

2026/27 Season

A SPACE FOR  
*sound*



MINNESOTA  
ORCHESTRA

*Thomas Søndergård, music director*



# A SPACE FOR *you*

Within these walls,  
sound finds you. And  
you find your place.

More than a concert  
hall, Orchestra Hall is  
a space where music  
lives. It breathes,  
resonates and  
wraps around you.  
Breathtaking music  
performed by thrilling  
artists and your  
Minnesota Orchestra.  
Each note crafted  
for you, creating  
moments meant to be  
felt, remembered and  
carried with you.

A space for *sound*.

A space for *you*.

*Step inside.*

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All artists, programs, dates, prices and times are subject to change. All ticket prices include a per-ticket facility fee. All concerts performed at Orchestra Hall. Full terms and conditions available online at [minnesotaorchestra.org/terms](https://minnesotaorchestra.org/terms).  
\*Offer expires May 29, 2026. Bonus voucher (\$80 value) is redeemable for select concerts. Classical Concert Packages include an extra concert. Seating is subject to availability.  
\*\*Subscriber exchanges are free up to one week prior to the performance. Exchange fees apply for all ticketholders the week of the performance. Changing dates, performances or seat locations when you exchange your tickets may impact ticket price.



A SPACE TO  
*celebrate*

Season Opening Celebration:  
*Søndergård Conducts  
Stravinsky's Firebird*

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Vadym Kholodenko, *piano*  
Tal Rosner, *video artist and creative designer*

FRI SEP 25 8PM  
SAT SEP 26 7PM

The world premiere of Stravinsky's first ballet, *The Firebird*, made him famous overnight. For our Season Opening celebrations, the creativity of video artist Tal Rosner adds thrilling dimension to Stravinsky's luminous score. Van Cliburn Competition gold medalist Vadym Kholodenko's technical brilliance will dazzle in Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2.

WALKER *Icarus in Orbit*  
PROKOFIEV *Piano Concerto No. 2*  
STRAVINSKY *The Firebird (complete)*



Kholodenko



Jackiw

Season Opening Celebration:  
*Søndergård, Mozart  
and Prokofiev*

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Stefan Jackiw, *violin*

THU OCT 1 11AM  
FRI OCT 2 8PM  
SAT OCT 3 7PM

Violinist Stefan Jackiw draws his life motto from the myth of Sisyphus: "There is scarcely any passion without struggle." It's a reminder that just because he can make it sound effortless to play the violin, that doesn't mean it is. Jackiw's interpretation of Mozart will set you up beautifully for the tension and power of Prokofiev's Symphony No. 6.

SMITH *Tumblebird Contrails*  
MOZART *Violin Concerto No. 5, Turkish*  
PROKOFIEV *Symphony No. 6*



*Donor Appreciation Week* ♡

These concerts, open to all, are dedicated to the generosity of our donor community.



# STAR WARS™

## RETURN OF THE JEDI

### IN CONCERT

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, conductor

THU OCT 8 7PM  
 FRI OCT 9 7PM  
 SAT OCT 10 7PM  
 SUN OCT 11 2PM

In the climactic sixth episode of the *Star Wars* saga, Darth Vader readies the second Death Star to unleash the final blow to the Rebel Alliance. Luke Skywalker joins R2-D2, C-3PO, and Princess Leia to free Han Solo from Jabba the Hutt and launch a desperate attack upon the entire Imperial Fleet. Watch the complete film unfold as Sarah Hicks and the Minnesota Orchestra perform John Williams' legendary score live to picture.



Watch Your Favorite Films  
 Hear the Music Live  
 Be Transported

It's the ultimate surround sound: In our U.S. Bank Movies & Music series, the Minnesota Orchestra performs movie scores live with the full feature film playing on the big screen.



These concerts are likely to sell out! Add them to your concert package to guarantee your seats!



Rated PG. © 1983 & ™ Lucasfilm Ltd. All rights reserved. Presentation Licensed by Disney Concerts in association with Warner/Chappell Music. © All rights reserved.  
 The Movies & Music series is presented by U.S. Bank.

## Pictures at an Exhibition

Kahchun Wong, conductor  
 Himari, violin

FRI OCT 16 8PM  
 SAT OCT 17 7PM

Born in 2011, Himari has been described as a “once-in-a-generation” talent. She was 13 when she made her debut with the Berlin Philharmonic. Now, it's your turn to find out what makes her playing so extraordinary. Then, imagine yourself in a Russian art gallery as music dramatically unleashes a collection of paintings in Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

IFUKUBE *Dance of the Seven Veils from Salome*  
 GLAZUNOV *Violin Concerto*  
 MUSSORGSKY/Ravel *Pictures at an Exhibition*



## Haydn and Liszt

Jaime Martin, conductor  
 Simon Trpčeski, piano

THU OCT 22 11AM  
 FRI OCT 23 8PM

When Franz Liszt saw that the language of music was changing, he felt that forms should change, too. His Second Piano Concerto is constructed in six musical scenes. After Simon Trpčeski brings them to life, hear how Mendelssohn quotes Martin Luther in a symphony written to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession.

