



## 2020–21 (121ST SEASON) Chronological Calendar

(as of March 24, 2020)

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### OPENING NIGHT CONCERT AND GALA

**September 30** at 7:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Lang Lang** Piano

**Program to include:**

**Beethoven** Piano Concerto No. 2  
**Rossini** Overture to *La scala di seta*

Yannick opens our season with Beethoven in celebration of his 250th birthday. And who better to play the master's Second Piano Concerto than longtime Philadelphia Orchestra favorite Lang Lang, hailed for his "eloquent, shapely and utterly beautiful performance" of this work (*The San Francisco Chronicle*). The concert will be a spectacular start to our 121st season!

Join us for this glamorous evening celebrating a superstar of classical music, Yannick's ninth fabulous season as music director, and the lush sounds of your Philadelphia Orchestra. Opening Night Co-Chairs Deborah Ledley, Judy Glick, Honorary Chair Pierre Tourville, and Principal Tuba Carol Jantsch and the Opening Night Gala Committee look forward to welcoming you to this celebratory evening with Philadelphia's cultural leaders and arts patrons.

Contact **Dorothy Byrne** in the Volunteer Relations office at **215.893.3124** or via e-mail at **[dbyrne@philorch.org](mailto:dbyrne@philorch.org)** to be sure you are on the invitation list.

Concert-only tickets for the evening are available now with the purchase of a subscription. Single tickets will be available in late summer.

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### YANNICK LEADS RAVEL FAVORITES

**October 1** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 2** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 3** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Lisa Batiashvili** Violin

**Ravel** *Le Tombeau de Couperin*  
**Szymanowski** Violin Concerto No. 1  
**Chausson** *Poème*, for violin and orchestra  
**Ravel** *Bolero*

We open our new season with two of Ravel's most revered works: *Bolero* and *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, which will spotlight new Principal Oboe Philippe Tondre. Plus, you'll hear the extraordinary lyricism of Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No. 1 with virtuoso Lisa Batiashvili, who calls it, simply, "the most delicious thing in the world."

BEETHOVEN: MISSA SOLEMNIS 2.0

**October 9** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 10** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 11** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 14** at 8:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Carnegie Hall

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Jennifer Rowley** Soprano  
**Karen Cargill** Mezzo-soprano  
**Rodrick Dixon** Tenor  
**Eric Owens** Bass  
**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**  
**Joe Miller** Director  
**Refik Anadol** Visual Design—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Beethoven** *Missa solemnis*

The new digital world embraces Beethoven's old world in these groundbreaking performances of his renowned but rarely performed *Missa solemnis*. In collaboration with Refik Anadol, one of the world's leading visual artists, the interior of Verizon Hall will be transformed into a virtual, multi-denominational cathedral through the magic of artificial intelligence and data visualization. If only Beethoven were here to see this!

Missa solemnis 2.0 has been supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage.

JANE IN CONCERT

**October 13** at 7:00 PM—Monday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Lina Gonzalez-Granados** Conductor

**Glass** *Jane* (complete with film)

The music of Philip Glass sets the scene for Jane Goodall's expeditions deep into the rainforests of Tanzania. This beautifully filmed National Geographic documentary gets up close with the chimpanzees

*March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.*

she spent her life studying and draws from hours of previously unseen footage. The stunning images are as vivid as the colorful musical score.

#### THE PRINCESS BRIDE IN CONCERT

**October 16** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 17** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 18** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**David Newman** Conductor

**Knopfler** *The Princess Bride* (complete with film)

Fencing, fighting, giants, rodents-of-unusual-size, torture chambers, revenge, true love, miracles ... You don't need much more for a great movie, but this Rob Reiner cult classic also has an all-star cast (Mandy Patinkin, Robin Wright, Billy Crystal) and a dreamy, newly orchestrated soundtrack by Mark Knopfler of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame band Dire Straits. Miss this performance of *The Princess Bride*? Inconceivable!

