

# SEASON 2022–2023

## Chronological Calendar

(as of April 7, 2022)

All programs are subject to change.

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### Opening Night Celebration

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Lang Lang** Piano

**BalletX**

**Christine Cox** Artistic Director

**Coleman** *Umoja, Anthem for Unity*

**Saint-Saëns** Piano Concerto No. 2

**Dvořák** Symphony No. 8

Yannick and the Orchestra open the season with Saint-Saëns's stunning Piano Concerto No. 2. And who better to join us than the incomparable Lang Lang, hailed by the *New York Times* as “the hottest artist on the classical music planet.” Plus, BalletX brings its innovative style to the Verizon Hall stage for a showstopping collaboration and gala event—an unforgettable start to our 123rd season.

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### Trifonov Returns

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

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

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Daniil Trifonov** Piano

**Coleman** *Umoja, Anthem for Unity*

**Liszt** Piano Concerto No. 1

**Dvořák** Symphony No. 8

Valerie Coleman's *Umoja* (meaning “unity” in Swahili) beautifully transforms Afro-Cuban, jazz, and classical themes into a powerful anthem. Franz Liszt composed his innovative Piano Concerto No. 1 over more than two decades, continuing to revise the piece even after its premiere. Daniil Trifonov's unparalleled virtuosity

demonstrates why Liszt's work has stood the test of time. Dvořák's Eighth Symphony concludes the concert on an optimistic note, brimming with vibrant melodies and evocations of the Bohemian countryside.

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### **Rachmaninoff's The Bells**

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

**October 7** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Randall Goosby** Violin—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Ravel** *La Valse*

**Price** Violin Concerto No. 1 (Thursday and Friday)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Price** Violin Concerto No. 2 (Saturday and Sunday)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Rachmaninoff** *The Bells*

“What a gush of euphony voluminously wells” from Rachmaninoff's thrilling work *The Bells*, inspired by Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem. The Philadelphia Symphonic Choir joins Yannick and the Orchestra to present one of Rachmaninoff's most magnificent compositions. Rising star violinist Randall Goosby makes his Philadelphia Orchestra subscription debut with Florence Price's violin concertos, as the Orchestra continues its exploration of her tremendous talent, life, and works. The program opens with Ravel's *La Valse*, described by the composer as a Viennese waltz “mingled with, in my mind, the impression of a fantastic, fatal whirling.”

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### **Hilary Hahn Plays Tchaikovsky**

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

**October 14** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 15** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**William Eddins** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**Hilary Hahn** Violin

**Perkinson** Sinfonietta No. 1—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Debussy** *La Mer*

**Tchaikovsky** Violin Concerto

GRAMMY-winning violinist Hilary Hahn, known for her dynamic style, joins conductor William Eddins and the Orchestra for Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. The son of a Navy man, Claude Debussy confided to a friend that he was once intended “for the noble career of a sailor and have only deviated from that path thanks to the quirks of fate.” Debussy explores a “sincere devotion to the sea” in his wondrous *La Mer*. Opening the program, the innovative American composer Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's Sinfonietta No. 1.

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## Family Concert: Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*

**October 15** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Lina Gonzalez-Granados** Conductor

**Michael Boudewyns** Narrator

Program to include:

**Prokofiev** *Peter and the Wolf*

Sergei Prokofiev's timeless *Peter and the Wolf* has delighted young listeners for generations, while offering the perfect introduction to instruments of the orchestra. This imaginative piece tells the story of a boy's adventures in nature with each character seamlessly portrayed by different instruments. You'll hear young Peter in the sound of the strings, his grandfather in the bassoon, the wolf through the sound of horns, and more. Narrator Michael Boudewyns returns for this family performance guaranteed to charm listeners of all ages.

