenager and became a US citizen in 1989. His rich and varied background undoubtedly lends itself to his captivating performances.

Tickets to this performance are currently on sale. For more information, visit [charlottesymphony.org](http://charlottesymphony.org) or call 704-972-2000.

**About the Charlotte Symphony**

Founded in 1932, the Charlotte Symphony is a longstanding nonprofit organization committed to delivering exceptional musical experiences that connect and strengthen the Charlotte community. Led by internationally renowned Music Director Christopher Warren-Green, the Symphony upholds the highest artistic integrity and takes bold steps to engage the community through music that enriches the human spirit. We employ professional full-time orchestra musicians, support two youth orchestras and a volunteer chorus, and offer significant educational programming aimed at improving underserved sections of our community. We believe in arts access for all, performing not only in concert halls, but everywhere from parks and pubs to schools and jails. The Charlotte Symphony is integral to the Charlotte area, serving its community through music that connects and inspires. [charlottesymphony.org](http://charlottesymphony.org)

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