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Our
World

2020

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2021

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SON

This year. This season.

This orchestra. This music director.

This performance. This artist.

This moment. This breath. This breath.

This breath. Don't blink.

The Philadelphia Orchestra

MUSIC
DIRECTOR

YANNICK NÉZET-SÉGUIN



our world

NOW

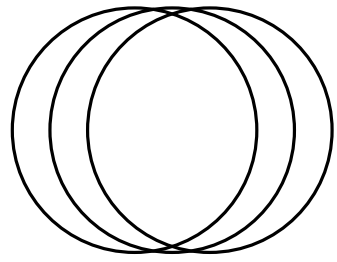
Ours is a world divided.
And yet, night after night,
live music brings audiences
together, gifting them with
a shared experience.

This season, Music Director
Yannick Nézet-Séguin and
The Philadelphia Orchestra
invite you to experience the
transformative power of
fellowship through a bold
exploration of sound.



“For me, music is more than an art form. It’s an artistic force connecting us to each other and to the world around us. I love that our concerts create a space for people to gather as a community—to explore and experience an incredible spectrum of music. Sometimes, we spend an evening in the concert hall together, and it’s simply some hours of joy and beauty. Other times there may be an additional purpose, music in dialogue with an issue or an idea, maybe historic or current, or even a thought that is still not fully formed in our minds and hearts. What’s wonderful is that music gives voice to ideas and feelings that words alone do not; it touches all aspects of our being. Music inspires us to reflect deeply, and music brings us great joy, and so much more. In the end, music connects us more deeply to Our World NOW.”

—Yannick Nézet-Séguin



Our World
Now



Lang Lang



Gustavo Dudamel



Nathalie Stutzmann

Branford Marsalis



Mirra Gražinytė-Tyla

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**Yannick Leads
Ravel Favorites**

Thursday, October 1 / 7:30 PM

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."



**Tchaikovsky
Ballet Trilogy**

Thursday, November 5 / 7:30 PM

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.



**Return to
the Academy**

Thursday, January 21 / 7:30 PM
Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Hai-Ye Ni Cello

Prokofiev Symphony-Concerto
Prokofiev Symphony No. 5

A rare chance to hear a full night 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.



**Emanuel Ax
Plays Mozart**

Thursday, March 4 / 7:30 PM

Louis Langrée Conductor
Emanuel Ax Piano

Mozart Overture to *La clemenza di Tito*
Mozart Piano Concerto No. 9, K. 271
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.



**Brahms and
Garrick Ohlsson**

Thursday, March 25 / 7:30 PM

Michael Tilson Thomas Conductor
Garrick Ohlsson Piano
Westminster Symphony 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 England Holidays*, a radical-for-its-time look at Americana, is led by the acclaimed Michael Tilson Thomas.



**Gil Shaham and the
Korngold Violin Concerto**

Thursday, April 29 / 7:30 PM

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.

Thursday 6A

Our
World NOW

Women



Florence Price Symphony No. 1

When Marian Anderson sang her landmark concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1939, she concluded with a spiritual arranged by Florence Price, then a practically unheard-of composer. Just a few years earlier, Price had become the first African-American woman to have a symphonic work performed by a major American orchestra. The hardships of Price's unlikely journey from a post-Civil War South to the stage of the Chicago Symphony are summed up in one of her letters: "I have two handicaps—those of sex and race. I am a woman; and I have some Negro blood in my veins."

This season, The Philadelphia Orchestra performs Price's groundbreaking Symphony No. 1 for the first time. It's just one of the highlights of WomenNOW,

the Orchestra's commitment to put female artists in what Yannick calls "their rightful place at center stage." Look for more women on the stage as guest soloists, on the podium conducting, and in the repertoire as we envision a world where gender, race, and ethnicity are no longer barriers to artistic expression.

■ "We have to understand that women have been composing for a very long time. This is just merely giving them the platform that has been denied," says Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena Frank.



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Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2

Thursday, October 22 / 7:30 PM

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.



Joyce, Yannick, and Mahler

Thursday, November 12 / 7:30 PM

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.



Gustavo Dudamel Debuts

Thursday, January 14 / 7:30 PM

Gustavo Dudamel Conductor
Sergio Tiempo Piano

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.



