

300 S. Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102

philorch.org

The
Philadelphia
Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin
Music and Artistic Director

SEASON 2023–2024

Chronological Calendar

(as of May 10, 2024)

All programs are subject to change.

Opening Night

September 28 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Yo-Yo Ma Cello

Higdon *Fanfare Ritmico*
Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 1
Rachmaninoff Symphonic Dances

Yannick and *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra begin the Orchestra's 124th season with a spectacular celebration! Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1—fiendishly challenging for the player and deeply rewarding for the audience—showcases 19-time GRAMMY® winner Yo-Yo Ma at the peak of his artistry. Jennifer Higdon's *Fanfare Ritmico* bursts with energy. Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances, his final composition and the coda to a life of astonishing gifts, is a masterpiece of rhythmic propulsion, lyricism, and colorful orchestration.

GRAMMY and Tony Award Winner Audra McDonald

October 3 at 7:30 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Andy Einhorn Conductor
Audra McDonald Soprano

Revel in the “lovely, natural, warm sound” (*Gramophone*) of “a God-touched voice” (*The New York Times*) when this Tony-, GRAMMY-, and EMMY-winning star of stage and screen returns! Winner of more Tony Awards (six) than any other actress in history, Audra McDonald has won rave reviews for her many Broadway roles and has become a favorite with television audiences (CBS's *The Good Wife* and *The Good Fight* and the HBO hit *The Gilded Age*).

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Trifonov Plays Gershwin

October 6 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 7 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 8 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Daniil Trifonov Piano

Gershwin Piano Concerto in F

Clyne *This Moment*

Still Symphony No. 4 (“Autochthonous”)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Daniil Trifonov, whose “revelatory performances” (*The Guardian*) leave audiences breathless, performs an American classic. Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F is a spectacular showcase and an exhilarating mix of sinuous jazz, mournful blues, and a bit of Broadway bravura. The great American composer William Grant Still’s mood-boosting, melodic Symphony No. 4 is a tribute to the optimism, energy, humor, and warmth of the American people. Anna Clyne’s *This Moment* is a “meditative reflection on [Zen Master and peace activist] Thich Nhat Hanh’s words ‘The practice of peace and reconciliation is one of the most vital and artistic of human actions.’” The piece is also inspired by Japanese and Buddhist calligraphy.

Yannick Conducts Rachmaninoff

October 12 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 13 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 14 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Daniel Matsukawa Bassoon

Berio Four Original Versions of Luigi Boccherini’s *The Night Retreat of Madrid*—FIRST LIVE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Assad *Terra*, concerto for bassoon and orchestra—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 1 (Thursday)

Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 2 (Friday and Saturday)

Fan’s choice: Pick your performance, pick your Rachmaninoff symphony! Rachmaninoff’s dark, brooding First Symphony swirls with drama and mystery, while his Second is warm and melodious. The heart of this brilliantly hued program is the world premiere of a new concerto created for Principal Bassoon Daniel Matsukawa by Clarice Assad, a Brazilian-American composer hailed for her evocative colors, rich textures, and stylistic range.

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Family Concert: Music of Superheroes

October 14 at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts

Tristan Rais-Sherman Conductor

Wagner “The Ride of the Valkyries,” from *Die Walküre*

Williams “Superman March,” from *Superman*

Karpman “Higher. Further. Faster. Together., Theme from *The Marvels*

Williams “The Imperial March,” from *Star Wars*

Giacchino “The Incredits,” from *The Incredibles*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Beethoven Excerpt from second movement from Symphony No. 3 (“Eroica”)

Coleman *Seven O’Clock Shout*

Silvestri “Captain America March,” from *Captain America*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

The Orchestra is in trouble, and we need your help! Take to the sky (or Broad Street) and join us for a super Saturday performance as we bring to life the themes from the incredible movies, TV shows, and more that unlocked the love of superheroes in all of us. Dress up as your favorite superhero and get ready to save the day in Verizon Hall.

Carnegie Hall

October 17 at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Carnegie Hall

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Higdon *Fanfare Ritmico*

Rachmaninoff Symphonic Dances

Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 2

Rachmaninoff’s favorite ensemble was The Philadelphia Orchestra; “the greatest orchestra in the world,” he called it. In this concert, the Orchestra performs two of his most important pieces, including his last major work: Symphonic Dances. It was dedicated to The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the ensemble played its premiere in January 1941, just days before it performed the New York premiere at Carnegie Hall. His Second Symphony, a much earlier creation, was an enduring favorite that Rachmaninoff conducted with The Philadelphia Orchestra in 1909 and which received its US premiere at Carnegie Hall. The program opens with the brisk, propulsive excitement of Pulitzer Prize winner Jennifer Higdon’s *Fanfare Ritmico*.

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Mirga Conducts Bruckner

October 20 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 21 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 22 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Arts

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor

Jennifer Montone Horn

Haydn Horn Concerto No. 1—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Bruckner Symphony No. 6

Few young conductors have received more glowing reviews in recent years than Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, whose graceful, full-body conducting style is “magical” (*San Francisco Chronicle*). She leads a program of classics that spark the imagination including Haydn’s vibrant First Horn Concerto—featuring Principal Horn Jennifer Montone—and Bruckner’s brilliant Sixth Symphony, with its shifting moods and passages of majesty and mystery.