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## Mozart's Requiem

**October 20** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 21** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 22** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 23** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Purrington** *Words for Departure*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Schoenberg** *Transfigured Night*

**Mozart** Requiem

Shrouded in mystery and steeped in popular culture, Mozart's Requiem is nothing short of breathtaking. Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann brings this unfinished masterpiece to life with all of the grandeur Mozart intended. Hilary Purrington reflects on relationships in our changing world with the Philadelphia premiere of *Words for Departure*, a choral work featuring the poetry of Louise Bogan. Also on the program: Arnold Schoenberg's passionate *Transfigured Night*.

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## Yannick Conducts Price, Schumann, and Ravel

**October 27** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**October 29** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Beatrice Rana** Piano

**Ravel** *Le Tombeau de Couperin*

**Price** Symphony No. 3

**C. Schumann** Piano Concerto—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Ravel** *Bolero*

Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* opens the performance with graceful reflection, dedicated to the composer's friends lost in the First World War. Florence Price composed her Third Symphony amid the Chicago Renaissance, a powerful backdrop for writers and artists like Langston Hughes, Margaret Bonds, and Richard Wright. Price's engaging work reflects her growth as a composer. Clara Schumann completed her imaginative Piano Concerto when she was about to turn 16. The virtuosic passages sparkle in the hands of soloist Beatrice Rana. Ravel's *Bolero*, an audience favorite, closes the performance with a brief spotlight on every instrument of the Orchestra.

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### **Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4**

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

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

**Tugan Sokhiev** Conductor

**Lukas Geniušas** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Prokofiev** Piano Concerto No. 1

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4

The internationally revered Tugan Sokhiev leads the Orchestra in this unforgettable performance of Prokofiev and Tchaikovsky. Composed when he was still a student, Prokofiev's First Piano Concerto wowed audiences at its 1912 premiere. Pianist Lukas Geniušas's brilliant performance reminds us why the piece remains popular a century later. Tchaikovsky's explosive Fourth Symphony delves into the inescapable influence of fate on humanity. Tchaikovsky concludes his exploration with optimism. Writing about the work, he notes that in spite of fate, "there still is happiness, simple, naïve happiness. Rejoice in the happiness of others—and you can still live."

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### **Bach and Handel**

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

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

**November 13** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Nicholas McGegan** Conductor

**Paul Jacobs** Organ

**David Kim** Violin

**Jeffrey Khaner** Flute

**Olivia Staton** Flute

**Philippe Tondre** Oboe

**Rebel** "Le Cahos," from *Les Éléments*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Handel** Organ Concerto in F major ("The Cuckoo and the Nightingale")

**Bach** Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 3, 4, and 2

The masterful style of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos challenges both orchestra and audience with their complexity, balanced by the charming melodies that continue to astound and delight more than three centuries after they were written. Handel's imaginative "Cuckoo and the Nightingale" Concerto features celebrated organist

Paul Jacobs on the Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ. Rebel's daring "Le Cahos" from *Les Éléments* opens the program with harmonic exuberance.

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### **Holst's The Planets**

**November 17** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**November 18** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**November 19** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Bramwell Tovey** Conductor

**Jennifer Koh** Violin

**Women of the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Wagner** Prelude to *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*

**Young** *Traces*, for violin and orchestra—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION

**Holst** *The Planets*

Longtime friend of the Orchestra Bramwell Tovey leads this journey into the cosmos, exploring Holst's *The Planets*. Each of the other-worldly scenes offers an enchanting portrayal delving into the human psyche. Experience the ferocity of Mars, the Bringer of War; the jollity of Jupiter; the tranquility of Venus, the Bringer of Peace; the mystical Neptune; and all the rest. The program includes the world premiere of Nina Young's violin concerto, *Traces*.

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### **Home Alone**

**November 25** at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**November 26** at 7:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**November 27** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Constantine Kitsopoulos** Conductor

**The Choirs at the College of New Jersey**

**John P. Leonard** Director

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

Laugh your way into the holiday season with the help of eight-year-old Kevin McCallister, played by Macaulay Culkin, and a cast of unforgettable characters in this heartwarming family comedy that answers the question: "What could a kid do to us?" Rediscover the magic of your favorite scenes as the Orchestra plays John Williams's Oscar-nominated score.

