

For Immediate Release



## World-renowned Director Peter Sellars to visit AUB, holding public lectures and screenings

Beirut, Lebanon- 08/04/2013 - The Department of Fine Arts and Art History at the American University of Beirut will be hosting award-winning director Peter Sellars on campus from April 11 to April 18, as part of the AUB Visiting Scholar program. During his visit, Sellars will meet with faculty, students and the public and will hold public lectures and screenings.

Peter Sellars is a leading director of theater and opera. He has received numerous prizes and awards, including a MacArthur Fellowship (1983), an Emmy Award for the broadcast of his production of John Adams' opera *Nixon in China* (1988), the Erasmus Prize (1998), and the Dorothy and Lillian Gish Prize (2005).

“Renowned theater, opera and film director Peter Sellars is one of the most innovative and powerful forces in the performing arts,” said the announcement for the Gish Prize, a prestigious award that recognizes outstanding contributions to the “beauty of the world.”

Sellars is known for merging the non-traditional, multidisciplinary and multicultural arts to create extraordinary productions.

“In a career spanning three decades, Sellars has reshaped modern opera with his bold direction,” added the Gish announcement. “A visionary force, Sellars is known for innovative re-interpretations of classic works. Whether it is Mozart, Shakespeare, Aeschylus, Sophocles, or the 16th-century Chinese playwright Tang Xianzu, Sellars is able to strike a universal chord with audiences, engaging contemporary social and political issues that resonate.”

### **PUBLIC EVENTS:**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2013**

5:00 pm, Charles Hostler Student Center Auditorium

Screening of the *John Adams opera Doctor Atomic on the first atomic bomb tests in New Mexico*.

Libretto and stage direction by Peter Sellars. Robert Myers, moderator.

**Monday, April 15, 2013**

3:00 pm, Charles Hostler Student Center Auditorium

Screening of *Bach's St. Matthew Passion*. Berlin Philharmonic, conducted by Simon Rattle, directed by Peter Sellars - Thomas Kim, moderator.

**Monday, April 15, 2013**

7:00 pm, Charles Hostler Student Center Auditorium

*Public Lecture: The Drama of Bach's Passion*. Thomas Kim, moderator.

**Tuesday, April 16, 2013**

**7:00 pm**, Charles Hostler Student Center Auditorium

*Public Lecture: Art and Activism* - Thomas Kim, moderator.

**Wednesday, April 17, 2013**

**6:30 pm**, Charles Hostler Student Center Auditorium

*Public Lecture: A Conversation with Peter Sellars* - A public question and answer session.  
Hostler Auditorium. Paul du Quenoy and Robert Myers, moderators.

ENDS

**For more information please contact:**

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Note to Editors

**About AUB**

Founded in 1866, the American University of Beirut bases its educational philosophy, standards, and practices on the American liberal arts model of higher education. A teaching-centered research university, AUB has more than 600 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 8,000 students. AUB currently offers more than 100 programs leading to the bachelor's, master's, MD, and PhD degrees. It provides medical education and training to students from throughout the region at its Medical Center that includes a full service 420-bed hospital.

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