#### CHOPIN'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2

**October 22** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 23** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 24** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Christoph Eschenbach** Conductor  
**Seong-Jin Cho** Piano

**Holcomb** *Paradise*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION  
**Chopin** Piano Concerto No. 2  
**Schumann** Symphony No. 2

“Unequivocally brilliant” is how the *Telegraph* (London) described Seong-Jin Cho's performance as the 2015 winner of the prestigious International Chopin Piano Competition, which might explain why fans are standing in line just to buy his recordings. Hear him live when the 25-year-old rising star performs the evocative Romantic repertoire that made him famous.

#### ORGAN HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA

**October 28** at 7:30 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Join the Orchestra in costume for this fun and irreverent night with the Philadelphians and the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ. Stick around after the concert for our signature “organ pump” experience—come up and lie down on stage to feel the vibrations from this king of instruments!

This concert is part of the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Experience.

#### BRANFORD MARSALIS AND THE SAX CONCERTO

*March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.*

**October 29** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 30** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**October 31** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Rafael Payare** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Branford Marsalis** Saxophone

Strauss

*Don Juan*

Adams

Saxophone Concerto—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Dvořák

Symphony No. 7

New Orleans-born Branford Marsalis is a true Renaissance man: a Grammy-winning saxophonist, band leader, Broadway composer, and orchestra collaborator who has also toured with Sting and the Grateful Dead. He joins the Orchestra for John Adams's Saxophone Concerto, inspired by the works of jazz greats Stan Getz and Charlie Parker.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: BEIJING'S NCPA ORCHESTRA

**October 30** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

### National Centre for the Performing Arts Orchestra

**Lü Jia** Conductor

**Wu Wei** Sheng

**Sheng** WORLD PREMIERE

**Chin Šu**, for sheng and orchestra

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4

A scintillating blend of East and West! We proudly showcase our long-term strategic partner the National Centre for the Performing Arts Orchestra from Beijing, with a program ranging from Tchaikovsky's passionate Symphony No. 4 to a contemporary concerto for sheng, an ancient instrument also known as the Chinese mouth organ. Sheng virtuoso Wu Wei is the guest soloist.

*Please note: The Philadelphia Orchestra does not perform on this concert.*

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

FAMILY CONCERT

**October 31** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

Put on your best Halloween costume and the Orchestra will put on theirs! We've got plenty of musical treats to fill up your goodie bag. The Philadelphia Orchestra explores the scary and the silly in this orchestral adventure, an annual audience favorite!

TCHAIKOVSKY BALLET TRILOGY

**November 5** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

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**November 7** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 8** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Brian Sanders' JUNK**

**Tchaikovsky** Selections from *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, and *The Sleeping Beauty*

Rethinking how we view even the most enduring of fairy tales is part of the wonder of Our World NOW. In this production, Brian Sanders's provocative dance/physical theater company returns to Verizon Hall for a modern mash-up of Tchaikovsky's three famous ballets. A cast of 21st-century protagonists will bring unexpected surprises and gravity-defying choreography to these classic stories.

JOYCE, YANNICK, AND MAHLER

**November 12** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 13** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 14** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Joyce DiDonato** Mezzo-soprano

**Mahler** *Rückert Lieder*  
**Mahler** Symphony No. 4

The voice of the “out-of-this-world” Joyce DiDonato (as Yannick describes her) is made for Mahler's ethereal *Rückert Lieder*, and the special connection these two stars share on stage only enhances the bliss of the music. Listen carefully to the last movement of Mahler's Symphony No. 4, with its timeless balance of beauty and perfection.

RACHMANINOFF'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 3

**November 20** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 21** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 22** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Lahav Shani** Conductor  
**Yefim Bronfman** Piano

**Prokofiev** *Lieutenant Kijé*  
**Rachmaninoff** Piano Concerto No. 3  
**Stravinsky** *Petrushka*

Have you ever heard a piano sing? In this concert you will as the masterful Yefim Bronfman performs Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto, or as Bronfman calls it, “one of the most beautiful melodies ever written” and “the easiest introduction to classical music: thrilling, exciting, larger than life.” This is a program of pure Russian poetry, steeped in the sound that made the Philadelphians famous.