HAYDN  
 Symphony No. 6, *Le Matin*  
 LISZT  
 Piano Concerto No. 2  
 MENDELSSOHN  
 Symphony No. 5, *Reformation*

## Chamber Music in the Hall

Simon Trpčeski, piano  
 Members of the Minnesota Orchestra

SUN OCT 25 2PM

The Chamber Music Series is sponsored by Dr. Jennine and John Speier. \*In Remembrance





A SPACE TO

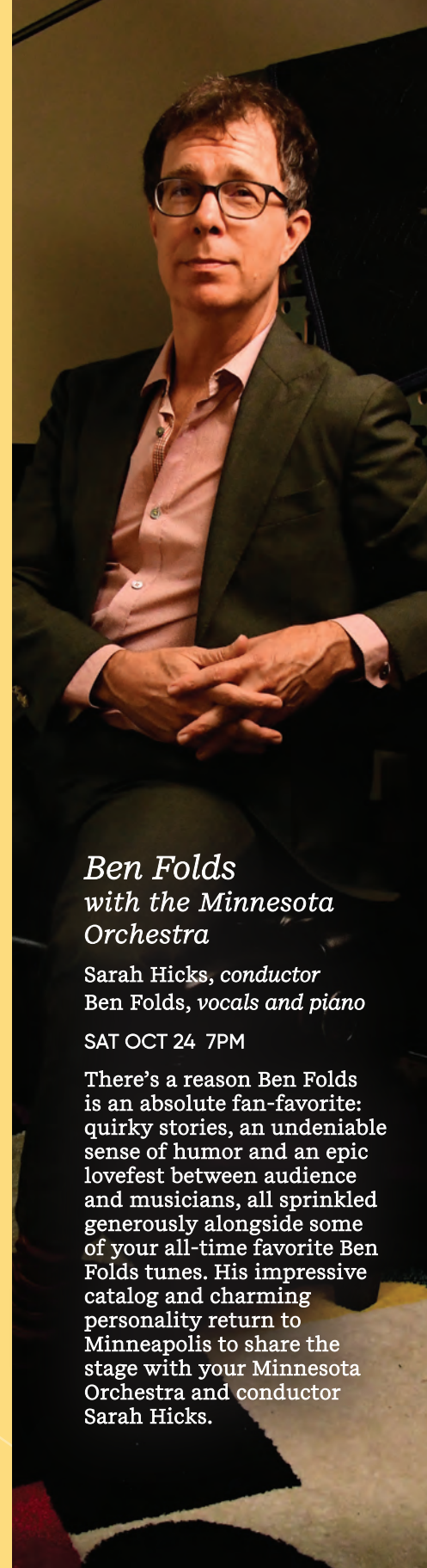
connect

**Ben Folds**  
with the *Minnesota*  
*Orchestra*

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*  
Ben Folds, *vocals and piano*

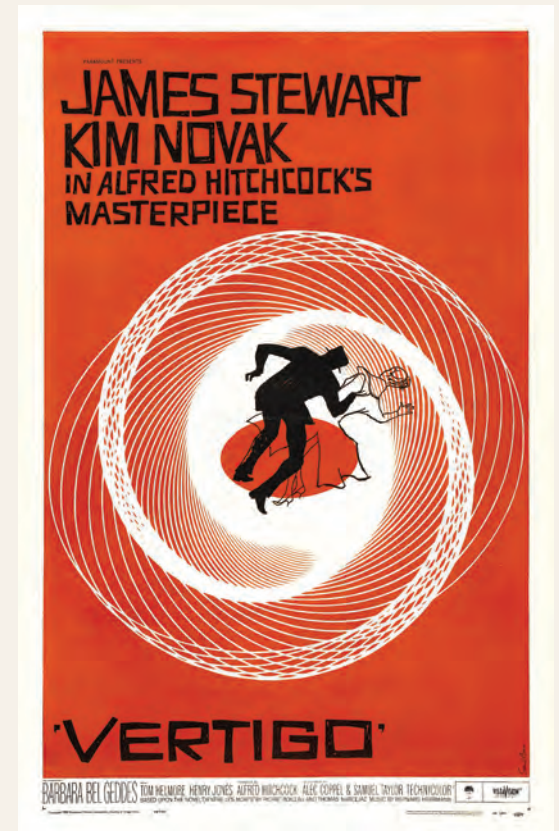
SAT OCT 24 7PM

There's a reason Ben Folds is an absolute fan-favorite: quirky stories, an undeniable sense of humor and an epic lovefest between audience and musicians, all sprinkled generously alongside some of your all-time favorite Ben Folds tunes. His impressive catalog and charming personality return to Minneapolis to share the stage with your Minnesota Orchestra and conductor Sarah Hicks.



“Vertigo is a symphony for film and orchestra.”

—The New Yorker



U.S. BANK MOVIES & MUSIC

**Vertigo**

with the *Minnesota Orchestra*

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*

FRI OCT 30 7PM

SAT OCT 31 7PM

Alfred Hitchcock's psychological thriller *Vertigo*, starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, is a haunting exploration of obsession set against the backdrop of 1950s San Francisco. Bernard Herrmann's harrowing score heightens the film's intensity and suspense, adding tension to every twist and turn of the story. Don't miss this spine-tingling Halloween weekend at Orchestra Hall!



The perfect Halloween outing!

Folds

Rated PG. Film courtesy of Paramount Pictures.

*Listen / Escape*

# NORDIC SOUNDSCAPES FESTIVAL

The ultimate Nordic music festival is back—but a few months earlier this season, thanks to a rare opportunity to have our two favorite Nordic conductors at the helm.

As Minnesota's golden autumn gives way to winter's quiet magic, Music Director Thomas Søndergård and Conductor Laureate Osmo Vänskä take you on a journey through Nordic soundscapes that pays homage to their musical compatriots.

*Don't miss this magical festival!*



## *Søndergård, Parker and Sibelius*

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*

Jon Kimura Parker, *piano*

THU NOV 5 11AM

FRI NOV 6 8PM

SAT NOV 7 7PM

Audience favorite Jon Kimura Parker returns to Orchestra Hall to play Hillborg's seamless *MAX* Concerto, written for Emanuel (Manny) AX. Then we find Sibelius at work on his Second Symphony while on holiday in Italy. Although it was completed in Finland, you're sure to feel the warmth of the Italian sun.