Beethoven’s “Pastoral” Symphony

November 17 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

November 18 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

David Robertson Conductor

Hai-Ye Ni Cello

Esmail RE|Member—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Haydn Cello Concerto No. 1

Beethoven Symphony No. 6 (“Pastoral”)

Hear *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra’s legendary strings in full bloom in Beethoven’s “Pastoral” Symphony, with its lovely evocations of forest strolls and meadow rambles. American conductor David Robertson, known for his “strikingly fresh” (*The New York Times*) approach to classics, reveals new beauty in this beloved work. Haydn’s dashing First Cello Concerto is a bravura showcase for Principal Cello Hai-Ye Ni.

Tim Burton’s The Nightmare Before Christmas

November 24 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

November 25 at 2:00 PM—Saturday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

November 26 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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Constantine Kitsopoulos Conductor

Elfman Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* (complete with film)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Bored with the same old scare-and-scream routine, Pumpkin King Jack Skellington longs to spread the joy of Christmas. But his merry mission puts Santa in jeopardy and creates a nightmare for good little boys and girls everywhere in Tim Burton's stop-action animation classic. *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra performs the brilliantly evocative Danny Elfman score live as the film plays on a giant screen above the stage—an unforgettable holiday season treat.

Mahler's Symphony No. 1

December 1 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 2 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 3 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Rafael Payare Conductor

Javier Perianes Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

López Bellido *Ephemeræ*, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra—UNITED STATES PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION

Mahler Symphony No. 1

Mahler's First Symphony is an epic musical journey, overflowing with images of nature, bursting with emotion, and ending in triumph. This classic is a mighty finale to a program that includes the United States premiere of a piano concerto by Peruvian composer Jimmy López Bellido performed by Javier Perianes, "a player of great elegance and understated flamboyance ... with exquisite grace and a wonderful lightness of touch" (*The Guardian*).

Yannick and Héléne Grimaud Reunite

December 7 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 9 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 10 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Héléne Grimaud Piano

Mozart Piano Concerto No. 20

Benzecry *MUYUY, The circle of life*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

Price Symphony No. 4

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Yannick and pianist Héléne Grimaud have appeared together around the world, and their inspired partnership shines in this performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, a showcase for Grimaud's acclaimed artistry. In Yannick and the Orchestra's continuing exploration of the music of the great 20th-century composer Florence Price, you'll hear her Fourth Symphony, a boldly hued work that incorporates melodies from spirituals, including a beautifully orchestrated theme from "Wade in the Water."

Deutsche Grammophon 125th Anniversary Celebration

December 9 at 7:30 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
María Dueñas Violin
Héléne Grimaud Piano
Moby Musician/Vocalist—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Rachmaninoff/orch. Stokowski Prelude in C-sharp minor
Price *Adoration*, for string orchestra
Ravel *Tzigane*, for violin and orchestra
Kreisler "Caprice viennois," for violin and orchestra
Ravel Second and third movements from Piano Concerto in G major
Moby "Everloving"—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Handel/arr. Moby/orch. Knott "Sarabande"—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Moby "Hymn"—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Moby "Porcelain"—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Stravinsky Finale, from Suite from *The Firebird*
Founded in 1889, the record label Deutsche Grammophon is legendary for its roster of extraordinary artists. Headlining this spectacular 125th Anniversary Celebration are three of those artists.

Astonishing young violinist María Dueñas has elicited incredible and glowing reviews for her virtuosity: "Young blood, vintage playing ... Dueñas's artistry is reminiscent of that of the great masters" (*La Nueva España*). The great pianist Héléne Grimaud has won worldwide acclaim for the "crackling vitality" and "soulful playing" (*The New York Times*) of her passionate performances and recordings. And *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra Music and Artistic Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin has released dozens of acclaimed recordings with the label, including the GRAMMY-winning Philadelphia Orchestra recording of Florence Price's Symphonies Nos. 1 and 3.

The Glorious Sound of Christmas®

December 14 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
December 15 at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
December 16 at 7:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Arts

William Eddins Conductor
Jarrett Ott Baritone—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Charlotte Blake Alston Speaker

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Mendelssohn Chorus of Philadelphia

Dominick DiOrio Artistic Director

Mendelssohn “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

Traditional “Away in a Manger”

Traditional “God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen”

Vaughan Williams Selections from *Five Mystical Songs*

Tchaikovsky/freely arr. Ellington and Strayhorn Selections from *The Nutcracker Suite*

Various *A Charleston Christmas*

Adam “O Holy Night”

Holst “In the Bleak Midwinter”

Tovey “The Rittenhouse Carol”

Anderson *Sleigh Ride*

Various Medley of Christmas Favorites

Wade “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

You can almost hear the stamping of the reindeer hooves on the roof in these concerts, beloved by fans since the iconic *Glorious Sound of Christmas*® recording with Eugene Ormandy and the Orchestra was released in 1962. Acclaimed guest conductor William Eddins leads this rousing celebration, and the Orchestra’s own Charlotte Blake Alston adds charm and history to the occasion. Order early to reserve the best seats for a joyful holiday celebration with family and friends!