BRAHMS'S SYMPHONY NO. 1

*March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.*

**November 27** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**November 28** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Alan Gilbert** Conductor

**Juliette Kang** Violin

**Chin** *Frontispiece for Orchestra*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Bartók** Violin Concerto No. 2

**Brahms** Symphony No. 1

Laboring under the towering shadow of Beethoven’s monumental works, Brahms spent two decades crafting his First Symphony. The wait was assuredly worth it: The First exceeds all the weighty expectations the composer struggled with. First Associate Concertmaster Juliette Kang takes center stage for Bartók’s ingenious Second Violin Concerto, infused with Hungarian folk-dance melodies.

LISTEN UP! MUSIC IS A LANGUAGE  
 FAMILY CONCERT

**November 28** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

**Nicholas Kendall** Host and Violin

Did you know music has a lot to say? Without any words at all, it tells stories, expresses feelings, and even makes us think. Get ready for an exciting morning with your awesome Philadelphia Orchestra, along with Nick Kendall, violinist from the internationally acclaimed classical string band, Time for Three, who will host, and together with the entire orchestra, will “speak” through the Language of Music!

ORGAN AND BRASS CHRISTMAS

**December 3** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Members of The Philadelphia Orchestra’s Brass Section**

Hark the herald trumpets (and horns, trombones, and tuba) sing! The unmatched sound and musicality of members of The Philadelphia Orchestra’s legendary brass section usher in the holiday season on a high note. And the glory of the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ adds another heavenly voice to this collection of treasured Christmas music.

*Please note: The Philadelphia Orchestra does not perform on this concert.*

This concert is part of the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Experience.

HOME ALONE IN CONCERT

**December 4** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**December 5** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**December 6** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Constantine Kitsopoulos** Conductor  
**The Choirs of the College of New Jersey**  
**John Leonard** Director

**Williams** *Home Alone* (complete with film)

John Williams's Oscar®-nominated score is one of the main characters in this holiday slapstick classic. The hilarious eight-year-old Kevin defends his house, fend for himself, and outwits a pair of bungling burglars. The Philadelphia Orchestra, joined by chorus and the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ, brings this film to life like never before.

This concert is part of the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Experience.

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RHAPSODY IN BLUE WITH CHICK COREA

**December 10** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**December 11** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**December 12** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**December 13** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Chick Corea** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**Ellington** *Solitude*  
**Gershwin** *Rhapsody in Blue*  
**Price** Symphony No. 1—FIRST COMPLETE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Unless you were in New York City in 1924 for the premiere, you've never heard Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* like this. Jazz legend Chick Corea joins the hottest big band on the planet for this classic melting pot of American musical styles. Florence Price was the first African-American woman to have her work performed by a major U.S. orchestra. Yannick leads the Philadelphia Orchestra premiere of her Symphony No. 1, plus music by the legendary Duke Ellington. Admit it. You always knew Yannick was a hepcat at heart.

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CHRISTMAS KIDS' SPECTACULAR  
 FAMILY CONCERT

**December 12** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Lina Gonzalez-Granados** Conductor

It's the start of the holiday season! Join us for a festive celebration of all your favorite Christmas sounds and sing-alongs. Listen closely for those jingle bells, too—you never know who might pay a special visit to Verizon Hall.

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THE GLORIOUS SOUND OF CHRISTMAS®

**December 17** at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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**December 18** at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**December 19** at 7:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**December 22** at 7:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Bramwell Tovey** Conductor and Piano

The Glorious Sound of Christmas has been a Philadelphia Orchestra tradition since the Philadelphians and Eugene Ormandy released the now-iconic recording of the same name in 1962. Make these jubilant and family friendly concerts part of your holiday tradition.

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MESSIAH

**December 20** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Julian Wachner** Conductor

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Handel** *Messiah*

Shortly after sending Handel his libretto for a new oratorio, Charles Jennens wrote to a friend, hoping that the composer “will lay out his whole genius and skill upon it.” In 24 days of feverish writing, Handel did just that, creating his immortal *Messiah*. Conductor Julian Wachner joins the Orchestra and the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir for a revelatory performance of this masterwork.