GRIEG Selections from *Norwegian Dances*

HILLBORG Piano Concerto No. 2, *MAX* Concerto

SIBELIUS Symphony No. 2



Parker



### FAMILY CONCERT

## *The Musical Tales of Hans Christian Andersen*

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*

SUN NOV 8 2PM

Enter into a world where music and storytelling intertwine, turning timeless fairy tales into vivid soundscapes. Join Music Director Thomas Søndergård and the Minnesota Orchestra for a musical adventure through some of the classic stories of Hans Christian Andersen with playful and story-driven melodies.

Our one-hour relaxed concerts are designed for all ages and sensory sensitivities. + **FREE TICKETS FOR KIDS!** See page 24.

The Family Concert series is sponsored by PNC.



Søndergård



## *Vänskä, Chen and Nielsen*

Osmo Vänskä, *conductor*

Stella Chen, *violin*

FRI NOV 13 8PM

SAT NOV 14 7PM

The flags of Finland and Denmark fly high with the Violin Concerto by Osmo Vänskä's beloved late friend, Jaakko Kuusisto, and the last symphony by Carl Nielsen. At first, Nielsen thought it would be "completely idyllic" in character, a *Sinfonia semplice*. When it was finished 16 months later, he wasn't sure the name still made sense. Come prepared to discover its complexities.

TARKIAINEN *Songs of the Ice*

J. KUUSISTO Violin Concerto

NIELSEN Symphony No. 6, *Sinfonia semplice*



Vänskä



## Elgar and Dvořák

Dinis Sousa, *conductor*  
Sasha Cooke, *mezzo*

THU NOV 19 11AM  
FRI NOV 20 8PM

Mezzo Sasha Cooke compares Elgar's *Sea Pictures* to entering a painting by J.M.W. Turner: "They are very dark and murky, but beautiful with radiant, shimmering light." They'll ease you into Dvořák's nature-infused Symphony No. 8, composed when one of his biggest fans, Johannes Brahms, said that Dvořák's head was "full of ideas."

SAARIAHO *Ciel d'hiver*  
ELGAR *Sea Pictures*  
DVOŘÁK *Symphony No. 8*



Flexible, no fee payment plans are available for all MinnOrch subscribers!



## Andrew Bird with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*  
Andrew Bird, *vocals*

SAT NOV 21 7PM

With a distinctive sound that resists categorization, GRAMMY® nominated violinist, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Andrew Bird makes his debut with the Minnesota Orchestra. Balancing swelling sounds with jazz, folk, and pop melodies in an unforgettable display of unique virtuosity, Bird celebrates the 20th anniversary of his acclaimed record *The Mysterious Production of Eggs*. Featuring a top-to-bottom album performance with orchestral arrangements, Bird caps off the performance with a suite of fan-favorite tunes from his near 30-year repertoire.



## How to Train Your Dragon in Concert

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*

SAT NOV 28 2PM  
SAT NOV 28 7PM  
SUN NOV 29 2PM

DreamWorks' *How to Train Your Dragon* is a captivating and original story about a young Viking named Hiccup, who defies tradition when he befriends one of his deadliest foes—a ferocious dragon he calls Toothless. Together, these unlikely heroes must fight against all odds to save both their worlds. Featuring John Powell's Oscar®-nominated score performed live to picture, *How to Train Your Dragon In Concert* is a thrilling experience for all ages.





A SPACE FOR  
*cheer*



*Make Orchestra Hall your holiday home and experience the magic of the season! Our festive lineup includes the return of holiday favorites Handel's *Messiah*, *Home Alone* in Concert, *Merry & Bright* and a new production of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. But don't wait—many of our holiday concerts sell out each year. Add these hot tickets to your concert package now to secure your seats and save!*

# A CHARLIE BROWN Christmas



## *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live at the Symphony*

*with the Minnesota Orchestra*

Jason Seber, *conductor*

TUE DEC 8 7PM

WED DEC 9 7PM

Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, Lucy, Sally and Schroeder are coming to Orchestra Hall! Join the Peanuts Gang for a heartwarming production that celebrates Charles M. Schulz's beloved and timeless story! With actors who bring the iconic characters to life, big-screen animations, and Vince Guaraldi's timeless music performed live by the Minnesota Orchestra, this is a special holiday event that the whole family will enjoy.

This performance is approximately 75 minutes with no intermission.

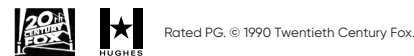
U.S. BANK MOVIES & MUSIC

*Home Alone in Concert  
with the Minnesota Orchestra*

Jason Seber, *conductor*  
Minnesota Boychoir

FRI DEC 11 7PM  
SAT DEC 12 2PM  
SAT DEC 12 7PM  
SUN DEC 13 2PM

A true holiday favorite, this beloved comedy classic features renowned composer John Williams' charming and delightful score performed live to picture by the Minnesota Orchestra. Macaulay Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who's accidentally left behind when his family leaves for Christmas vacation and who must defend his home against two bungling thieves. Hilarious and heart-warming, *Home Alone* is holiday fun for the entire family!