Family Concert: Children’s Holiday Spectacular

December 16 at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts

Austin Chanu Conductor

M’Balía Singley Narrator—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Desi Oakley Vocalist

The Rock School for Dance Education

Peter Stark Director

Mason “Joy to the World”

Tchaikovsky Selections from *The Nutcracker*

Bass *The Night Before Christmas*

Lopez and Anderson-Lopez “Do You Want to Build a Snowman?” from *Frozen*—FIRST

PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Lopez and Anderson-Lopez “Let It Go,” from *Frozen*

Various Selections from *A Holly and Jolly Sing-Along*

Anderson *Sleigh Ride*

Do you hear the sleigh bells jingling? Ring, ting, tingling too? The holidays are finally here and so is everyone’s favorite family tradition! Celebrate with *Your Philadelphia Orchestra* and fill your Saturday with sing-alongs, sounds of the season, and special guests. And make sure you listen closely—you never know who might pay a special visit to Verizon Hall.

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Messiah

December 20 at 7:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 21 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Nicholas McGegan Conductor

Sherezade Panthaki Soprano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Reginald Mobley Countertenor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Thomas Cooley Tenor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Dashon Burton Bass-baritone—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Philadelphia Symphonic Choir

Joe Miller Director

Handel *Messiah*

It's hard to imagine a more fascinating character to conduct Handel's *Messiah* than Nicholas McGegan—unless, of course, you could raise Handel himself to do the job. Regarded as one of the foremost experts on Baroque music, McGegan's scholarly obsession informs his wonderfully witty writings and stage commentary, making him a favorite of audiences. Experience this beloved classic in the hands of a master, a joy to be shared this holiday season.

Elf in Concert

December 22 at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 23 at 2:00 PM—Saturday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Justin Freer Conductor

Debney *Elf* (complete with film)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Buddy was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler and raised to adulthood among Santa's elves. Unable to shake the feeling that he doesn't fit in, the adult Buddy travels to New York, in full elf uniform, in search of his real father. This holiday season relive this heartwarming holiday classic on a giant screen as The Philadelphia Orchestra plays every note of John Debney's wonderful score live to picture in *Elf™ in Concert!*

ELF and all related characters and elements © & ™ New Line Productions, Inc. (s23)

New Year's Eve Celebration

December 31 at 7:00 PM—Sunday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Thomas Wilkins Conductor

Charlotte Blake Alston Speaker

Paulo Szot Baritone

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J. Strauss, Jr. Overture to *Die Fledermaus*
Tchaikovsky Polonaise, from *Eugene Onegin*
Leigh "I, Don Quixote," from *Man of La Mancha*
Rodgers "Some Enchanted Evening," from *South Pacific*
Rodgers "This Nearly Was Mine," from *South Pacific*
Josef Strauss "Ohne Sorgen" Polka
Suppé Overture to *The Beautiful Galatea*
Offenbach *La Vie parisienne*, Overture on Themes of Offenbach—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Loewe Suite from *Gigi*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Schönberg "Stars," from *Les Misérables*
Leigh "The Impossible Dream," from *Man of La Mancha*
Abreu "Tico-Tico no Fubá"
Bernstein Three Dance Episodes from *On the Town*

A highlight of the holiday calendar, this concert offers a spectacular way to mark the close of the old year and the dawning of the new! Leading the program of beloved favorites is conductor Thomas Wilkins, famed for eliciting "electrifying" sounds from his orchestras, with "musicianship that generates passion and excitement from his players" (*Sarasota Observer*). Make your plans now for an unforgettable celebration!

All Mozart

January 5 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 6 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 7 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Gil Shaham Leader and Violin
Charlotte Blake Alston Speaker

Mozart Violin Concerto No. 2
Mozart Adagio in E major
Mozart Rondo in C major
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5

GRAMMY Award-winning violinist Gil Shaham conducts and performs in this all-Mozart program. "A virtuoso and a player of deeply intense sincerity" (*The New York Times*), Shaham is a favorite with audiences and musicians alike, and his Mozart performances reveal not just his phenomenal talent but his deep love for the composer's music.

Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5

January 11 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 13 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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Anna Sułkowska-Migoń Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Wu Man Pipa—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Nowowiejski Overture to *Baltic Legend*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Zhao Pipa Concerto No. 2—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5

Acclaimed Polish conductor Anna Sułkowska-Migoń makes her Philadelphia Orchestra debut leading a brilliant blend of music embracing Eastern and Western cultures. It begins with a pipa concerto by Zhao Jiping, called the “John Williams of China”, performed by virtuoso Wu Man—“a one-woman force of nature” (*Gramophone*)—and ends with Tchaikovsky’s achingly beautiful Fifth Symphony, a wild ride of emotions that leaves the listener breathless.