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NEW YEAR’S EVE

**December 31** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

Yannick returns, bringing his inimitable charm and joy to our New Year’s Eve concert. Bring on the bubbly and ring in 2021 with the Fabulous Philadelphians.

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CHARLIE CHAPLIN’S CITY LIGHTS

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

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

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**William Eddins** Conductor

**Chaplin** *City Lights* (complete with film)

Well into the “talkie” era in 1931, Charlie Chaplin released his masterpiece *City Lights* as a silent film and created a jaunty, vaudeville-style score to go along with it. Could Chaplin have imagined a better accompaniment than The Philadelphia Orchestra? The music perfectly underscores the film’s inspired combination of clowning and pathos. Now widely considered one of the greatest films of all time, it’s

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a silent movie that must be heard!

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HILARY HAHN PLAYS PROKOFIEV

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

**January 8** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Xian Zhang** Conductor

**Monica Czausz** Organ—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Hilary Hahn** Violin

**Eötvös** *When It Hits the Ocean Below*, for organ and orchestra—WORLD PREMIERE—

PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Prokofiev** Violin Concerto No. 1

**Saint-Saëns** Symphony No. 3 (“Organ”)

From its haunting, dreamy opening until the final notes float away, Prokofiev’s urgent and rapturous First Violin Concerto soars in the captivating hands of Hilary Hahn. Xian Zhang makes her Philadelphia Orchestra subscription debut with this hallmark program of WomenNOW, also leading Melody Eötvös’s powerful new organ work, which will evoke the thunderous force of melting icebergs.

Melody Eötvös’s *When It Hits the Ocean Below* is supported by the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Experience.

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GUSTAVO DUDAMEL DEBUTS

**January 14** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

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

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Gustavo Dudamel** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Sergio Tiempo** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Benzecry** WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Ginastera** Piano Concerto No. 1

**Shostakovich** Symphony No. 5

Hailed as “fresh, insightful, and exciting” (*The New York Times*), Gustavo Dudamel electrifies audiences around the globe with his passionate approach to everything he conducts. Shostakovich’s Fifth Symphony is a perfect showcase for his highly anticipated Philadelphia Orchestra debut. The piece stands as a stirring victory of human creativity in the face of oppression.

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RETURN TO THE ACADEMY

**January 21** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Academy of Music

**January 22** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Academy of Music

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

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**Hai-Ye Ni** Cello

**Prokofiev** Symphony-Concerto  
**Prokofiev** Symphony No. 5

A rare chance to hear a full program of Prokofiev in the grand Academy of Music. Prokofiev's Fifth is described as the "yesterday, today, and tomorrow" of symphonies. The Symphony-Concerto is both cello concerto and full-throated symphony, a sublime match for the Orchestra and Principal Cello Hai-Ye Ni.

## A NIGHT WITH JOHN WILLIAMS AND ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER

**January 26** at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 27** at 8:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Carnegie Hall

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**John Williams** Conductor  
**Anne-Sophie Mutter** Violin

Renowned composer and conductor John Williams and superstar violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter bring a special program of Williams's beloved film music (*Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, *Schindler's List*, and more) to Verizon Hall for a one-night-only concert featuring *Your Philadelphia Orchestra*.

## JURASSIC PARK IN CONCERT

**January 29** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 30** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 31** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Damon Gupton** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Williams** *Jurassic Park* (complete with film)

"An adventure 65 million years in the making" just got even better. You might be able to clone a dinosaur, but you can't replicate the thrill of a live orchestra playing John Williams's soaring score to *Jurassic Park*. Steven Spielberg's iconic film is still as exciting and terrifying as when it came out in 1993. Every awe-inspiring sight and every T-rex roar is enhanced by the incredible performance of The Philadelphia Orchestra.

## CHINESE NEW YEAR'S CONCERT

**February 4** at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Tan Dun** Conductor

Join the Orchestra to celebrate the Year of the Ox! Acclaimed conductor/composer Tan Dun will lead the Orchestra and special guests in repertoire from the East and West in a family friendly evening.