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### **Dvořák's "New World" Symphony**

**December 1** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**December 3** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Ricardo Morales** Clarinet

**Choong-Jin Chang** Viola

**Bruch** Concerto for Clarinet and Viola  
**Dvořák** Symphony No. 9 (“From the New World”)

Dvořák’s captivating Symphony No. 9 (“From the New World”) delights audiences with its majestic fanfares, rich harmonies, and brilliant melodies. Principal Clarinet Ricardo Morales and Principal Viola Choong-Jin Chang take center stage with harmonious virtuosity in Bruch’s Concerto for Clarinet and Viola. Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann leads this performance celebrating the rich harmonies of the Orchestra.

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### **Mahler’s Symphony No. 4**

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Sheku Kanneh-Mason** Cello—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT  
**Pretty Yende** Soprano

**Xi** *Ensō*—World PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION  
**Haydn** Cello Concerto in D major  
**Mahler** Symphony No. 4

Inspired by a child’s idea of heaven, Gustav Mahler composed “The Heavenly Life,” which became the foundation of his celestial Fourth Symphony. Soprano Pretty Yende’s tremendous talent soars in one of Mahler’s best-loved works. Wang Xi’s *Ensō*, named for a sacred Buddhist symbol meaning circle, considers the flow and togetherness of nature and people.

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### **Family Concert: Children’s Holiday Spectacular**

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

**Aram Demirjian** Conductor

Join us for a joyful holiday celebration filled with sing-alongs, your favorite sounds of the season, and special guests. Listen closely for sleigh bells—you never know who might pay a special visit to Verizon Hall!

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### **Messiah**

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

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**  
**Joe Miller** Director

**Handel** *Messiah*

In 24 days of feverish writing, Handel created his immortal *Messiah*. Join the Orchestra in these holiday presentations of this masterwork in what is certain to be a revelatory performance.

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## **The Muppet Christmas Carol in Concert**

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

**December 18** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Goodman and Williams** *The Muppet Christmas Carol* (complete with film)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Experience Charles Dickens's classic holiday tale as only the Muppets can tell it. Through the magic of Jim Henson Productions, Kermit and the gang help Ebenezer Scrooge, played by actor Michael Caine, find redemption and his Christmas spirit one fateful Christmas Eve. The Orchestra plays the memorable score in this delightful story filled with laughter and song.

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## **The Glorious Sound of Christmas**

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

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

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

**Bramwell Tovey** Conductor  
**Mendelssohn Chorus of Philadelphia**  
**Dominick DiOrio** Artistic Director

Just hear those sleigh bells jingling! Share in the joy of the holiday season with conductor Bramwell Tovey and Your Philadelphia Orchestra! The Glorious Sound of Christmas® has been a time-honored tradition for families, friends, and classical music lovers since the iconic recording with Eugene Ormandy and the Orchestra was released in 1962.

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## **New Year's Eve**

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

**Bramwell Tovey** Conductor

Gifted composer, conductor, and host Bramwell Tovey returns for a New Year's Eve celebration full of audience favorites as we welcome the start of 2023.

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## **Lunar New Year**

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

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

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## **Daphnis and Chloé**

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

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

**Roderick Cox** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT  
**Augustin Hadelich** Violin

**Adams** *Dr. Atomic Symphony*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES  
**Sibelius** Violin Concerto  
**Ravel** Suite No. 2 from *Daphnis and Chloé*

Ravel colorfully interprets the ancient Greek myth of Daphnis and Chloé, originally scored for a ballet. As an orchestral work, the Suite No. 2 dazzles the listener with its whirling intensity, capturing the story's most jubilant scenes. John Adams's *Dr. Atomic Symphony* explores the troubled consciousness of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer as he helped to develop the atomic bomb. This explosive program includes Sibelius's Violin Concerto, featuring the virtuosic style of Augustin Hadelich.