Lunar New Year

January 12 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Long Yu Conductor
Charlotte Blake Alston Host
Yiwen Lu Jinghu—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Yifei Fu Percussion—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Yumi Kendall Cello
Patrick Williams Flute—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Xiaoxi Li Bamboo Flute and Bamboo Flute—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Haochen Zhang Piano
David Kim Violin
Don S. Liuzzi Percussion

Traditional “Deep Night,” for jinghu and orchestra—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Dvořák “Song to the Moon,” from *Rusalka*, for cello and orchestra
Li *Spring Festival Overture*, for flute duo and orchestra
Chen *Er Huang*, for piano and orchestra—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE
Sarasate Fantasy on Bizet’s *Carmen*, for violin and orchestra
Traditional *Jasmine Flower*

Join the Orchestra and special guests to celebrate Lunar New Year! This family-friendly performance features repertoire in honor of the Year of the Dragon.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Tribute Concert

January 15 at 3:00 PM—Monday afternoon—Girard College Chapel

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Annelle Gregory Violin—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Charlotte Blake Alston Speaker
Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts Choir
Lauren Thomas-Moyett Director

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Girard College High School Choir

Paul M. Eaton Director

Johnson “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Hailstork Fanfare on “Amazing Grace”—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Coleridge-Taylor First movement from Violin Concerto—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Still *Patterns*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Barber Adagio for Strings (with narration based on the words of Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Handel/arr. Warren, Jackson, and Kibble “Hallelujah!,” from *Handel’s Messiah: A Soulful Celebration*

Smallwood “Total Praise”

Join Yannick Nézet-Séguin and The Philadelphia Orchestra at Girard College as we honor the life and work of the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., celebrating our Philadelphia community and the uniting power of music.

Gershwin’s Rhapsody in Blue

January 18 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 19 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 20 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 23 at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Carnegie Hall

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Marcus Roberts Trio—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

Stravinsky *Petrushka*

Weill Symphony No. 2

Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*

Hear masterworks by three superstar composers who changed the course of music in the early 20th century: Stravinsky’s *Petrushka*, a mashup of 16th-century puppet storytelling, Russian folktales, and his signature bold rhythms; *The Threepenny Opera* composer Kurt Weill’s theatrical Second Symphony; and George Gershwin’s brilliant *Rhapsody in Blue*, celebrating its 100th anniversary with a performance by legendary jazz pianist Marcus Roberts and his Trio, who reveal new treasures in every improvisational performance.

Brahms’s German Requiem

January 26 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 27 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

January 28 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Gil Shaham Violin
Jeanine De Bique Soprano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Christopher Maltman Baritone
Philadelphia Symphonic Choir
Joe Miller Director

Bates *Nomad Concerto*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION
Peña Laguna *Oraison*, for chorus and orchestra—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA
PERFORMANCES

Brahms *A German Requiem*

From Mozart to Berlioz to Britten, great composers have poured their souls into settings of the requiem mass. Unique among them is Brahms's utterly beautiful *A German Requiem*, written after the death of his mother, with its emphasis not on the dead, but on those left behind; not on loss, but on the joy of remembrance. Cuban-Canadian composer Luis Ernesto Peña Laguna wrote *Oraison* in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. Sung in four languages, it ends on a note of joyful hope. This not-to-be-missed concert reunites Yannick and preeminent violinist Gil Shaham—always an exciting collaboration—in the world premiere of Mason Bates's *Nomad Concerto*.

Orchestra After 5: Strings and Tango

February 1 at 6:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Xian Zhang Conductor
Tristan Rais-Sherman Host
David Kim Violin

Vivaldi/Piazzolla *The Four Seasons/The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*

Orchestra After 5: Classical Concerts Done Differently

This new series offers brilliant, bite-sized concerts after your workday. The evening also features engaging pre-concert activities, themed cocktails, and casual conversations with our own GRAMMY-winning musicians. Classical concerts with a casual vibe—a new Thursday tradition.

Strings and Tango

Take in the traditional and ignite under the unconventional with a mash-up of the centuries! Astor Piazzolla reimaged Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* with a unique Argentinian twist that will have you dancing in your seat. Experience a Philadelphia Orchestra concert that takes you inside the music, with projection screens showing you the performers up close and sharing the fascinating backstories behind the music being performed.

Join us in the plaza before the concert for live Brazilian music performed by Ernesto's Club and a mini tango lesson by Andres Amarilla of the Philadelphia Argentine Tango School Performance, and hang out after the Orchestra performance to hear from your own GRAMMY-winning musicians.

- Thursday night experience
- 60-minute Philadelphia Orchestra concert

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- 5 PM Pre-concert entertainment: Live performance by Ernesto's Club and tango demonstration with Andres Amarilla
- Specialty curated cocktails available for purchase
- 6:30 PM Philadelphia Orchestra concert
- 7:30 PM Post-concert conversation with Orchestra musicians

Just as Astor Piazzolla reimagined the seasons, join us as we reimagine an evening with The Philadelphia Orchestra.

