

NYBG

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 15, 2017

Acclaimed Belgian Floral Artist Daniel Ost to Be Guest Designer for *The Orchid Show* at The New York Botanical Garden

NYBG's 16th Annual *Orchid Show* Runs from March 3 through April 22, 2018



Floral Artist Daniel Ost



A Daniel Ost conceptual rendering for *The Orchid Show*

Bronx, NY—The New York Botanical Garden announces that the 2018 edition of *The Orchid Show* will be designed by acclaimed Belgian floral artist Daniel Ost. Entering its 16th year, the popular exhibition, showcasing thousands of dramatically displayed orchids in the Botanical Garden's historic Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, will feature a series of installations crafted by Ost, each a living sculpture that celebrates the complex beauty of these stunning flowers. One of the world's leading floral designers, Ost uses flowers as a means of expression. His artistic creations will be tailored to the unique environment of the landmark Victorian-style Conservatory, complementing the architecture of the building while creating a transformative, dazzling spectacle of color, form, and texture. *The Orchid Show* will open on March 3 and run through April 22, 2018.

Ost is celebrated worldwide for his eye-catching installations in private and public spaces, working with both living and cut flowers. His large-scale artwork has drawn comparison to that of renowned sculptors Anish Kapoor, Claes Oldenburg, and Andy Goldsworthy. In Belgium he has been called “the Picasso of flower arranging,” and in France he was touted as “the international star of floral decoration.”

Daniel Ost lives and works in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium, where he was born and raised. Ost trained in Belgium and the Netherlands before visiting Japan for the first time in 1983 where he befriended Noboru Kurisaki, one of the most prominent grand masters of *ikebana*, the Japanese art of flower arranging, who became his mentor and teacher. While Ost has been heavily influenced by *ikebana* practice and philosophy, his work is an expression of his unique aesthetic and deep appreciation for the beauty of the flowers and other natural materials he uses to create his installations.

Visitors will have a chance to see Ost's art firsthand at *The Orchid Show*, where the floral artist will work with NYBG horticulturists to create a utopia of fragrance and color, assembling orchids from the Garden's collections as well as from some of the finest growers in the world. Orchids of seemingly every conceivable shape and provenance, including rare and iconic specimens, will be on display.

During Orchid Evenings throughout the run of the exhibition, visitors will experience music, tours, and special performances, while cash bars will offer beer, wine, and cocktails for purchase.

Orchid Show visitors may select from thousands of top-quality orchids, from exotic, hard-to-find specimens for connoisseurs to elegant yet easy-to-grow varieties for beginners, available for purchase at NYBG Shop, along with orchid products and books. Dining options include Hudson Garden Grill, NYBG's full-service restaurant, and at the Pine Tree Café.

For more information about *The Orchid Show* and to purchase tickets, please visit the Garden's Web site, nybg.org.

###

Sponsors:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Royce

Celebrity Cruises

Exhibitions in the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory are made possible by the Estate of Enid A. Haupt.

The New York Botanical Garden is a museum of plants located at Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road. It is easy to reach by Metro-North Railroad, bus, or subway. The Garden is open year-round, Tuesday through Sunday and Monday federal holidays, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The best way to enjoy the Garden is with the *All-Garden Pass*, which includes admission to the grounds as well as to seasonal gardens, exhibitions, and attractions such as the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, Everett Children's Adventure Garden, and Tram Tour. For ticket pricing, please check our Web site. For more information, please call 718.817.8700 or visit nybg.org

The New York Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, New York 10458

The New York Botanical Garden is located on property owned in full by the City of New York, and its operation is made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. A portion of the Garden's general operating funds is provided by The New York City Council and The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. The Bronx Borough President and Bronx elected representatives in the City Council and State Legislature provide leadership funding.

Contact: Nick Leshi 718.817.8658/8616; nleshi@nybg.org
Melinda Manning 718.817.8659/8616; mmanning@nybg.org

Images available.