## PICTURES FROM AN EXHIBITION

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**February 5** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 6** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 7** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Andrew Davis** Conductor

**David Kim** Violin

**Rimsky-Korsakov** *Capriccio espagnol*

**Massenet** “Meditation,” from *Thaïs*, for violin and orchestra

**Sarasate** *Carmen* Fantasy, for violin and orchestra

**Musorgsky** *Pictures from an Exhibition*

After hearing *Pictures from an Exhibition* you will see in orchestral Technicolor. From the opening “Promenade” to the majestic “Great Gate of Kiev,” this showpiece of the repertoire will send you home humming. Plus, Concertmaster David Kim offers the wonderfully delicate “Meditation” from Massenet’s opera *Thaïs*.

RAVEL: DAPHNIS AND CHLOÉ

**February 12** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 13** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 14** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Stéphane Denève** Conductor

**Gautier Capuçon** Cello

**Westminster Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Purrington** *Words for Departure*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Connesson** Cello Concerto—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Ravel** *Daphnis and Chloé* (complete ballet)

Shimmering and sensual, *Daphnis and Chloé* is a masterpiece of French impressionistic splendor. Stéphane Denève returns to lead the complete version of Ravel’s love story ballet. Lush and exotic, and brimming with orchestral color, the sweeping music conjures every detail of this mythological tale, from glorious sunrise to hedonistic bacchanal.

Purrington’s *Words for Departure* was commissioned by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

SONGS FROM THE EARTH

**February 26** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 27** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 28** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 2** at 8:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Carnegie Hall

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Ekaterina Gubanova** Mezzo-soprano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Piotr Beczala** Tenor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

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**Debussy** *La Mer*  
**Mahler** *Das Lied von der Erde*

Never before has our environment felt more imperiled. In this program, we celebrate the beauty of nature, and how it connects us to our world and to our souls. The great Mahler champion Leonard Bernstein called *Das Lied von der Erde* (The Song of the Earth) “Mahler’s greatest symphony.” Based on Chinese poetry about sorrow and solitude, youth and friendship, the work embodies Mahler’s passion for both symphony and song. Debussy’s *La Mer* (The Sea) provides a meditative and fluid contrast.

EMANUEL AX PLAYS MOZART

**March 4** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 5** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 6** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Louis Langrée** Conductor  
**Emanuel Ax** Piano

**Mozart** Overture to *La clemenza di Tito*  
**Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 9, K. 271 (“Jenamy”)  
**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 5

The talented Emanuel Ax is the ideal interpreter for Mozart’s joyful Ninth Piano Concerto, which will prepare you for music on a large scale in the form of Tchaikovsky’s great Romantic work. His Fifth Symphony begins with an ominous opening “fate” theme, which gradually evolves to a rousing triumphal march for a thrilling and unforgettable finale.

LOVE AND TRAGEDY

**March 11** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 12** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 13** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor  
**Daniel Lozakovich** Violin—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Brahms** *Tragic Overture*  
**Wagner** Prelude and “Liebestod,” from *Tristan and Isolde*  
**Prokofiev** Violin Concerto No. 2  
**Tchaikovsky** *Romeo and Juliet*

When the course of true love fails to run smooth ... cue the strings. And the harps. Tchaikovsky’s *Romeo and Juliet*, a sumptuous telling of Shakespeare’s star-crossed lovers, will leave your heart swelling with its famous love theme, one of the most recognizable in all of classical music. Rising star Daniel Lozakovich fell in love with the violin at age six and performs Prokofiev’s sparkling Second Violin Concerto, bristling with vitality and wit.

SPECIAL EVENT: CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF EUROPE

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

*March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.*

**Chamber Orchestra of Europe**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Lisa Batiashvili** Violin

**Brahms** Violin Concerto  
**Brahms** Symphony No. 3

The renowned Chamber Orchestra of Europe, comprised of the greatest virtuosic musicians from throughout Europe, will pay a rare visit to Philadelphia led by none other than Yannick, an honorary member of the ensemble. The elegant playing of Lisa Batiashvili will be front and center in Brahms's Violin Concerto, and his deeply romantic and popular Symphony No. 3 completes the program.