Vivaldi and Mozart

February 2 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 4 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Xian Zhang Conductor
David Kim Violin

Vivaldi/Piazzolla *The Four Seasons/The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*
Mozart Symphony No. 39

Baroque meets tango in this pairing of Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* with Argentinian composer Astor Piazzolla's *The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*. It's a fascinating juxtaposition, hearing Vivaldi's silvery, singing strings followed by Piazzolla's dramatic dance rhythms—and a brilliant showcase for Philadelphia Orchestra Concertmaster David Kim, hailed for his "scintillating, silken tone" (*New York Classical Review*). Topped by Mozart's grand Symphony No. 39, this is a concert to remember.

Shostakovich's Fourth Symphony

February 8 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 9 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 10 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Tugan Sokhiev Conductor

Gabrieli Canzon septimi toni, No. 2, from *Sacrae symphoniae*
Britten *Simple Symphony*
Shostakovich Symphony No. 4

Caught up in the shifting political currents of Stalinist Russia, Shostakovich was forced to cancel the 1936 premiere of his Fourth Symphony—and it would be 25 years before the work was heard. Shostakovich described it at one point as "a monumental, programmatic piece of great ideas and great passions." Big and bold, it's the perfect showcase for conductor Tugan Sokhiev, acclaimed for his "imposing, powerful" performances (*Chicago Classical Review*).

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The
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Yannick Nézet-Séguin
Music and Artistic Director

Family Concert: The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra

February 10 at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts

Austin Chanu Conductor

Carol Jantsch Tuba

Michael Boudewyns Narrator

Sara Valentine Narrator

Still Third movement from Symphony No. 4 ("Autochthonous")

Kleinsinger *Tubby the Tuba*

Higdon "Snake River," from *All Things Majestic*

Britten *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*

Take a journey with *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra as we introduce the instruments of the orchestra through Benjamin Britten's delightful *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*! Explore the sounds of each unique instrument in this concert perfect for young music lovers and their grownups.

Valentine's Day Concert

February 14 at 7:30 PM —Wednesday evening —Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts

Miguel Harth-Bedoya Conductor

Pablo Sáinz Villegas Guitar—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Márquez *Danzón* No. 2

Piazzolla *Tangazo*

Piazzolla *Fuga y misterio*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Rodrigo *Concierto de Aranjuez*, for guitar and orchestra

Ravel *Bolero*

Romance takes you in its arms in this evening of music inspired by lovers' dances! It begins with a whirling danzón from Mexico and two daring, dangerous tangos from Argentina. At its heart is a Spanish masterwork for guitar and orchestra, alternating rhythms of flamenco with soaring, achingly beautiful orchestral passages—showcasing an internationally renowned guitarist hailed for his "virtuosic playing characterized by its vividly shaded colors and irresistible exuberance" (*The New York Times*). And to close this night of musical passion? The mesmerizing, irresistible tension and release of Ravel's *Bolero*. Tonight, the language of love is Latin!

Joshua Bell Returns

February 15 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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February 16 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 17 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Christoph Eschenbach Conductor
Joshua Bell Violin

Chausson *Poème*, for violin and orchestra
Vieuxtemps Violin Concerto No. 5
Brahms Symphony No. 1

One of the most celebrated violinists of his era, Joshua Bell made his Philadelphia Orchestra debut at 14. His career has embraced acclaimed recordings, dozens of awards, and performances that have taken him from the White House to Hollywood. He performs two passionate works, thrill rides of emotion from Henri Vieuxtemps and Ernest Chausson. The program closes with Brahms's First Symphony—lush, dramatic, and romantic in every sense of the word.

John Williams with Yo-Yo Ma

February 20 at 7:30 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 22 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Carnegie Hall

John Williams Conductor++
Stéphane Denève Conductor+
Yo-Yo Ma Cello

Williams *Just Down West Street ... on the left*++—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Williams Cello Concerto+
Williams *Olympic Fanfare and Theme*++
Williams Excerpts from *The Book Thief*++
Williams "Scherzo for Motorcycle and Orchestra," from *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*++—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Williams "Marion's Theme," from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*++
Williams "The Raiders March," from *Raiders of the Lost Ark*++
Williams "Princess Leia's Theme," from *Star Wars: Suite for Orchestra*++
Williams "Adventures on Earth," from *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*++

With an astonishing five Oscars and 25 GRAMMY Awards, John Williams is one of the most beloved composers of all time, having written unforgettable music for the screen as well as the concert hall. Join Williams and long-time friend Yo-Yo Ma for a performance of the composer's sublime Cello Concerto, along with selections from some of his beloved film scores.

Disney's The Lion King in Concert

February 23 at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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February 24 at 2:00 PM—Saturday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

February 25 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Damon Gupton Conductor

Zimmer and John *The Lion King* (complete with film)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Thirty years after the original release, experience the magic of Disney's *The Lion King* like never before! Relive this beloved animated film on the big screen, as *Your* GRAMMY Award-winning Philadelphia Orchestra performs the score live to picture!

Hans Zimmer's Oscar®-winning musical score features unforgettable music from superstar Elton John and award-winning lyricist Tim Rice, and African vocal and choir arrangements by the GRAMMY Award-winning South African producer and composer Lebo M (*Rhythm of the Pride Lands*).