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### **Brahms's Piano Concerto No. 2**

**January 19** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 20** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 21** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Seong-Jin Cho** Piano

**Farrenc** Symphony No. 3—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES  
**Brahms** Piano Concerto No. 2

Brahms's Second Piano Concerto is a dramatic tour de force, demanding virtuosic talent from the soloist and the orchestra with its showstopping cadenza and triumphant finale. Hailed by the *Telegraph* as "unequivocally brilliant," celebrated pianist Seong-Jin Cho brings new energy to the piece. Perhaps the greatest overlooked composer of her day, Louise Farrenc wowed her contemporaries in 19th-century Paris with her inspired compositions. Her melodic Third Symphony showcases her tremendous talent.

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### **Rachmaninoff 150 featuring Yuja Wang**

**January 26** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**January 27** at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 4** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts  
**February 5** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor  
**Yuja Wang** Piano

**Rachmaninoff** Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 1 (Thursday and Saturday)  
**Rachmaninoff** Piano Concertos Nos. 3 and 4 (Friday and Sunday)  
**Rachmaninoff** Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini

Yuja Wang brings her electrifying style to the Orchestra stage for two must-see performances of Rachmaninoff's piano concertos in a celebration of his 150th birthday. The Philadelphia Orchestra premiered the Piano Concerto No. 4 in March 1927 with the composer as soloist. A decade later, the Academy and Carnegie Hall hosted a 1939 Rachmaninoff Cycle featuring the composer at the piano and on the podium, one of the outstanding musical events of all time.

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## Yannick Leads Schumann and Dawson

**February 2** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Tony Siqi Yun** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**R. Schumann** Piano Concerto

**Dawson** *Negro Folk Symphony*

In 1934 legendary conductor Leopold Stokowski and The Philadelphia Orchestra brought audiences to their feet with the world premiere of William Dawson's sensational *Negro Folk Symphony*. Inspired by traditional spirituals, Dawson's emotionally charged symphony is a striking departure from the European symphonic form. Robert Schumann's Piano Concerto builds a symphonic harmony between soloist and orchestra that is both surprising and satisfying. Pianist Tony Siqi Yun brings his poetic style to one of Schumann's most popular works.

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## Shaham Plays Brahms

**February 9** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**February 10** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**February 11** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Gil Shaham** Violin

**Brahms** Violin Concerto

**Brahms** Symphony No. 1

Celebrated violinist Gil Shaham plays Brahms's lyrical Violin Concerto. Composed in the serenity of an Austrian lakeside resort, the work came to life in a place Brahms found so brimming with melodies that he said you had to take care not to step on them. Brahms began his career in Beethoven's shadow, shouldering the world's expectations of what would come next for classical music. His answer was nothing short of extraordinary. When his First Symphony premiered, a friend and critic noted, "[audiences] will immediately recognize it as one of the most distinctive and magnificent works of the symphonic literature."

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## Family Concert: Peer Gynt

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

### Enchantment Theatre Company

Program to include:

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

Journey from the Scandinavian countryside to the Arabian desert to the magical underground kingdom of the trolls with mischievous adventurer Peer Gynt. Fans of Looney Tunes and Tim Burton will recognize Grieg's unforgettable melodies, including "Morning-Mood" and "In the Hall of the Mountain King."

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### **Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 3**

**February 23** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**February 25** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Stéphane Denève** Conductor

**Yefim Bronfman** Piano

**Firsova** Piano Concerto—UNITED STATE PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION

**Rachmaninoff** Symphony No. 3

Our celebration of the Orchestra's shared history with Sergei Rachmaninoff continues with his poignant Third Symphony, given its world premiere by The Philadelphia Orchestra and Leopold Stokowski in 1936. In it he wedded a distinctive musical style formed over four decades with an idealized sound he kept in his mind of The Philadelphia Orchestra, the ensemble he loved best and worked with the most. The program begins with the United States premiere of Russian composer Elena Firsova's Piano Concerto, masterfully performed by Yefim Bronfman.