*Please note: The Philadelphia Orchestra does not perform on this concert.*

#### THE RITE OF SPRING

**March 18** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 19** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 20** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Frank Picaflor**—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION  
**Stravinsky** *The Rite of Spring*

Folktales of the natural world are reimagined in this program. First, *The Rite of Spring*, Stravinsky's vision of pagan rituals, still astounds a century after its riotous Paris premiere. It's paired with the world premiere of *Picaflor* by Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena Frank. The work, meaning "hummingbird," retells a traditional Peruvian creation myth through the voices of Philadelphians with text from School District of Philadelphia students and visuals from Mural Arts Philadelphia. Yannick leads the Orchestra in this collaborative program highlighting Our World NOW and WomenNOW.

#### BRAHMS AND GARRICK OHLSSON

**March 25** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 26** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**March 28** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Michael Tilson Thomas** Conductor  
**Garrick Ohlsson** Piano  
**Westminster Symphonic Choir**  
**Joe Miller** Director

**Ives** *A Symphony: New England Holidays*  
**Brahms** Piano Concerto No. 2

Brahms dedicated his Second Piano Concerto to his piano teacher, which might explain the virtuosic talent needed to perform this dramatic and expansive tour de force. Enter the marvelous Garrick Ohlsson, who has been wowing Philadelphia audiences with his playing for over 50 years. Charles Ives's *New*

*March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.*

*England Holidays*, a radical-for-its-time look at Americana, is led by the acclaimed Michael Tilson Thomas.

HOLIDAYS SYMPHONY  
FAMILY CONCERT

**March 27** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Michael Tilson Thomas** Conductor

How does a holiday sound? The eccentric American composer Charles Ives gave us his musical memory of holidays from his childhood, from the cacophonous Fourth of July to the serene and patriotic sounds of Memorial Day. Beautiful and provocative, Ives's music encourages us to think about sound in new ways. Acclaimed conductor Michael Tilson Thomas leads the Orchestra.

MIRGA RETURNS

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

**April 9** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—New Jersey Performing Arts Center

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

**April 11** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla** Conductor

**Šerkšnytė** *De Profundis*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES  
**Schubert** Symphony No. 8 (“Unfinished”)  
**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4

The magnetic conductor Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla, “whose concerts buzz with passion” (BBC), returns to our podium for the first time since her acclaimed 2018 Verizon Hall debut. This time she leads the Orchestra in Schubert's melodic but turbulent “Unfinished” Symphony and Tchaikovsky's deeply passionate Symphony No. 4.

KHATIA AND WEINBERG

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

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

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

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla** Conductor  
**Khatia Buniatishvili** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**Xi** *Ensō*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION  
**Tchaikovsky** Piano Concerto No. 1  
**Weinberg** Symphony No. 3—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 has everything we associate with the composer: exquisite melodies, sophisticated interplay between soloist and orchestra, and fireworks to spare. The *Guardian* says soloist

Khatia Buniatishvili plays “straight from the heart.” A second chance to thrill to Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla’s conducting!

Xi’s *Ensō* was commissioned by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation.

#### SOUTH PACIFIC 2021

**April 23** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**April 24** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**Andy Einhorn** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CONDUCTING DEBUT

**Rodgers** *South Pacific*—FIRST COMPLETE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

In *South Pacific*, Broadway legends Rodgers and Hammerstein set out to enlighten as well as entertain. Issues of race, nationalism, imperialism, and identity remain as relevant today, more than 70 years after the work’s premiere. Our version of this Broadway classic reexamines those issues as well ... plus a stellar Broadway cast pouring its heart into some of America’s best-loved show tunes.

South Pacific 2021 is in partnership with the University of Michigan.

#### GIL SHAHAM AND THE KORNGOLD VIOLIN CONCERTO

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

**April 30** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Tugan Sokhiev** Conductor

**Gil Shaham** Violin

**Prokofiev** Symphony No. 1 (“Classical”)

**Korngold** Violin Concerto

**Dvořák** Symphony No. 8

Erich Korngold is the rare composer renowned both for his golden age of Hollywood movie scores (including the Oscar-winning *The Adventures of Robin Hood*) and his classical works. Leading man Gil Shaham brings out all the singing beauty of this starring role for violin.