Lazarus

*Merry & Bright  
with Charles Lazarus*

Charles Lazarus, *trumpet*  
Tommy Barbarella, *piano and keyboards*  
Jeff Bailey, *bass*  
David Schmalenberger, *drums*  
Daryl Boudreaux, *percussion*  
The Lazarus Brass  
Tonia Hughes Kendrick, *vocals*  
Bruce A. Henry, *vocals*  
Angelica Cantanti  
Youth Choirs

SUN DEC 20 2PM

Charles Lazarus and an all-star band return with one of the Twin Cities' most beloved holiday traditions. Bursting with toe-tapping arrangements of seasonal favorites, this joyful concert brings together top-notch local musicians for extra swing, extra sparkle, and a distinctly jazzy holiday vibe. Now celebrating its tenth year, this family-favorite fills the hall with warmth, rhythm, and cheer—and it sells out fast, so grab your tickets early!

The Minnesota Orchestra does not perform on this program.



Prieto

*A New Year's  
Celebration*

*with the Minnesota  
Orchestra*

Carlos Miguel Prieto, *conductor*  
Cheryl Losey Feder, *harp*

THU DEC 31 8:30PM  
FRI JAN 1 2PM

The 47 strings of the harp are notoriously difficult to keep in tune, something you would not know when listening to Principal Cheryl Losey Feder play with the Orchestra each week. This time, she makes her debut as soloist in dances by Debussy. After intermission, hear how Ravel builds excitement as the theme from his *Boléro* makes its way around the Orchestra.

DEBUSSY *Danse sacrée et Danse profane*  
DEBUSSY *Ibéria, from Images*  
ALBENIZ/Frühbeck de Burgos *Suite española*  
RAVEL *Boléro*



Losey Feder



Your New Year's Eve ticket includes post-concert vintage jazz from Belle Amour and a Champagne toast, *on us!*

Many of our holiday concerts **sold out** last year—buy now before they are gone!



*Handel's Messiah*

Jane Glover<sup>+</sup>, *conductor*  
Lauren Snouffer, *soprano*  
Clara Osowski, *mezzo*  
Eric Ferring, *tenor*  
Michael Sumuel, *bass-baritone*  
Minnesota Chorale

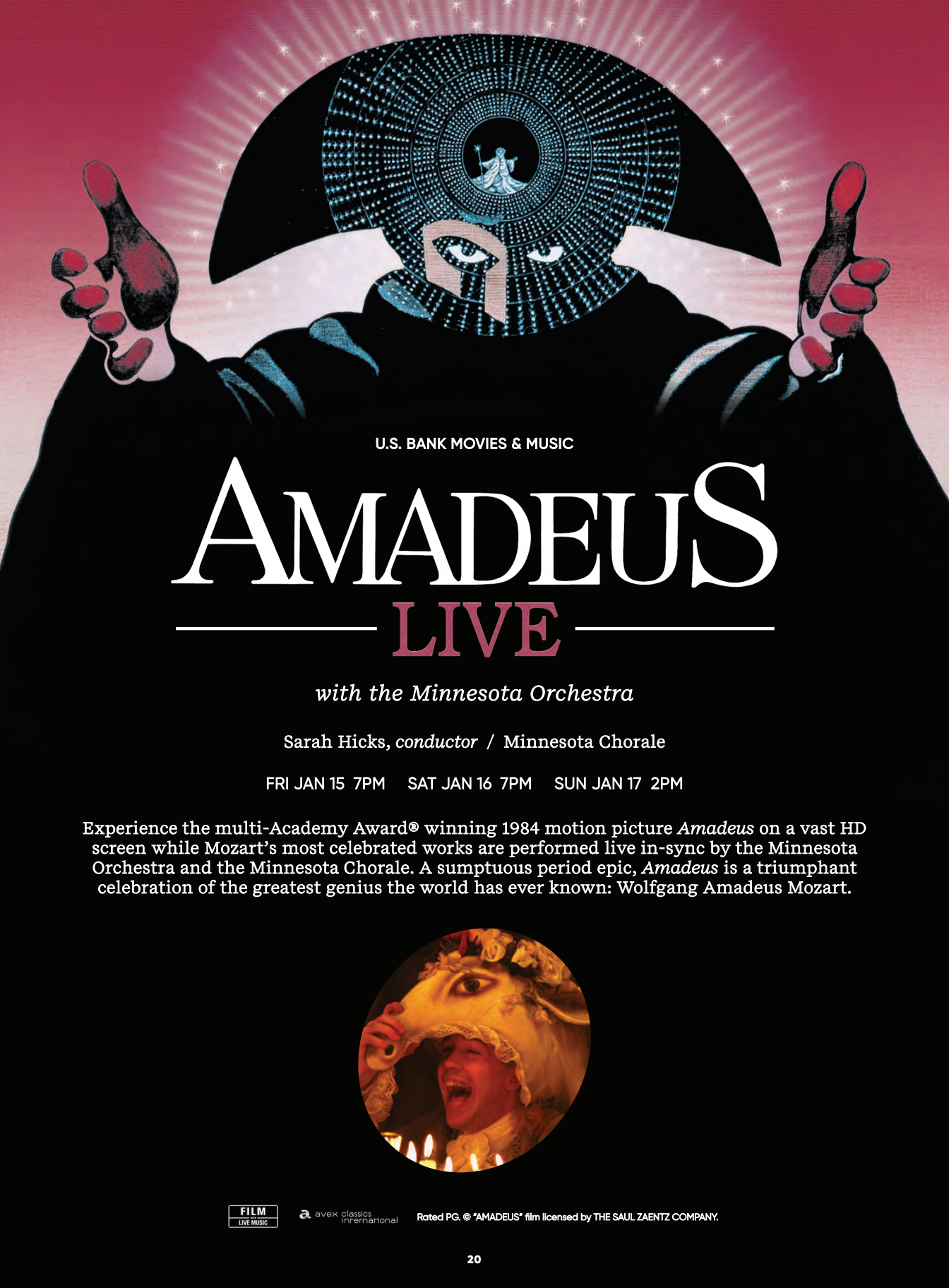
FRI DEC 18 8PM  
SAT DEC 19 7PM

Jane Glover was 9 years old and in Lincoln Cathedral one Christmas when she was swept away after hearing Handel's *Messiah*. She sees it as a defining moment in a life suffused with music... and *Messiahs!* At last count, she'd conducted over 120 performances of the holiday oratorio around the world. We welcome Dame Jane to Minneapolis this December.