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### **Emanuel Ax Plays Mozart**

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

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

**March 5** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Herbert Blomstedt** Conductor

**Emanuel Ax** Piano

**Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 18

**Bruckner** Symphony No. 4 ("Romantic")

The incomparable Emanuel Ax takes center stage for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 18, a dazzling work Mozart most likely composed for Maria Theresa von Paradis, a composer, singer, and pianist who had been blind since childhood. Bruckner's Fourth Symphony ("Romantic"), one of the composers most popular works, delights audiences with allusions to the days of knights, the sound of hunting horns, and adventures in a sprawling countryside. Conductor Herbert Blomstedt leads this buoyant pairing of performances on the doorstep of springtime in Philadelphia.

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### **A Modern Carmen Fantasy**

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

**March 11** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**March 12** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Kensho Watanabe** Conductor

**Brian Sanders' JUNK**

**Shchedrin** *Carmen* Suite (after Bizet)  
**Boulanger** *Of a Sad Evening*  
**Stravinsky** Suite from *The Firebird*

Experience the great Russian composer Rodion Shchedrin's *Carmen* Suite as never seen before, with the help of the riveting Philadelphia-based dance company Brian Sanders' JUNK. The dance theme continues with Stravinsky's *Firebird* Suite, a colorfully melodic and spectacular score written for the Ballets Russes that made an overnight star of the young composer.

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### **Marvel Studios' Black Panther**

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

**March 18** at 2:00 PM—Saturday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**March 19** at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Massamba Diop** Talking Drum Soloist—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Göransson** *Black Panther* (complete with film)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Released in 2018, *Black Panther* captivated audiences and quickly became a cultural phenomenon. *Rolling Stone* raved, "The film lights up the screen with a full-throttle blast of action and fun. That's to be expected. But what sneaks up and floors you are the film's racial conscience and profound, astonishing beauty." Experience this groundbreaking film while the Orchestra performs Ludwig Göransson's Oscar-winning score and join audiences across the globe in shouting "Wakanda Forever!"

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### **Beethoven for Three**

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

**Emanuel Ax** Piano  
**Leonidas Kavakos** Violin  
**Yo-Yo Ma** Cello

### **Beethoven** Piano Trios

World-renowned musicians Emanuel Ax, Leonidas Kavakos, and Yo-Yo Ma unite to perform an evening of Beethoven trios. The group's previous tour and recording of Brahms trios on Sony Classics were met with rave reviews around the world. The *Boston Globe* declared, "At every juncture ... it was clear the musicians were of three unique minds, and with that, three unique and brilliant approaches that made for fascinating musical conversations onstage."

*The Philadelphia Orchestra does not appear on this concert.*

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### **Poulenc and Sibelius**

**March 23** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**March 24** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**March 25** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Dalia Stasevska** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT  
**Wayne Marshall** Organ—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Tarrodi** *Liguria*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

**Poulenc** Organ Concerto

**Sibelius** Symphony No. 5

Sibelius's Fifth surges with life. From its quiet expressive beginnings to the energetic and majestic finale, it's a life-affirming work that will stay with you long after. The renowned British organist Wayne Marshall takes on Poulenc's famous Organ Concerto that starts with earth-shaking chords and manages to balance the sacred and the secular all the way to its bold conclusion.

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### **Family Concert: Who Is Florence Price?**

**March 25** at 11:30 AM—Saturday morning—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Lina Gonzalez-Granados** Conductor

**Students from the Special Music School at Kaufman Music Center**

The Philadelphia Orchestra teams up with Students from the Special Music School at Kaufman Music Center to introduce young listeners and families to Florence Price, the pioneering Black woman composer whose work was tragically overlooked during her lifetime. In a performance named for the students's book, *Who is Florence Price?*, conductor Lina Gonzalez-Granados and the Orchestra explore Price's life, work, and enduring legacy.

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### **Blessed Earth**

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

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

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**The Crossing**—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Donald Nally** Artistic Director

**J.L. Adams** *Vespers of the Blessed Earth*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Stravinsky** *The Rite of Spring*

*The Rite of Spring*, Igor Stravinsky's vivid reflection on ancient pagan rituals, still astounds more than a century after its riotous Parisian premiere. John Luther Adams's *Vespers of the Blessed Earth* references humanity's impact on the Earth. He told the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, "The music I'm writing now is an expression of grief and faith in the possibility of human redemption." Philadelphia-based choral group the Crossing joins Yannick and the Orchestra for this transformative performance.