#### TRAVELS WITH PEER GYNT

##### FAMILY CONCERT

**May 1** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

**Enchantment Theatre Company**

**Grieg** *Peer Gynt*, incidental music

Join us on a wild journey with our friend Peer Gynt! Popularized by *Looney Tunes* and *The Simpsons*,

March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.

Grieg's *Peer Gynt* will guide you from the lush Scandinavia countryside to the Arabian desert with popular tunes like "Morning Mood" and "In the Hall of the Mountain King."

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#### MITSUKO MEETS YANNICK

**May 6** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**May 7** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Carnegie Hall

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

**May 9** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

#### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Mitsuko Uchida** Piano

**Bates** Suite from *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA  
CO-COMMISSION

**Ravel** Piano Concerto in G major

**Shostakovich** Symphony No. 8

The divine Mitsuko Uchida, "one of the great pianists of our, or any, time" (*The New York Times*), reveals all the spirit of Ravel's jazzy concerto, while Shostakovich's Symphony No. 8 evokes the heroism of World War II. We'll ask you to please silence your iPhones for the world premiere of a suite from Mason Bates's opera about the tech guru Steve Jobs.

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#### PUCCINI: LA BOHÈME

**May 13** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**May 15** at 7:30 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**May 19** at 7:30 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

#### The Philadelphia Orchestra

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Ailyn Pérez** Soprano (Mimi)

**Charles Castronovo** Tenor (Rodolfo)

**Latonia Moore** Soprano (Musetta)

**Quinn Kelsey** Baritone (Marcello)

**Andrey Zhilikhovsky** Baritone (Schaunard)

**Christian Van Horn** Bass-baritone (Colline)

**Donald Maxwell** Baritone (Benoit/Alcindoro)

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

#### Puccini *La bohème*

The world's reigning opera conductor leads one of the greatest operas of all time. "Puccini is the epitome of Italian opera, where feelings and emotions are so true, yet also larger than life. We can all relate to Puccini. I still cry every single time I conduct the final act of *La bohème*," says Yannick. With the Orchestra front and center and a superb cast, this is Puccini's beloved tale of Parisian bohemian artists as you've never heard it before.

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#### SHOSTAKOVICH'S SYMPHONY NO. 8

March 24, 2020—All programs and artists subject to change.



**May 14** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Paolo Bordignon** Organ

**Bach** Selections from *The Art of the Fugue*, for organ and mixed ensembles  
**Shostakovich** Symphony No. 8

Hear a masterwork from a titan of Russian music. A direct response to the horrors and heroism of World War II, Shostakovich's towering Eighth Symphony was initially condemned in the composer's Soviet homeland. Today it can be heard as the musical achievement it is, impeccably realized by Yannick and *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra. Plus a special one-night-only presentation of selections from Bach's late masterwork *The Art of the Fugue*, arranged for organ and chamber ensembles.

YANNICK LEADS TCHAIKOVSKY'S "PATHÉTIQUE"

**May 21** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**May 22** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**The Philadelphia Orchestra**  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Sibelius** Symphony No. 6  
**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 6 ("Pathétique")

Yannick conducts Tchaikovsky's final symphony, completed just nine days before his death. This soaring work is filled with raw emotions ranging from sunny exuberance to solemn introspection. With his lush orchestrations and graceful melodies, no composer captures this spectrum of sentiments better than Tchaikovsky. Sibelius's Sixth Symphony is also an impassioned, anti-modernist work from 1923 that Sibelius described as "pure cold water."

AN INTIMATE AFTERNOON WITH YANNICK AND JOYCE

**June 20** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Joyce DiDonato** Mezzo-soprano  
**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Piano

**Schubert** *Winterreise*

*Please note: The Philadelphia Orchestra does not perform on this concert.*

The Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ Experience (Frederick R. Haas, Artistic Advisor) is supported through a generous grant from the Wyncote Foundation.

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