



HARTFORD
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA

Fall concert guide

SEPTEMBER 2023—
FEBRUARY 2024



FALL 2023 AT-A-GLANCE

Elgar's Enigma

80th Anniversary Celebration

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1, 2023

Dvořák & Price

OCTOBER 20-22, 2023

HSO's Tales of Halloween

OCTOBER 28, 2023

HSO X Parkville

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

Ravel & Debussy

NOVEMBER 10-12, 2023

Beethoven 5+5

DECEMBER 8-10, 2023

Holiday Cirque!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

Elf in Concert

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023

Enduring Love Stories

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024

2023-2024 Masterworks Series Sponsors:

The Edward C. & Ann T. Roberts Foundation

The Elizabeth M. and Harriette M. Landon Foundation

MASTERWORKS

SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 1, 2023

Opening Weekend

Elgar's Enigma

80th Season Celebration

Carolyn Kuan, conductor

HSO Brass Quintet

Schubert Symphony, D. 759 "Unfinished"

Schwarz Concerto for Brass Quintet and Orchestra (After Handel Op. 6, No. 2)

McCarthy American Dance Music

Elgar Enigma Variations, Op. 36

Welcome back to Belding Theater in celebration of the HSO's 80th season!

The HSO Brass Quintet is brilliantly featured on two captivating works by active, American composers Gerard Schwarz and Daniel McCarthy. We still don't know why Franz Schubert never finished his Symphony, D. 759, creating one of music's greatest unanswered questions. Edward Elgar's *Enigma Variations* is a work dedicated to the composer's friends, with each variation a musical sketch meant to represent one of them. However, there are two "enigmas" to be solved: one variation's subject is undisclosed, and Elgar himself referenced a hidden musical motive. Gather among friends and try to solve these musical mysteries.



OCTOBER 20-22, 2023

Dvořák & Price

Carolyn Kuan, conductor

Melissa White, violin

23-24 Joyce C. Willis Artist in Residence

Brahms Tragic Overture, Op. 81

Price Violin Concerto No. 1

Dvořák Symphony No. 7, Op. 70

We welcome violinist Melissa White as the 2023-2024 Joyce C. Willis Artist in Residence for her first of two HSO Masterworks performances of the season.

Performing Florence Price's Violin Concerto No. 1, White will enchant you with the grace, precision, and warmth she brings to the stage. Brahms' Tragic Overture has a turbulent, dramatic character and Dvořák's Symphony No. 7 can be argued as one of the composer's greatest works—a thrill to experience performed by a live orchestra!



NOVEMBER 10-12, 2023

Ravel & Debussy

Carolyn Kuan, conductor

Cy Leo, Harmonica

Ruo Folk Songs for Orchestra

Spivakovsky Concerto for Harmonica and Orchestra

Debussy *Prélude à "L'après-midi d'un faune"* (Afternoon of a Faun)

Ravel *Ma Mère l'Oye* (Mother Goose)

Folk songs tell the story of life, community, and tradition.

Experience the lush, fantastic musical language from Ravel and Debussy while being introduced to the playful and creative works of Ruo and Spivakovsky all in the spirit of folk songs. Folk Songs for Orchestra, according to the composer, drew inspiration "from the Chinese ancient and folk music, Western avant-garde, rock, and jazz." Spivakovsky's Concerto for Harmonica and Orchestra presents the harmonica in a way you have never experienced before. The "French Connection" rounds out the program with Debussy's symphonic poem, *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, and Ravel's *Mother Goose*.



Concert Sponsor:



MASTERWORKS

DECEMBER 8-10, 2023

Beethoven 5+5

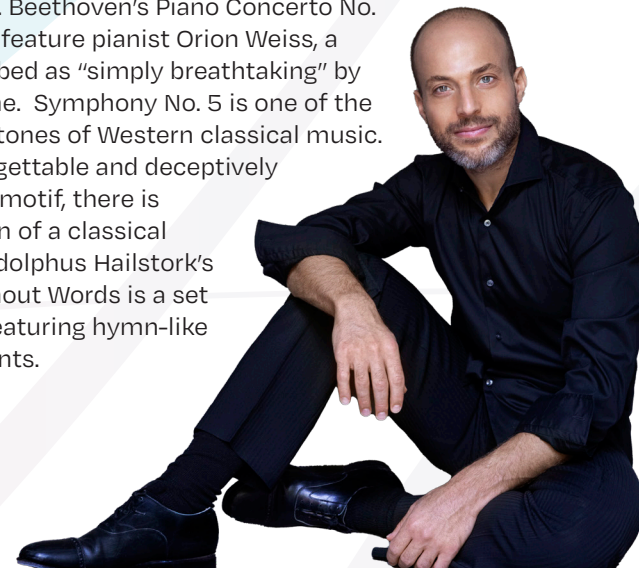
Gerard Schwarz, conductor
Orion Weiss, piano

Hailstork *Four Hymns Without Words*

Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5, Op. 73,
"Emperor"

Beethoven Symphony No. 5, Op. 67

A double dose of Beethoven! Under the direction of renowned composer and conductor, Gerard Schwarz, the HSO performs two monumental pieces by the ultimate icon of orchestral music. Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor" will feature pianist Orion Weiss, a performer described as "simply breathtaking" by the Herald-Tribune. Symphony No. 5 is one of the absolute cornerstones of Western classical music. Built on an unforgettable and deceptively simple four note motif, there is no truer definition of a classical "master work". Adolphus Hailstork's *Four Hymns Without Words* is a set of short pieces featuring hymn-like opening statements.



FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024

Enduring Love Stories

Carolyn Kuan, conductor
Boyd Meets Girl, guitar & cello duo
Rupert Boyd, guitar
Laura Metcalf, cello

Tchaikovsky Romeo and Juliet
Overture-Fantasy

Assad Anahata

Wagner "Prelude & Liebestod"
from *Tristan und Isolde*

Offenbach Orpheus in the
Underworld Overture

Romance is in the air with Enduring Love

Stories. The HSO introduces you to star-crossed lovers throughout time and explores the struggles they endured. Through the music of Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet*, Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*, and Offenbach's *Orpheus in the Underworld* the HSO brings emotion and passion to the stage. Bringing dynamic duos into the present, the HSO has commissioned a double concerto by Grammy® Award nominated composer Clarice Assad for the husband-and-wife guitar and cello duo, *Boyd Meets Girl*, comprised of Rupert Boyd, guitar and West Hartford native, Laura Metcalf, cello.

Concert Sponsor:

The Alexander Campbell McNally
and Tina Mahar McNally
Memorial Concert



Masterworks Coming in 2024

MARCH 8-10, 2024

Copland & Bernstein

Concert Sponsor: Saunders Fund
for Innovative Programming

APRIL 12-14, 2024

Vivaldi's Gloria

MAY 10-12, 2024

Mozart & Prokofiev

JUNE 7-9, 2024

The Planets

Concert Sponsor: The Koski
Memorial Concert

Become a Subscriber and receive exclusive benefits!

- Your subscription price saves you as much as 25% compared to single ticket purchases.
- \$10 off tickets for friends of subscribers (some restrictions apply).
- You'll receive advance notice when a concert goes on sale and have the opportunity to purchase tickets before the general public.
- All subscribers are eligible for same-season exchanges for unused tickets (must notify box office in advance of original concert).
- As a subscriber, you'll receive discounts at our partner restaurants in the Greater Hartford area.
- Access to exclusive events and experiences with the HSO throughout the year.
- Invitation to our informative annual meeting in October 2023.
- Free bar drink for new subscribers.

How to order:

- **WEBSITE:** hartfordsymphony.org
- **PHONE:** 860.244.2999
- **E-MAIL:** tickets@hartfordsymphony.org

• SNAIL MAIL:

Hartford Symphony Orchestra,
166 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT 06106

Friday and Saturday @ 8PM and Sunday @ 3PM

All ticket holders are invited to a
pre-concert talk one hour before the concert.



HSO EXTENDED



NOVEMBER 1, 2023 @7PM

HSO X Parkville

Join the **Hartford Symphony Orchestra at Hartford's own Parkville Market.** This is your chance to experience a unique blend of dining and music at Connecticut's first and largest food hall. This intimate, inviting and interactive concert will get you up close with HSO ensembles as they perform in this unique space. Seating is limited, so get your general admission tickets now!

PLEASE NOTE: your general admission tickets include a seat. Food and beverage are available for purchase at the Market.

POPS!



OCTOBER 28, 2023 @3PM

HSO's Tales of Halloween

Take your seats for a thrilling Halloween celebration with the **Hartford Symphony Orchestra and Hartford Chorale!** John Jesensky leads the HSO through chilling favorites from "Hocus Pocus," "Jurassic Park," "The Nightmare Before Christmas," and more - with plenty of shocking surprises in store!

Guests are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes as The Bushnell transforms into a spooktacular theater with spellbinding decorations, festive activities, and tons of tricks and treats! Join us...if you dare!

CONCERT SPONSOR:
AXINN



DECEMBER 16, 2023 @3PM

Holiday Cirque!

There is no better way to celebrate the season with the magical music of the holidays performed by the **HSO, set to astonishing acrobatic feats by members of the renowned Cirque de la Symphonie.** These amazing aerialists, contortionists, and gymnasts will tumble, soar, and dance on and above the stage, all while the HSO performs your festive favorites.