HANDEL *Messiah*



Glover



U.S. BANK MOVIES & MUSIC

# AMADEUS

## LIVE

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, conductor / Minnesota Chorale

FRI JAN 15 7PM SAT JAN 16 7PM SUN JAN 17 2PM

Experience the multi-Academy Award® winning 1984 motion picture *Amadeus* on a vast HD screen while Mozart's most celebrated works are performed live in-sync by the Minnesota Orchestra and the Minnesota Chorale. A sumptuous period epic, *Amadeus* is a triumphant celebration of the greatest genius the world has ever known: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.



Rated PG. © "AMADEUS" film licensed by THE SAUL ZAENTZ COMPANY.



Moser

### Afkham, Moser and Shostakovich

David Afkham, conductor  
Johannes Moser, cello

FRI JAN 8 8PM  
SAT JAN 9 7PM

Guest conductor David Afkham returns to the podium with Mozart, Shostakovich and a cello concerto that's centered around the notion of teetering on the edge. Thorvaldsdottir's *Before we fall* was composed for the remarkable cellist Johannes Moser, an artist who she knew could take her concerto to the highest level.

MOZART Overture to *Don Giovanni*  
THORVALDSDOTTIR *Before we fall* (Cello Concerto)  
SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 8



Khachatryan

### Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto

Hannu Lintu, conductor  
Sergey Khachatryan, violin

FRI JAN 22 8PM  
SAT JAN 23 7PM

Sergey Khachatryan was 15 when he became the youngest-ever winner of the International Sibelius Competition. Now a seasoned professional, he'll play Tchaikovsky for his Minnesota Orchestra debut. John Corigliano believes that music enables us to keep the people we've lost alive in our thoughts. This deeply personal symphony, composed when the AIDS epidemic was rampant, explores the excess of rage and the tenderness of remembrance.

TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto  
CORIGLIANO Symphony No. 1

### Chamber Music in the Hall

SUN JAN 24 2PM

Members of the Minnesota Orchestra

The Chamber Music Series is sponsored by Dr. Jennine and John\* Speier.  
\*In Remembrance

Subscribers get early access to added concerts—before the general public!



Hadelich

## Søndergård, Hadelich and Prokofiev

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Augustin Hadelich, *violin*

THU FEB 11 11AM  
FRI FEB 12 8PM  
SAT FEB 13 7PM

In this “Fire and Water” program, the heat comes from a Dante-inspired ballet by Thomas Adès and Augustin Hadelich’s ability to make Prokofiev’s music sear itself into your consciousness. The water flows from Debussy’s childhood fascination with the sea and an orchestral interlude from Benjamin Britten’s opera *Peter Grimes* that deepens our understanding of the story and its characters.

ADÈS *Inferno Suite*  
PROKOFIEV *Violin Concerto No. 1*  
BRITTEN *Passacaglia from Peter Grimes*  
DEBUSSY *La Mer*

Save up to 15% on additional tickets all season long!

## Lunar New Year Concert

Molly Turner, *conductor*  
Yang Ge, *liu qin*  
Fei Xie, *artistic consultant*

FRI FEB 19 8PM

Celebrate the Year of the Goat with conductor Molly Turner and the Minnesota Orchestra! Lunar New Year marks the beginning of spring, with all the color and festive moods of the season of rebirth. Family traditions and themes of unity and health take centerstage in one of the most vibrant and compelling programs of the year.



FAMILY CONCERT

## Under the Red Lanterns

Molly Turner, *conductor*

SUN FEB 21 2PM

**NEW THIS YEAR!** A family-focused, one-hour version of our annual Lunar New Year concert. This program features the vibrant melodies of Asia, rooted in tradition and storytelling and will explore how cultures all over the continent celebrate this festive holiday. Celebrate the Year of the Goat at Orchestra Hall with the whole family!

+ **FREE TICKETS FOR KIDS!**  
See page 24.

The Family Concert series is sponsored by PNC.

## Ravel Piano Concerto in G

Marta Gardolińska+, *conductor*  
Alice Sara Ott, *piano*

THU FEB 25 11AM  
FRI FEB 26 8PM

Tap into your inner child with a piano concerto that might make you feel as though you’ve entered a toy shop, performed by the dazzling Alice Sara Ott. Then, we’ll head “Far out in the ocean, where the water is as blue as the prettiest cornflower, and as clear as crystal...” to hear Alexander Zemlinsky’s musical retelling of Hans Christian Andersen’s *The Little Mermaid*.

MOZART *Overture to The Magic Flute*  
RAVEL *Piano Concerto in G*  
ZEMLINSKY *The Mermaid*



Joy

## Samara Joy with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*

SAT FEB 27 7PM

Dubbed by NPR as a “classic jazz singer from a new generation,” Samara Joy joins the Minnesota Orchestra in a program of standards and timeless classics.



Guster

## Guster with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*

FRI MAR 5 8PM  
SAT MAR 6 8PM

Alt-rockers Guster take the stage, reimagining their introspective lyrics and irresistible hooks with full symphony orchestra for an unforgettable experience.

# A SPACE FOR *you*

The first notes resonate through Orchestra Hall, merging our individual moments into one shared experience.