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### **A Celestial Odyssey**

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

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

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

**Cristian Măcelaru** Conductor

**Aaron Diehl** Trio

**Williams** *Zodiac Suite*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES  
**Strauss** *Also sprach Zarathustra*

The iconic introduction to Strauss's *Also sprach Zarathustra*, launched into popular culture in 1968 when it opened the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, sets the tone for this out-of-this-world performance. Composer and jazz pianist Mary Lou Williams's 1945 release of *Zodiac Suite* propelled her to fame at the pinnacle of the swing movement. Inspired by musicians born under each of the astrological signs, *Zodiac Suite*'s 12 sections dazzle audiences thanks to the tremendous talent of pianist Aaron Diehl and the Aaron Diehl Trio. Conductor Cristian Măcelaru leads the Orchestra in this musical voyage to the outer realms of the galaxy.

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### **Beethoven's Symphony No. 3**

**April 20** at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**April 22** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

**Karina Canellakis** Conductor

**Inon Barnatan** Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT

**Perry** Study for Orchestra

**Mozart** Piano Concerto No. 24

**Beethoven** Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica")

Beethoven's towering Third Symphony offers a vast ode to heroism, revolution, and freedom. The "Eroica" is considered by many to be the greatest of not just Beethoven's symphonies but the greatest of all time. Hailed by the *New York Times* as "one of the most admired pianists of his generation," Inon Barnatan joins conductor Karina Canellakis and the Orchestra for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24. Brooding, poignant themes set this concerto apart from Mozart's others, along with its composition for a large orchestra featuring oboes and clarinets. Opening the program is Julia Perry's brilliantly edgy Study for Orchestra.

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### **Strauss and Mendelssohn**

**April 29** at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**Matthias Pintscher** Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Philippe Tondre** Oboe

**Webern** *Im Sommerwind*

**Strauss** Oboe Concerto

**Mendelssohn** Symphony No. 3 ("Scottish")

Principal Oboe Philippe Tondre is featured in Strauss's melodic Oboe Concerto, a stunning example of the oboe's power as a solo instrument. Inspired by a walking tour through the Scottish Highlands, Mendelssohn's Third Symphony ("Scottish") evokes the composer's reflections on the sweeping landscapes of the British Isles. Also on the program: Anton Webern's mystical depiction of nature, *Im Sommerwind*, inspired by Bruno Wille's poem and given its world premiere by The Philadelphia Orchestra and Eugene Ormandy in 1962, nearly 60 years after its composition.

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## **Yannick and Bruckner**

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

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Philadelphia Symphonic Choir**

**Joe Miller** Director

**Bruckner** “Christus factus est”

**Bruckner** Symphony No. 9

**Bruckner** Te Deum

Bookended by two of Bruckner’s sacred works, “Christus factus est” and Te Deum, Yannick and the Orchestra interpret Bruckner’s transcendent final symphony. Left unfinished before his death, the deeply spiritual work ends with its extraordinary Adagio. As Bruckner’s health began to fail and he feared he might never complete his final work, he suggested that the Te Deum could serve as its finale.

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## **Symphonie fantastique**

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

**May 12** at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

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

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Frank** *Picaflor*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION

**Berlioz** *Symphonie fantastique*

Yannick and the Orchestra explore the transcendent power of stories through the works of Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena Frank and Hector Berlioz. Frank’s *Picaflor* (Hummingbird) retells a traditional Peruvian creation myth through the voices of Philadelphians. Inspired by his own life, Hector Berlioz depicts the drama of an artist’s self-destructive passion through five epic movements in his *Symphonie fantastique*. From the first flitting feelings of love to opium-inspired visions of the protagonist’s demise, it is a masterpiece brimming with intensity.