Love and Tragedy

Thursday, March 11 / 7:30 PM

Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor
Daniel Lozakovich Violin

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.



Mirga Returns

Thursday, April 8 / 7:30 PM

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor

Šerkšnytė De Profundis
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.



Mitsuko Meets Yannick

Thursday, May 6 / 7:30 PM

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.

Thursday 6B





Branford Marsalis and the Sax Concerto

Thursday, October 29 / 7:30 PM

Rafael Payare Conductor
Branford Marsalis Saxophone

Strauss *Don Juan*
Adams Saxophone Concerto
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.



Rhapsody in Blue with Chick Corea

Thursday, December 10 / 7:30 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Chick Corea Piano

Ellington *Solitude*
Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
Price Symphony No. 1

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.

The Philadelphia Orchestra



Hilary Hahn Plays Prokofiev

Thursday, January 7 / 7:30 PM

Xian Zhang Conductor
Monica Czausz Organ
Hilary Hahn Violin

Eötvös *When It Hits the Ocean Below* (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.



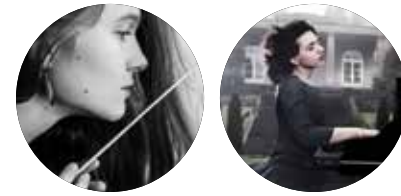
The Rite of Spring

Thursday, March 18 / 7:30 PM

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.



Khatia and Weinberg

Thursday, April 15 / 7:30 PM

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor
Khatia Buniatishvili Piano

Xi *Ensō* (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1
Weinberg Symphony No. 3

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!



Puccini: La bohème

Thursday, May 13 / 7:30 PM

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.



Wang Xi



Robin Holcomb

Our World NOW

Nature

When the young JANE GOODALL walked into the African jungle to begin her fascinating and lifelong study of chimpanzees, she initiated a new era in how we understand the NATURAL WORLD.

When the young Jane Goodall walked into the African jungle to begin her fascinating and lifelong study of chimpanzees, she initiated a new era in how we understand the natural world. Her devotion and keen observations inspired generations to follow her path.

How we perceive and relate to our environment is an underlying theme this season, beginning with the showing of *Jane*, the acclaimed National Geographic documentary with the Orchestra performing Philip Glass's film score. And we extend the exploration of Our World NOW throughout the season with five Philadelphia Orchestra commissions by women composers writing music inspired by the natural world, showing us how music can change the way we think about the world around us.

Composer Melody Eötvös evokes the thunderous cracking of melting icebergs with *When It Hits the Ocean Below*. Robin Holcomb's *Paradise* is fueled by fire, an experiential response to California's deadly wildfires. Wang Xi's *Ensō*, named for a sacred Buddhist symbol meaning "circle," considers the flow and togetherness of nature and people. New England-based composer Hilary Purrington's work has included music related to the effects of climate change. While Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena Frank wonders how it all may have begun in *Picaflor*, which examines life creation myths from Latin America through the eyes of a hummingbird.



Hilary Purrington

Melody Eötvös



Gabriela Lena Frank



Our World NOW Identity

South Pacific

2021

Our world has changed in the 71 years since the premiere of *South Pacific*, one of the greatest American musicals. During that time, questions of race, gender, and American dominance that are central to the *South Pacific* story have been rethought, reimagined, and reconsidered. This season we invite you to a bold retelling of Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic, yet shockingly relevant, masterpiece *South Pacific*. Issues of nationalism, imperialism, and inherited prejudices are at the heart of this beloved Broadway musical often more appreciated for its unforgettable melodies than for its progressive message. This production casts a new perspective on the white woman who works for the U.S. Army and recognizes her role in systemic racism, a mixed-race couple that finds each other amidst the backdrop of a war on anti-Semitism, and the young Polynesian woman at the heart of this love story.

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Beethoven: Missa solemnis 2.0

Friday, October 9 / 8:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Jennifer Rowley Soprano
Karen Cargill Mezzo-soprano
Rodrick Dixon Tenor
Eric Owens Bass
Philadelphia Symphony Choir
Joe Miller Director
Refik Anadol Visual Design

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!