Together, we create something that can't exist anywhere else.

The music belongs to everyone who listens—and everyone who listens belongs to it.

*It is yours to discover.*



Did you know kids ages 6–18 can attend our Family concerts and most Classical concerts for free? Add on Hall Pass tickets with your subscription! Learn more at [minnesotaorchestra.org/hallpass](https://minnesotaorchestra.org/hallpass).



Park

## Søndergård and Trifonov

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Daniil Trifonov, *piano*

THU MAR 18 11AM  
FRI MAR 19 8PM  
SAT MAR 20 7PM

In a span of less than one year, Daniil Trifonov medaled at three of the world's most prestigious competitions. His final stop was Moscow, where he took home First Prize and the Grand Prix at the International Tchaikovsky Competition. He was 20. Setting the bar that high can be a burden, but Trifonov maintains that when he's on stage he always finds something new to share with audiences. 16 years later, you'll witness that in his performance of Brahms' monumental first piano concerto.

BRAHMS Symphony No. 3  
BRAHMS Piano Concerto No. 1



Trifonov

## Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Susie Park, *violin*  
Felicia Moore, *soprano*  
John Matthew Myers, *tenor*  
Minnesota Chorale

FRI MAR 12 8PM  
SAT MAR 13 7PM

Rachmaninoff's fascination with bells dates back to his childhood, when his grandmother would take him to town on church festival days. "The bell ringers were artists," he recalled. Growing up in a country where bells carry profound cultural and spiritual meaning, it's no surprise that they permeate Rachmaninoff's music — and to great effect in his rarely performed choral symphony, *The Bells*.

TCHAIKOVSKY  
*Hamlet*, Fantasy-Overture  
SZYMANOWSKI  
Violin Concerto No. 2  
RACHMANINOFF  
*The Bells*



Keefe

## Keefe, Shostakovich and Ravel

Lionel Bringuier, *conductor*  
Erin Keefe, *violin*

THU APR 1 11AM  
FRI APR 2 8PM

The role of concertmaster requires many non-musical skills: leadership, diplomacy and confidence are just three that come to mind. For 16 years, Erin Keefe has demonstrated all the above. Hearing her tackle the demands of Shostakovich's first violin concerto will remind you that she's an extraordinary soloist, too. Then, prepare to surrender to one of the most brilliant depictions of daybreak ever composed in Ravel's ballet, *Daphnis and Chloé*.

SHOSTAKOVICH  
Violin Concerto No. 1  
SCHMITT  
*The Tragedy of Salome*  
RAVEL  
Suite No. 2 from  
*Daphnis and Chloé*



Eberle

## Beethoven Symphony No. 7

Anja Bihlmaier+, *conductor*  
Veronika Eberle, *violin*

FRI APR 9 8PM  
SAT APR 10 7PM

The first few minutes of Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 hold so much promise, that you may wonder how he could possibly sustain that level of intensity! Beethoven does exactly that with an exquisitely structured symphony of dances. Plus, you'll hear violinist Veronika Eberle perform Hartmann's Concerto Funebre, an emotional work that embodies resistance, remembrance and resilience.

WAGNER  
Overture to *Tannhäuser*  
HARTMANN  
*Concerto funebre*  
BEETHOVEN  
Symphony No. 7

## Chamber Music in the Hall

SUN APR 11 2PM

Members of the  
Minnesota Orchestra

The Chamber Music Series is sponsored by Dr. Jennine and John\* Speier. \*In Remembrance

## Ross, Beethoven and Sibelius

Elias Grandy, *conductor*  
Anthony Ross, *cello*

THU APR 15 11AM  
FRI APR 16 8PM

In this program of real and imagined heroes meet Lemminkäinen, a star of Finnish mythology. In the eyes of Sibelius, he was "fair of cheek and comely beneath his brows." Hear how Sibelius tapped into the atmosphere of this folk epic to create a canvas that encourages you to let your mind wander. Our local hero is Principal Cello Anthony Ross, whose artistry is a perfect fit for Bloch's concerto *Schelomo*, featuring the cello as the "voice" of the biblical King Solomon.

BEETHOVEN  
Overture to *Egmont*  
BLOCH  
*Schelomo*:  
*Rhapsodie hébraïque*  
SIBELIUS  
*Lemminkäinen Suite*



Ross



A SPACE FOR  
*curiosity*



## 21st Century Broadway

Steven Reineke, *conductor*  
Aisha Jackson, Derek Klena,  
Javier Munoz, Ali Stroker, *vocalists*

SAT APR 17 7PM

The first quarter of the 21st century has already produced some of the most epic and beloved moments in Broadway's history. Experience this unforgettable revue of some of these greatest hits of the last 25 years, featuring your Minnesota Orchestra and a stunning quartet of guest soloists, led by conductor Steven Reineke. You'll hear songs from *Wicked*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Hamilton* and so much more!

Flexible, no fee payment plans are available.



## Søndergård Conducts *Future Classics*

Thomas Søndergård, *conductor*  
Kevin Puts, *host and*  
*Composer Institute director*

FRI APR 30 8PM

The future of classical music will be stronger if we nurture the next generation of creative minds. That's what led us to design a week-long residency that provides emerging composers with direct access to Thomas Søndergård and the musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra. The week is capped off by this concert, when they (and you!) experience the thrill of hearing their pieces played brilliantly.

SAVE THE DATE! *Symphony Ball 2027* SAT APR 24 📅 *Tickets on sale January 2027!*

# Puccini's Tosca

*Blazing desire, brutal fate,  
a jealous soprano*

“a marvelous ensemble  
sound to Puccini's score...”