All Beethoven

February 29 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 1 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 2 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor

Haochen Zhang Piano

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Emperor")

Beethoven Symphony No. 7

Beethoven's genius illuminates these concerts. His final Piano Concerto, the "Emperor" is one of his noblest, from its bold opening movement through the hushed and haunting Adagio to the dazzling finale. Hear it performed by Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Gold Medalist Haochen Zhang. This dazzling program ends with Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, a lyrical, joyous call to dance.

Sting with The Philadelphia Orchestra

March 8 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 9 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Damon Gupton Conductor

Sting Vocalist

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Iconic artist Sting joins the GRAMMY Award–winning Philadelphia Orchestra performing orchestral arrangements of the most celebrated songs from his illustrious career.

One of the world’s most distinctive solo artists, Sting has received 17 GRAMMY Awards, two Brit Awards, a Golden Globe, an Emmy, four Oscar nominations, a Tony nomination, and has sold 100 million albums from his combined work with the Police and as a solo artist. Sting recently became a Fellow of the Ivors Academy, the highest honor reserved for those who have reshaped and redefined the art and craft of music creation.

His latest album, *The Bridge*, showcases his prolific and diverse songwriting prowess, representing various stages and styles from throughout his unrivaled career. Most recently, he produced Shaggy’s GRAMMY-nominated album *Com Fly Wid Mi*, which finds the reggae icon performing the Sinatra songbook in a reggae style.

Carmina burana

March 15 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 16 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 17 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Fabio Luisi Conductor

Emanuel Ax Piano

Audrey Luna Soprano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Sunnyboy Dladla Tenor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Sean Michael Plumb Baritone—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Mendelssohn Chorus of Philadelphia

Dominick DiOrio Artistic Director

Philadelphia Boys Choir

Jeffrey R. Smith Artistic Director

Philadelphia Girls Choir

Nathan Wadley Artistic Director

Mozart Piano Concerto No. 25

Orff *Carmina burana*

A pair of glorious classics! Carl Orff’s *Carmina burana* seizes the sonic imagination with its roaring choruses, pulse-raising rhythms, monastic chants, and sighing lyricism, filled with poems of youth bursting with love and longing. And audience favorite Emanuel Ax performs Mozart’s grand Piano Concerto No. 25 under the baton of Italian conductor Fabio Luisi, hailed for his “exhilarating, thrilling, dynamic” performances (*San Francisco Classical Voice*).

Prokofiev’s Fifth Symphony

March 21 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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March 22 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

March 23 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Paavo Järvi Conductor

Christian Schmitt Organ—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Debussy *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*

Connession *Concerto da Requiem*, Concerto for Organ and Orchestra—UNITED STATES PREMIERE

Prokofiev Symphony No. 5

Prokofiev conceived his fiery Fifth as “a symphony of the greatness of the human spirit.” This dramatic work caps a program of brilliant colors and unusual instrumentation: Guillaume Connession’s *Concerto da Requiem*, alternately macabre and ethereal, the perfect showcase for Verizon Hall’s incredible Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ; and Claude Debussy’s dreamy *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, with harps and unusual string shadings conjuring images of nymphs frolicking in a glade.

Orchestra After 5: Haydn and Mozart Power Hour

April 4 at 6:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

András Schiff Conductor and Piano

Tristan Rais-Sherman Host

Haydn Piano Concerto in D major

Mozart Piano Concerto No. 27

Two powerhouse composers set the classical music world alight in their respective era, but their mastery has withstood the test of time, and now their incredible works lie in the hands of Your Philadelphia Orchestra. Mozart and Haydn have never sounded so good, but now you’ll also get a new multi-media experience to accompany the incredible music at the concert. Unwind at the Kimmel Center and take part in charming pre-concert fun, enjoy a special cocktail,, and at the end of the concert, hear from your GRAMMY-winning musicians.

Key into classics, key into a new way to experience them with us.

Orchestra After 5: Classical Concerts Done Differently

The new Orchestra After 5 concert series offers brilliant, bite-sized concerts after your workday. The evening also features engaging pre-concert activities, themed cocktails, and casual conversations with our own GRAMMY-winning musicians. Classical concerts with a casual vibe—a new Thursday tradition.

Haydn, Schubert, and Mozart

April 5 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 6 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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András Schiff Conductor and Piano

Haydn Piano Concerto in D major

Schubert Symphony No. 2

Mozart Piano Concerto No. 27

“Listening to Schiff play is like looking into a running stream and seeing all the colorful, round pebbles beneath the water” (*San Jose Mercury*). Who better than this virtuoso to perform a pair of beloved piano classics? Mozart’s sorrowful and serene Piano Concerto No. 27 and Haydn’s ebullient Piano Concerto in D major showcase this artist’s gifts, and the Orchestra shines in Schubert’s boldly melodic Second Symphony.

Family Concert: Music from Vivaldi’s The Four Seasons

April 6 at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for Performing Arts

Tristan Rais-Sherman Conductor

Charlotte Blake Alston Speaker

David Kim Violin

Vivaldi/Piazzolla Excerpts from *The Four Seasons/The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires*

From big leaf piles and snow angels to sandy beaches and afternoon picnics, each season brings its own magical atmosphere. Now, travel through every time of the year with *Your Philadelphia Orchestra* with music from Antonio Vivaldi’s iconic *The Four Seasons*. This family-friendly program stars the violin as our guide through the drama and excitement of the changing seasons.