Brahms's Symphony No. 1

Friday, November 27 / 8:00 PM

Alan Gilbert Conductor
Juliette Kang Violin

Chin *Frantispiece for Orchestra*
 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.



Ravel: Daphnis and Chloé

Friday, February 12 / 8:00 PM

Stéphane Denève Conductor
Gautier Capuçon Cello
Westminster Symphonic Choir
Joe Miller Director

Purrington *Words for Departure* (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
 Connesson Cello Concerto
 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.



Special Event: Chamber Orchestra of Europe

Friday, March 12 / 8:00 PM

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 doesn't perform on this concert.



South Pacific 2021

Friday, April 23 / 8:00 PM

Andy Einhorn Conductor

Rodgers *South Pacific*

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.



Shostakovich's Symphony No. 8

Friday, May 14 / 8:00 PM

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 Bach's late masterwork *The Art of the Fugue*, arranged for organ and chamber ensembles.

Subscribe today before our most popular concerts sell out.

Friday Evening 6



Yannick Leads Ravel Favorites

Friday, October 2 / 2:00 PM

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."



Joyce, Yannick, and Mahler

Friday, November 13 / 2:00 PM

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.



Gustavo Dudamel Debuts

Friday, January 15 / 2:00 PM

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Sergio Tiempo Piano

Benzecry (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
Ginastera Piano Concerto No. 1
Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

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Pictures from an Exhibition

Friday, February 5 / 2:00 PM

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*.



Love and Tragedy

Friday, March 12 / 2:00 PM

Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor
Daniel Lozakovich Violin

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.



Brahms and Garrick Ohlsson

Friday, March 26 / 2:00 PM

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



Yannick Leads Tchaikovsky's "Pathétique"

Friday, May 21 / 2:00 PM

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."



Branford Marsalis and the Sax Concerto

Friday, October 30 / 2:00 PM

Rafael Payare Conductor
Branford Marsalis Saxophone

Strauss *Don Juan*
Adams Saxophone Concerto
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.



Rhapsody in Blue with Chick Corea

Friday, December 11 / 2:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Chick Corea Piano

Ellington *Solitude*
Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
Price Symphony No. 1

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.





Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2

Friday, October 23 / 2:00 PM

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.



Tchaikovsky Ballet Trilogy

Friday, November 6 / 2:00 PM

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.



Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3

Friday, November 20 / 2:00 PM

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.



Hilary Hahn Plays Prokofiev

Friday, January 8 / 2:00 PM

Xian Zhang Conductor
Monica Czausz Organ
Hilary Hahn Violin

Eötvös *When It Hits the Ocean Below* (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.



Return to the Academy

Friday, January 22 / 2:00 PM
Academy of Music, Philadelphia

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Hai-Ye Ni Cello

Prokofiev Symphony-Concerto
Prokofiev Symphony No. 5

A rare chance to hear a full night 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.



Emanuel Ax Plays Mozart

Friday, March 5 / 2:00 PM

Louis Langrée Conductor
Emanuel Ax Piano

Mozart Overture to *La clemenza di Tito*
Mozart Piano Concerto No. 9, K. 271
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.



The Rite of Spring

Friday, March 19 / 2:00 PM

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.



Khatia and Weinberg

Friday, April 16 / 2:00 PM

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor
Khatia Buniatishvili Piano

Xi Ensō (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1
Weinberg Symphony No. 3

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!



Gil Shaham and the Korngold Violin Concerto

Friday, April 30 / 2:00 PM

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.







Beethoven: Missa solemnis 2.0

Saturday, October 10 / 8:00 PM

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

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!



Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3

Saturday, November 21 / 8:00 PM

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.

The Philadelphia Orchestra



Hilary Hahn Plays Prokofiev

Saturday, January 9 / 8:00 PM

Xian Zhang Conductor
Monica Czausz Organ
Hilary Hahn Violin

Eötvös *When It Hits the Ocean Below* (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.



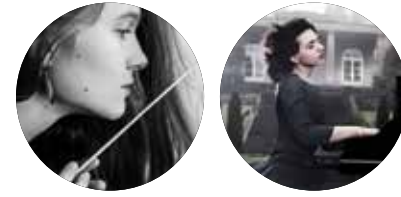
Songs from the Earth

Saturday, February 27 / 8:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Ekaterina Gubanova Mezzo-soprano
Piotr Beczala Tenor

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.