—Minnesota Star Tribune, review  
of Puccini's Turandot, May 2025



Pérez



Guerrero



Hakobyan



Minnesota Chorale

## Puccini's Tosca

Thomas Søndergård,  
*conductor*

Adam Larsen,  
*creative director*

Ailyn Pérez, *soprano (Tosca)*

Joshua Guerrero,  
*tenor (Cavaradossi)*

Gevorg Hakobyan,  
*baritone (Scarpia)*

Minnesota Chorale

THU MAY 6 7PM  
SAT MAY 8 7PM

Puccini's impeccable sense of timing and detail allows him to tap into our rawest emotions, capturing attention and illuminating the complexities of his title character, Tosca, a gifted, temperamental opera singer who lives her art for God. This story of passion and tragedy is filled with powerful moments, including her despairing aria “Vissi d'arte,” as she struggles to come to grips with what is happening around her, showcasing why Puccini remains one of opera's greatest composers more than a century later.

PUCCINI *Tosca*



## Gershwin Concerto in F

Subscribers unlock benefits like additional savings and early access to newly added concerts throughout the season!

Thomas Søndergård,  
*conductor*  
Isata Kanneh-Mason, *piano*

THU MAY 13 11AM  
FRI MAY 14 8PM  
SAT MAY 15 7PM

You may have heard of the famously prodigious Kanneh-Mason siblings, whose remarkable story was featured last December in a *60 Minutes* program. The eldest, pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason, whose playing has been called “calmly commanding” and “unfailingly subtle” by *The New York Times*, makes her debut with the Minnesota Orchestra in a program that embraces the blues with Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F. Then, Wynton Marsalis’ playful concerto for the entire orchestra that is structured around the language of jazz.

SIMON *Hellfighters’ Blues*  
GERSHWIN *Concerto in F*  
MARSALIS *Concerto for Orchestra*

Kanneh-Mason

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## Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™ in Concert

with the Minnesota  
Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*  
Minnesota Chorale

THU MAY 20 7PM  
FRI MAY 21 7PM  
SAT MAY 22 7PM  
SUN MAY 23 2PM

Get ready to encounter a Dementor™, ride the Knight Bus™ and discover just who Sirius Black™ really is. Relive the magic of your favorite wizard in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™* in Concert. Based on the third installment of the classic saga, the thrilling tale is accompanied by the music of a live symphony orchestra as Harry soars across the big screen.

Rated PG. All characters and elements © & ™  
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© JKR.



Xie



Odom, Jr.

## Dvořák Symphony No. 7

Thomas Søndergård,  
*conductor*  
Fei Xie, *bassoon*

THU JUN 3 11AM  
FRI JUN 4 8PM

After Dvořák composed his first set of Slavonic Dances, his publisher was desperate for more. He liked that they were short, popular and lucrative. While Dvořák understood the attraction, he was determined to follow his own North Star with his Symphony No. 7. Principal Bassoon Fei Xie takes on a new concerto by Kevin Puts that was co-commissioned by three orchestras, including your Minnesota Orchestra.

KIM *World Premiere*  
(MinnOrch Commission)  
PUTS *Bassoon Concerto*  
DVOŘÁK *Symphony No. 7*

## Leslie Odom, Jr. with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, *conductor*

SAT JUN 5 7PM

Leslie Odom, Jr., the multi-talented Tony® and GRAMMY® Award-winning vocalist, songwriter, author and actor, returns for a one-night-only concert with the Minnesota Orchestra. Known for his breakout role as the original Aaron Burr in the smash hit Broadway musical *Hamilton*, Odom performs the best of Broadway and the American songbook, from jazz standards to poignant medleys.

# Søndergård Conducts Mahler Symphony No. 5

Thomas Søndergård,  
conductor  
Yeol Eum Son, piano

THU JUN 10 11AM  
FRI JUN 11 8PM  
SAT JUN 12 7PM

By now, you may have figured out that one of Thomas Søndergård's favorite composers is Richard Strauss. This time, he draws our attention to Strauss' only work for piano and orchestra with decorated soloist Yeol Eum Son making her Minnesota Orchestra debut.

There are many great moments in Mahler's Symphony No. 5, including a moving Adagietto which some scholars have described as a love letter to his wife, Alma.

LUTOSŁAWSKI

Variations on a Theme  
by Paganini

STRAUSS *Burlesque*

MAHLER *Symphony No. 5*



Gray

## Juneteenth with the Minnesota Orchestra

Kellen Gray, conductor  
Imani-Grace Cooper, vocalist

THU JUN 17 7PM

Kellen Gray conducts our annual Juneteenth concert that honors the rich legacy of Black artistry and creative expression.



## Jaws in Concert with the Minnesota Orchestra

FRI JUN 18 7PM  
SAT JUN 19 7PM

The original summer movie blockbuster, with an Academy Award®-winning score by composer John Williams.



Hackman

## Steve Hackman Conducts His Beethoven X Beyoncé

Steve Hackman,  
conductor & creator

FRI JUN 25 8PM

Steve Hackman's electrifying new production pairs pop's Queen with classical music's King—Beyoncé and Beethoven—in a genre-defying concert experience. Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 becomes the driving force behind 15 of Beyoncé's biggest hits, including "Crazy in Love," "Sorry," "Single Ladies" and "Texas Hold 'Em." The evening's emotional high point fuses Beyoncé's soaring "Halo" with the haunting second movement of Beethoven's Seventh, creating a powerful and unforgettable musical moment. Hackman brings with him three powerhouse female soloists and a band featuring drums, guitar/keys and bass.