Yannick Conducts Mahler’s Symphony No. 7

April 11 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 12 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Carnegie Hall

April 13 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 14 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Karen CMoargill Mezzo-soprano

Alma Mahler Selections from Seven Songs—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Gustav Mahler Symphony No. 7

Gustav Mahler said that his music was “about life” and in it you hear all that the heart can feel: sorrow, joy, triumph, tragedy, hope, despair. His Seventh Symphony’s unusual orchestral effects, from the opening tenor horn solo to the inclusion of such instruments as guitar, mandolin, cowbell, and tam-tam (gong), create a dramatic soundscape that transports the listener. It’s

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paired here with beautiful songs by his wife, Alma, whose own composing career was hindered by their tumultuous marriage.

Spotlight: Yo-Yo Ma and Kathryn Stott

April 12 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yo-Yo Ma Cello
Kathryn Stott Piano

Fauré Berceuse
Dvořák “Songs My Mother Taught Me,” from Gypsy Songs
Assad *Menino*
Boulanger *Cantique*
Fauré *Papillon*
Shostakovich Cello Sonata
Pärt *Spiegel im Spiegel*
Franck Violin Sonata, transcribed for cello and piano

Over the course of a decades-long friendship, internationally renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma and virtuoso pianist Kathryn Stott have developed a kind of secret communication, a wellspring of shared inspiration that creates perfectly attuned, absolutely brilliant performances. It's easy to get lost in their music. “Like champion dancers who anticipate each other's moves ... their playing is elegant and from the heart” (*The Mercury News*).

The Philadelphia Orchestra does not appear on this concert.

Mozart's Requiem

April 26 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 27 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 28 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

April 30 at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Carnegie Hall

Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor
Erin Morley Soprano
Sara Mingardo Contralto—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Kenneth Tarver Tenor
Harold Wilson Bass—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Philadelphia Symphonic Choir
Joe Miller Director

Schumann Symphony No. 4
Mozart Requiem

Shrouded in mystery, Mozart's Requiem has sparked stories since the composer's tragic, troubled death at age 35. Writing in a creative frenzy, pouring out his genius in an attempt to improve his fortunes while fearing his impending death, he put everything he had into this

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astounding masterpiece. Blazing with theatricality and weighted with sorrow, it remains beloved by audiences more than two centuries after its first performance. This program also includes Robert Schumann's brooding and passionate Fourth Symphony.

Spotlight: Yuja Wang

April 30 at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yuja Wang Piano

Messiaen Selections from *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant-Jésus*

Scriabin Piano Sonata No. 8

Debussy *L'Isle Joyeuse*

Chopin Four Ballades

Born into a musical family in Beijing, Yuja Wang began playing the piano at age six, and in her early 20s she debuted with The Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, and the San Francisco and Chicago symphonies. Her stage presence is electrifying and audiences around the world flock to hear her play, as evidenced by her sold-out Philadelphia Orchestra performances last season. Hear a "rapturously eloquent" pianist of "scintillating brilliance" (*The Telegraph*, London).

The Philadelphia Orchestra does not appear on this concert.

Orchestra After 5: Rachmaninoff's Keys of Fire

May 2 at 6:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Dalia Stasevska Conductor

Tristan Rais-Sherman Host

Leif Ove Andsnes Piano

Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3

Experience a musical feat of epic proportions! Hear all the piano pyrotechnics of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in a performance that will electrify your Happy Hour. This incredible concert features multi-media visuals to enhance your experience. Join us and kick back at the Kimmel Center with a selection of drink specials, pre-concert fun, and chances to hear from your own GRAMMY-winning musicians.

While Rachmaninoff's Concerto is known for being mysterious and complex, it is no mystery that spending some time with us after a long day is the perfect way to unwind.

Orchestra After 5: Classical Concerts Done Differently

The new Orchestra After 5 concert series offers brilliant, bite-sized concerts after your workday. The evening also features engaging pre-concert activities, themed cocktails, and casual conversations with our own GRAMMY-winning musicians. Classical concerts with a casual vibe—a new Thursday tradition.

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Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3

May 3 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
May 4 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Dalia Stasevska Conductor
Leif Ove Andsnes Piano

Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3
Bartók Concerto for Orchestra

Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 draws the listener into a labyrinth of interconnected themes, growing ever more mysterious, complex, and beautiful. For the pianist, it is one of the most challenging works in the repertoire, demanding sensitivity as well as stamina. It is performed here by Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes, hailed for his "easy virtuosity and panache" (*The New York Times*). The program closes with one of Bartók's best-loved works, the exhilarating Concerto for Orchestra.