Khatia and Weinberg

Saturday, April 17 / 8:00 PM

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor
Khatia Buniatishvili Piano

Xi Ensō (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
 Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1
 Weinberg Symphony No. 3

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!



Mitsuko Meets Yannick

Saturday, May 8 / 8:00 PM

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.



Our World NOW
Digital

Missa solemnis 2.0

Refik Anadol



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

It's not too bold to say that Refik Anadol writes with data the way Beethoven wrote notes on a page of music. He has, after all, been described as the da Vinci of our time. This U.S. based, Turkish-born artist embeds media arts into architecture with data and machine intelligence to create masterpieces of art. So, when Beethoven's monumental Mass combines with the digital mastery of Anadol, Verizon Hall will be transformed into virtual, visual, and sonic cathedrals. And, while Beethoven speaks to the universality of spirituality, Anadol leads us to see how many aspects of the world around us are not what they seem. The result is at once contemporary ... and timeless. Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads a deeply moving presentation of this masterwork of spirituality and music.

Through **Our World NOW Digital**, we offer composer Mason Bates's Suite from his opera, *The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*, the story of the man who brought us the iPhone, and who truly changed our world in ways we're still struggling to understand.



Branford Marsalis and the Sax Concerto

Saturday, October 31 / 8:00 PM

Rafael Payare Conductor
Branford Marsalis Saxophone

Strauss *Don Juan*
Adams Saxophone Concerto
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.



Brahms's Symphony No. 1

Saturday, November 28 / 8:00 PM

Alan Gilbert Conductor
Juliette Kang Violin

Chin *Frantispiece for Orchestra*
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.



Rhapsody in Blue with Chick Corea

Saturday, December 12 / 8:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Chick Corea Piano

Ellington *Solitude*
Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
Price Symphony No. 1

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.



Songs from the Earth

Friday, February 26 / 8:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Ekaterina Gubanova Mezzo-soprano
Piotr Beczala Tenor

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.



Love and Tragedy

Saturday, March 13 / 8:00 PM

Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor
Daniel Lozakovich Violin

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.



Puccini: La bohème

Saturday, May 15 / 7:30 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Ailyn Pérez Soprano (Mimi)
Charles Castronovo Tenor (Rodolfo)
Latonia Moore Soprano (Musetta)
Quinn Kelsey Baritone (Marcello)
Andrey Zhilikhovskiy 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.



Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2

Saturday, October 24 / 8:00 PM

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.



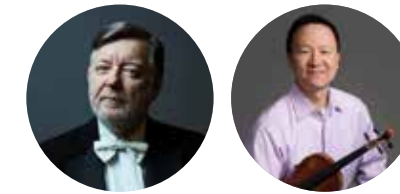
Joyce, Yannick, and Mahler

Saturday, November 14 / 8:00 PM

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.



Pictures from an Exhibition

Saturday, February 6 / 8:00 PM

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*.



Emanuel Ax Plays Mozart

Saturday, March 6 / 8:00 PM

Louis Langrée Conductor
Emanuel Ax Piano

Mozart Overture to *La clemenza di Tito*
Mozart Piano Concerto No. 9, K. 271
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.



South Pacific 2021

Saturday, April 24 / 8:00 PM

Andy Einhorn Conductor

Rodgers *South Pacific*

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.



Yannick Leads Tchaikovsky's "Pathétique"

Saturday, May 22 / 8:00 PM

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."



Yannick Leads Ravel Favorites

Saturday, October 3 / 8:00 PM

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."



Tchaikovsky Ballet Trilogy

Saturday, November 7 / 8:00 PM

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.



Ravel: Daphnis and Chloé

Saturday, February 13 / 8:00 PM

Stéphane Denève Conductor
Gautier Capuçon Cello
Westminster Symphonic Choir
Joe Miller Director

Purrrington *Words for Departure* (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
Connesson Cello Concerto
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.



The Rite of Spring

Saturday, March 20 / 8:00 PM

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. Yannick leads the Orchestra in this collaborative program highlighting Our World NOW and WomenNOW.



Mirga Returns

Saturday, April 10 / 8:00 PM

Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla Conductor

Šerkšnytė *De Profundis*
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.