DECEMBER 22, 2023 @7PM

Elf in Concert

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

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



Welcome Melissa White

The Hartford Symphony Orchestra welcomes Melissa White, violin, as the second Joyce C. Willis Artist in Residence for the 2023-2024 season, made possible through a generous grant from The Edward C. and Ann T. Roberts Foundation. Ms. White is the second of three one-year artists in residence named in honor of Joyce C. Willis, a former Roberts Foundation board member, founding member and past board president of The Amistad Center, board member of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and ardent supporter of Hartford Stage who passed away in June of 2020. As part of her residency, Ms. White will perform both alongside the orchestra in two Masterworks Concerts and in solo recital in partnership with the Garmany Chamber Music Series at The Hartt School. Ms. White will host panel discussions on pertinent topics in the arts, and will work closely with string students in the Greater Hartford area with the Learning & Social Impact department.
Welcome Melissa!

Sunday Serenades

The Sunday Serenades Chamber Music Series is presented in collaboration with the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art as a musical counterpart to special exhibitions and the permanent collections.

Concerts take place in the museum galleries and feature HSO Concertmaster and Sunday Serenades Artistic Director Leonid Sigal and Hartford Symphony Orchestra musicians.

The Sunday Serenades Chamber Music Series is made possible, in part, by the Saunders Foundation Music Endowment at the Wadsworth Atheneum; Nancy D. Grover in honor of Leonid Sigal, concertmaster, Hartford Symphony Orchestra; and Suzanne Hopgood in memory of Frank Lord.

OCTOBER 8, 2023 @2PM

Legends & Myths

1 PM Gallery Talk; Reservations Required
Featuring: Leonid Sigal, artistic director & violin

Coming in 2024

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024 @2PM

Art in Song

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024 @2PM

Avery @ 90

**SERIES SUBSCRIPTIONS
NOW AVAILABLE**



Support the Hartford Symphony Orchestra Become an Annual Fund Donor!

By becoming a member of the Annual Fund, you will receive exclusive, year-long behind-the-scenes benefits to enhance your HSO experience such as:

- Access to or exclusive quarterly newsletter- QuarterNotes
- Invitations to experiences including Dress Rehearsals and First Rehearsal & Nosh
- Name listing in our concert programs
- Plus, much more!

How to donate:

Donate online at: hartfordsymphony.org/donate

Mail a check to the HSO at:
166 Capitol Avenue Hartford CT 06106

Call our Development team at: **860-760-7305**

Learning & Social Impact



46th Young Artist Competition

The HSO invites all Connecticut high school musicians (grades 9-12) to compete in the 46th Young Artist Competition for a chance to win a cash prize, and an opportunity to perform with the Orchestra. Deadline to apply is February 1, 2024. Visit hartfordsymphony.org/yac for more information.

Interested in supporting the Young Artist Competition?
Contact Eric Hutchinson at ehutchinson@hartfordsymphony.org.

2023-2024 SEASON

SEPTEMBER

Masterworks
Elgar's Enigma
80th Anniversary Celebration
September 29-October 1, 2023

OCTOBER

Sunday Serenades
Legends & Myths
October 8, 2023

Masterworks
Dvořák & Price
October 20-22, 2023

Pops!
HSO's Tales of Halloween
October 28, 2023

NOVEMBER

HSO Extended
HSO X Parkville
November 1, 2023

Masterworks
Ravel & Debussy
November 10-12, 2023

Masterworks concerts are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 3pm in Belding Theater at The Bushnell. All ticket holders are invited to join us one hour prior to the performance for our free pre-concert talk.

860.244.2999 • hartfordsymphony.org

DECEMBER

Masterworks
Beethoven 5+5
December 8-10, 2023

Pops!
Holiday Cirque!
Saturday, December 16, 2023

Pops!
Elf in Concert
Friday, December 22, 2023

FEBRUARY

Masterworks
Enduring Love Stories
February 9-11, 2024

Sunday Serenades
Art in Song
Sunday, February 25, 2024

MARCH

Masterworks
Copland & Bernstein
March 8-10, 2024

Itzhak Perlman in Recital
March 16, 2024

Pops!
**Distant Worlds:
music from FINAL FANTASY**
March 23, 2024

APRIL

Masterworks
Vivaldi's Gloria
April 12-14, 2024

Pops!
**Harry Potter and the
Half Blood Prince™**
April 20, 2024

Bravo Gala!
April 27, 2024

MAY

Masterworks
Mozart & Prokofiev
May 10-12, 2024

**Young Artist
Competition Finals**
May 18, 2024

Sunday Serenades
Avery @ 90
Sunday, May 19, 2024

JUNE

Masterworks
The Planets
June 7-9, 2024

HSO Extended
Symphony in Park
June 15, 2024





166 Capitol Avenue • Hartford, CT 06106

HSO and Season Sponsors:

HSO Programs are funded in Part by:



2023-2024 Masterworks Series Sponsored by:



The Elizabeth M. and
Harriette M. Landon Foundation

Sunday Serenades is made possible, in part, by:

The Saunders Foundation Music Endowment at the
Wadsworth Atheneum; Nancy D. Grover in honor of Leonid
Sigal, Concertmaster, Hartford Symphony Orchestra; and
Suzanne Hopgood in memory of Frank Lord.

For tickets & Information

hartfordsymphony.org

860-987-5900