## Thorgy Thor and the Thorchestra

SAT JUN 26 7PM

Sensational drag performance artist Thorgy Thor—famed worldwide from *RuPaul's Drag Race*—joins the Minnesota Orchestra for a thrilling, hilariously theatrical symphonic spectacular. With virtuosic violin chops and razor-sharp wit, the self-proclaimed "Queen of Classical Music" delivers a night of musical masterpieces, side-splitting laughter and fabulous fashion. A Pride weekend you won't soon forget!



Turner

## Beethoven and Barber

Molly Turner, conductor  
Ellie Dehn, soprano

THU JUL 15 11AM  
FRI JUL 16 8PM  
SAT JUL 17 7PM

Nature is at the core of this program as Samuel Barber elevates a poem by James Agee to conjure nostalgic childhood memories of long summer evenings. Then, we'll wander the countryside with Beethoven as he captures how it feels to listen to a nearby brook, gather with friends and experience a thunderstorm in his *Pastoral* Symphony.

TATE

*Pisachi* (Reveal)

BARBER

*Knoxville: Summer of 1915*

BEETHOVEN

*Symphony No. 6, Pastoral*

# Summer at Orchestra Hall

2026



We're turning up the heat this summer with an all-new lineup—a thrilling confluence of musical styles and genres!



Childress

## Beethoven Triple Concerto

Stephanie Childress,  
conductor

THU JUL 16 11AM  
FRI JUL 17 8PM  
SAT JUL 18 7PM

BRITTEN  
*Simple Symphony*  
BEETHOVEN  
Triple Concerto for Violin,  
Cello and Piano  
SCHUMANN  
Symphony No. 3, *Rhenish*

## Legend of Cinema: John Williams' Greatest Scores

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, conductor

THU JUL 23 7PM  
FRI JUL 24 7PM  
SAT JUL 25 7PM

This summer, Sarah Hicks leads the Orchestra in a salute to composer John Williams, living legend of Hollywood! This all-new program features some of Williams' most beloved and unforgettable music of the silver screen, including *E.T.*, *Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* and more.



Lazarus

## A Night in the Tropics

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Sarah Hicks, conductor  
Charles Lazarus, trumpet

SUN JUL 26 2PM

Steeped in the sun-soaked sounds of 1960s tiki lounge music and the gently hypnotic pulse of bossa nova, *A Night in the Tropics* unfolds in waves of rhythm, color and sparkle. You'll be transported to tropical climes by sultry melodies and evocative rhythms in a program that drifts from easy sway to bursts of virtuosic energy, creating a sound world that feels both relaxed and electric. Hear music inspired by and from Brazil, Cuba, Hawaii and other far-flung sun-drenched locales in this matinee concert featuring original music by Charles Lazarus, music made famous by the Buena Vista Social Club and a tribute to bossa nova icon Antônio Carlos Jobim.



“that rare being: an all-around musician...”

—The Guardian

## Chris Thile

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Chris Thile, *mandolin*

FRI JUL 31 8PM  
SAT AUG 1 7PM

GRAMMY® Award-winning mandolinist, singer, songwriter and composer Chris Thile brings his singular artistry to the Minnesota Orchestra in *ATTENTION!*, his playfully bold autobiographical work for mandolinist and orchestra. Part narrative song cycle, part musical self-portrait, *ATTENTION!* blends virtuosity, humor and storytelling. Whether you know Thile from Punch Brothers and Nickel Creek, or from his tenure as host of public radio’s *Live from Here*, you’ll be dazzled by his wit, invention and restless imagination.

### An Evening with Chris Thile and Friends

SUN AUG 2 7PM

Devilishly dexterous and eclectic, Chris Thile is at home in every genre—from bluegrass to Baroque to jazz to indie pop. Thile’s enormous talent and boundless energy have resulted in multiple Grammys®, a MacArthur “Genius” grant and dozens of albums as a solo artist. Thile and a crew of his closest musical compatriots and collaborators grace the Orchestra Hall stage for a one-night-only performance.

Thile

The Minnesota Orchestra does not perform on this program.

## Countertenor John Holiday

with the Minnesota Orchestra

Jonathan Taylor Rush, *conductor*  
John Holiday, *countertenor*

FRI AUG 7 8PM

Countertenor John Holiday returns to Orchestra Hall to perform Carlos Simon’s orchestral song cycle *Songs of Separation*, a setting of texts by the 13th-century Persian Sufi mystic and poet Rūmī that meditates on loss, longing and the human experience of separation. Tracing a deeply expressive emotional arc—from grief and sorrow toward hope and affirmation—the work is brought vividly to life by Holiday, whose extraordinary, genre-defying voice has been praised by audiences and critics alike for its power, nuance and unmistakable individuality.



Rush

“John Holiday’s high, clear voice is a thing of astonishing beauty.”

—The New Yorker

## An American Songbook

with John Holiday

Jonathan Taylor Rush, *conductor*  
John Holiday, *countertenor*  
Jearlyn Steele, *vocalist*  
Jevetta Steele, *vocalist*

SAT AUG 8 7PM

Few artists move as fluently between opera, classical, gospel, jazz and popular music as countertenor John Holiday. Renowned for his commanding artistry and unmistakable presence, Holiday has appeared in leading roles on opera stages around the world, captivating audiences with performances of remarkable intensity and expressive range. Joined by celebrated Twin Cities vocalists Jearlyn and Jevetta Steele, Holiday and the Minnesota Orchestra bring the summer festival to a close with a vibrant program drawn from the American Songbook, featuring music by Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Billie Holiday and more.

Subscribe before May 29 and receive a bonus voucher, good for two free tickets!\* See page 5 for details.




Holiday

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