Gil Shaham and the Korngold Violin Concerto

Saturday, May 1 / 8:00 PM

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.



Opening Night Concert & Gala
with Yannick and Lang Lang

Wednesday, September 30 / 7:00 PM

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*). Join us for a spectacular start to our 121st season!

Contact **Dorothy Byrne** in the Volunteer Relations office at 215.893.3124 or dbyrne@philorch.org to be sure you are on the invitation list.

Concert-only tickets for the evening are also available—simply add them to your subscription.

Academy of Music

As stewards and owners of the Academy of Music, The Philadelphia Orchestra and the Board of Trustees have embarked on a comprehensive restoration plan for this treasured National Historic Landmark. The Academy is central to our region's arts ecosystem, and it is an integral part of The Philadelphia Orchestra's vision for a vibrant future for arts and culture in our community. It is our responsibility to ensure the Academy will continue to be enjoyed by audiences for generations to come.

This past year the Orchestra returned to the Academy stage to perform subscription concerts for the first time since 2001. We look forward to returning in the 2020–21 season to turn the spotlight, once again, on the Orchestra's original home and the important role of the Academy as one of America's most spectacular performing arts buildings.

We are taking a pause from the traditional Anniversary Concert and Ball in 2021 to reevaluate and reimagine how to best support the fabric and spirit of this beautiful building. While there will be no Ball in 2021, there will be plenty of ways of celebrate and help support the Academy of Music.

Follow us on social media and at academyofmusic.org as we unveil exciting new plans!





Beethoven: Missa solemnis 2.0

Sunday, October 11 / 2:00 PM

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

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Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3

Sunday, November 22 / 2:00 PM

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.



Gustavo Dudamel Debuts

Sunday, January 17 / 2:00 PM

Gustavo Dudamel Conductor
Sergio Tiempo Piano

Benecry (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.



Ravel: Daphnis and Chloé

Sunday, February 14 / 2:00 PM

Stéphane Denève Conductor
Gautier Capuçon Cello
Westminster Symphonic Choir
Joe Miller Director

Purrington *Words for Departure* (world premiere—Philadelphia Orchestra commission)
 Connession Cello Concerto
 Ravel *Daphnis and Chloé* (complete ballet)

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 Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4

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Mitsuko Meets Yannick

Sunday, May 9 / 2:00 PM

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Mitsuko Uchida Piano

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Brian Sanders' JUNK

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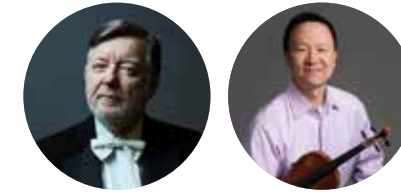
Rhapsody in Blue with Chick Corea

Sunday, December 13 / 2:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Chick Corea Piano

Ellington *Solitude*
 Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
 Price Symphony No. 1

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.



Pictures from an Exhibition

Sunday, February 7 / 2:00 PM

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*.



Songs from the Earth

Sunday, February 28 / 2:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Ekaterina Gubanova Mezzo-soprano
Piotr Beczala Tenor

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.



Brahms and Garrick Ohlsson

Sunday, March 28 / 2:00 PM

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



South Pacific 2021

Sunday, April 25 / 2:00 PM

Andy Einhorn Conductor

Rodgers *South Pacific*

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.

Jane in Concert

Tuesday, October 13 / 7:00 PM

Lina Gonzalez-Granados Conductor

Glass Jane (complete with film)

“When I was a little girl, I used to dream as a man, because I wanted to do things that women didn’t do.”—Jane Goodall

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



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Home Alone in Concert

Friday, December 4 / 8:00 PM
Saturday, December 5 / 8:00 PM
Sunday, December 6 / 2:00 PM

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

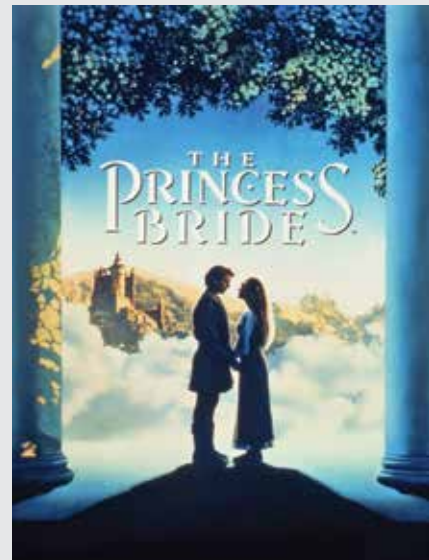
Williams Home Alone (complete with film)

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, fends 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.