Salonen Conducts Sibelius

May 9 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
May 10 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
May 11 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Esa-Pekka Salonen Conductor
Ricardo Morales Clarinet

Stucky *Radical Light*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Salonen *Kinēma*, for clarinet and string orchestra—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Sibelius Symphony No. 5

Intensely personal and unfailingly compelling, Sibelius's music astonishes, thrills, soothes, and beguiles. His profound love of nature is vividly present in his Fifth Symphony, with its famous finale inspired by the sight of a flock of swans flying overhead. Famed Finnish conductor and composer Esa-Pekka Salonen is renowned for his reading of his fellow countryman's works. He also brings a work of his own: *Kinēma*, a brilliant showcase for Philadelphia Orchestra Principal Clarinet Ricardo Morales.

Spotlight: Evgeny Kissin

May 15 at 8:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Evgeny Kissin Piano

Beethoven Piano Sonata No. 27

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Chopin Nocturne in F-sharp minor

Chopin Fantaisie in F minor

Brahms Four Ballades

Prokofiev Piano Sonata No. 2

Pianist Evgeny Kissin was born in 1971 and by the age of two was playing by ear and improvising on the family piano. He made his Western debut in 1987, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall, and has been a favorite of audiences around the world ever since. “So compelling is Kissin’s pianism, so fresh his response to even the most familiar phrases, that one hangs on every note” (*The Times*, London).

The Philadelphia Orchestra does not appear on this concert.

Salonen Conducts *Daphnis and Chloe*

May 16 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

May 17 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

May 18 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Esa-Pekka Salonen Conductor

Olivier Latry Organ

Philadelphia Symphonic Choir

Gabriel Crouch Director

Saariaho *Lumière et Pesanteur*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Salonen Sinfonia concertante, for organ and orchestra—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Ravel *Daphnis and Chloe* (complete ballet)

Mesmerizing soundscapes with famed conductor and composer Esa-Pekka Salonen! The performance opens with *Lumière et Pesanteur*, written as a gift for Salonen from fellow Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho. It’s the perfect first course for the fantastic feast of music to come: Olivier Latry, titular organist at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, in Salonen’s “boldly cinematic” (*LA Times*) Sinfonia concertante and the complete score of Ravel’s achingly beautiful *Daphnis and Chloe*. With its transfixing lyricism and unique orchestration (including wind machine and wordless chorus), this sensual, evocative classic conjures up a mystical world where love is all.

Mitsuko Uchida Plays Ravel

May 30 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

May 31 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Carnegie Hall

June 1 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

June 2 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Mitsuko Uchida Piano

Ravel Piano Concerto in G major
Coleman Concerto for Orchestra—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION
Debussy *La Mer*

Brilliant colors and shifting moods mesmerize in this electrifying program! GRAMMY Award-winning pianist Mitsuko Uchida brings a “lightness of touch and tonal sparkle” (*Bachtrack*) to Ravel’s jazzy, joyous Piano Concerto in G major and Yannick reveals the magic and mystery of Debussy’s *La Mer*. The concert’s centerpiece is an exciting new work—the Orchestra’s fourth commission from acclaimed composer Valerie Coleman.

Yannick Conducts *La bohème*

June 7 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
June 9 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Nicole Car Soprano (Mimi)
Stephen Costello Tenor (Rodolfo)
Leah Hawkins Soprano (Musetta)
Adam Plachetka Bass-baritone (Marcello)
Christian Van Horn Bass-baritone (Colline)
Alexey Lavrov Baritone (Schaunard)
Donald Maxwell Baritone (Benoit/Alcindoro)
Bryan Umberto Hoyos Tenor (Parpignol)
Mark Hightower Bass (a customhouse officer)
John T.K. Scherch Bass (a sergeant)
William Lim, Jr. Tenor (prune man)
Philadelphia Symphonic Choir
Donald Palumbo Director
Philadelphia Boys Choir
Jeffrey R. Smith Artistic Director
Philadelphia Girls Choir
Nathan Wadley Artistic Director
Paula Suozzi Stage Director
Noele Stollmack Lighting Designer

Puccini *La bohème*

With its ravishing melodies, soaring arias, and romantic story of love among young artists in Paris, Puccini’s *La bohème* has captured the hearts of audiences since its 1896 premiere. Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads this theatrically enhanced performance, with acclaimed soloists in costume performing amid creative props and set pieces as the Orchestra brings Puccini’s immortal score vividly to life.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin holds the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Chair.

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Nathalie Stutzmann holds the Ralph and Beth Johnston Muller Chair.

Charlotte Blake Alston holds the Osagie and Losenge Imasogie Chair.

David Kim holds the Dr. Benjamin Rush Chair.

Daniel Matsukawa holds the Richard M. Klein Chair.

Jennifer Montone holds the Gray Charitable Trust Chair

Ricardo Morales holds the Leslie Miller and Richard Worley Chair

Lead support for the Rachmaninoff 150 Celebration is provided by Tatiana Copeland. Mrs. Copeland's mother was the niece of Sergei Rachmaninoff, and Tatiana Copeland was named after the composer's daughter, Tatiana Sergeyevna Rachmaninoff.

The Philadelphia Orchestra Family Concerts are funded in part by the Zisman Family Foundation.

[About The Philadelphia Orchestra](#)

[About Yannick Nézet-Séguin](#)

[About the 2023–24 Season](#)

[Our Commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Strategies \(IDEAS\)](#)

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