Now
THIS

is

surround
SOUND.



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The Princess Bride in Concert

Friday, October 16 / 8:00 PM
Saturday, October 17 / 8:00 PM
Sunday, October 18 / 2:00 PM

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 (Cary Elwes, Robin Wright, Mandy Patinkin, Robin Wright, Billy Crystal). Now for the first time, composer Mark Knopfler’s unforgettable score has been specially arranged for symphony orchestra. Missing this cinematic concert experience would be *inconceivable!*

Charlie Chaplin’s City Lights

Saturday, January 2 / 8:00 PM
Sunday, January 3 / 2:00 PM

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 a silent movie that must be heard!



Jurassic Park in Concert

Friday, January 29 / 8:00 PM
Saturday, January 30 / 8:00 PM
Sunday, January 31 / 2:00 PM

Damon Gupton Conductor

Williams Jurassic Park (complete with film)

Featuring visually stunning imagery and groundbreaking special effects, the action-packed adventure of Jurassic Park pits man against prehistoric predators in the ultimate battle for survival. Experience it now, projected in HD with The Philadelphia Orchestra performing John Williams’ iconic score live to picture.



Comedy and adventure, classic and contemporary, our film series has it all, with The Philadelphia Orchestra sweeping you right into the middle of the action.

Special Concerts

Organ Halloween Extravaganza

Wednesday, October 28 / 7:30 PM

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!

Special Presentation: Beijing's NCPA Orchestra

Friday, October 30 / 8:00 PM

Lü Jia Conductor
Wu Wei Sheng

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.

A Night with John Williams and Anne-Sophie Mutter

Tuesday, January 26 / 8:00 PM

John Williams Conductor
Anne-Sophie Mutter Violin

The Music of John Williams

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.



Chinese New Year's Concert

Thursday, February 4 / 7:00 PM

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.



La bohème

Wednesday, May 19 / 7:30 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Ailyn Pérez Soprano (Mimi)
Charles Castronovo Tenor (Rodolfo)
Latoria 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.



An Intimate Afternoon with Yannick and Joyce

Sunday, June 20 / 2:00 PM

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Piano
Joyce DiDonato Mezzo-soprano

Yannick trades his baton for the piano as he accompanies his great friend and collaborator Joyce DiDonato in Schubert's profound and moving song cycle *Winterreise* (Winter Journey). Don't miss this rare chance to see two of classical music's biggest stars in an intimate recital.

Anne-Sophie Mutter



Halloween Celebration

Saturday, October 31 / 11:30 AM

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 spooky and the silly in this orchestral adventure, an annual audience favorite!



Listen UP! Music Is a Language

SPECIAL EVENT

Saturday, November 28 / 11:30 AM

Nicholas Kendall 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 Nicholas Kendall, violinist from the internationally acclaimed classical music string band Time for Three, who will host. He and the entire orchestra will "speak" through the Language of Music!

Christmas Kids' Spectacular

SPECIAL EVENT

Saturday, December 12 / 11:30 AM

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. Add these tickets on to your subscription today as this one sells out each year!



Holidays Symphony

Saturday, March 27 / 11:30 AM

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.

Travels with Peer Gynt

Saturday, May 1 / 11:30 AM

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*, Grieg's *Peer Gynt* Suite 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."

Family Concerts



John Williams



Celebrate the Season



Organ and Brass Christmas

Thursday, December 3 / 7:30 PM

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.

The Glorious Sound of Christmas®

Thursday, December 17 / 7:00 PM
Friday, December 18 / 7:00 PM
Saturday, December 19 / 7:00 PM
Tuesday, December 22 / 7:00 PM

Bramwell Tovey Conductor

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

Messiah

Sunday, December 20 / 2:00 PM

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.

New Year's Eve

Thursday, December 31 / 7:30 PM

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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