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2018-2019 SEASON AT-A-GLANCE

It's our 75th season! Join us for the celebration as we bring you captivating concerts with the music of masters, and shine a spotlight on exceptional HSO musicians and diverse guest artists.

THE HSO - ALIVE THROUGH GREAT MUSIC!

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

OCTOBER 5 - 7, 2018

BRASS & BRAHMS

NOVEMBER 2 - 4, 2018

TCHAIKOVSKY'S FIRSTS

NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 2, 2018

BACH & BEYOND

JANUARY 18 - 20, 2019

LATIN LOVERS

FEBRUARY 15 - 17, 2019

MOZART MEETS KLEZMER

MARCH 15 - 17, 2019

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS & MENDELSSOHN

APRIL 12 - 14, 2019

BEETHOVEN'S 5TH

MAY 3 - 5, 2019

MAHLER 5

MAY 31 - JUNE 2, 2019



CAROLYN KUAN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

OCTOBER 5 - 7, 2018



PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

BARTÓK Concerto for Orchestra

MUSSORGSKY *Pictures at an Exhibition*

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

It's a season of celebration! We kick off our 75th anniversary with Mussorgsky's evocative showpiece *Pictures at an Exhibition*, inspired by his walk through an exhibit of watercolors and drawings by a close friend. Bartók's virtuosic Concerto for Orchestra moves from darkness to light, in the work that established the composer as a master of his craft. Experience the virtuosity and power of HSO musicians at their finest!

NOVEMBER 2 - 4, 2018



BRASS & BRAHMS

NIELSEN Little Suite, Op. 1

SCHUMANN *Concertstück* for Four Horns in F Major, Op. 86

BRAHMS Symphony No. 3 in F Major, Op. 90

FEATURING

THOMAS WILKINS conductor

BARBARA HILL HSO principal horn

JOHN MICHAEL ADAIR HSO assistant principal horn

HILARY LEDEBUHR HSO horn

NICK RUBENSTEIN HSO horn

Our fabulous horn section takes the spotlight with Schumann's lively and compelling *Concertstück* for Four Horns. Written in 1849, it is an exceptional masterpiece for the instrument. Of Brahms' Symphony No. 3, written when he was a carefree 50-year-old bachelor, the music critic Eduard Hanslick said, "... the Third strikes me as being artistically the most nearly perfect."



TCHAIKOVSKY'S FIRSTS

TCHAIKOVSKY "Polonaise" from *Eugene Onegin*, TH 5

TCHAIKOVSKY Piano Concerto No. 1 in B-flat minor, Op. 23, TH 55

TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 1 in G minor, Op. 13, TH 24, "Winter Dreams"

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

SZYMON NEHRING piano

We celebrate the great Tchaikovsky with two of his firsts! His triumphant Piano Concerto No. 1 was an immediate success upon its premiere in Boston in 1875, and was the first piece of classical music to sell a million records, with a performance by Van Cliburn in 1958. His melancholic and seductive Symphony No. 1, "Winter Dreams," marked the first of its kind: the Russian symphony.



BACH & BEYOND

RAMEAU Overture to *Le temple de la Gloire*

LULLY "Chaconne" from *Phaeton*

BACH Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, BWV 1041

ARAÑES Gran Chacona

BACH Suite No. 3 in D Major, BWV 1068

GEMINIANI *La Follia*

VILLA-LOBOS *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 9, A449

IBERT Divertissement

FEATURING

LEONID SIGAL conductor and HSO concertmaster

LISA RAUTENBERG conductor and HSO associate concertmaster

CARLOS FITTANTE Baroque dancer

"Air on the G String," the second movement in Bach's Suite No. 3 in D Major, is unquestionably one of the most famous melodies in the Baroque era. Lully was the master of the lyric tragedy, and his *Phaeton* is a warning against excessive pride. This intricate tale, nicknamed "the people's opera" in 1683, focuses on Phaeton, the son of Apollo, who drives his chariot too close to the sun. Plus, Baroque dancers take the stage for Geminiani's *La Follia*. The second half of this performance presents Baroque music interpreted through a modern lens; Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras* No. 9 was inspired by Bach's compositional style, while Ibert's Divertissement reimagines the Baroque ballet suite genre.

FEBRUARY 15 - 17, 2019

MARCH 15 - 17, 2019



LATIN LOVERS

COPLAND *El Salón México*

PIAZZOLLA *Libertango*

PIAZZOLLA *Aconcagua*, Concerto for Bandoneón

FRANK *Three Latin American Dances*

MÁRQUEZ *Danzón* No. 2

FEATURING

ADAM BOYLES conductor

JULIEN LABRO bandoneón

It's a Latin-infused festival of love! Copland's dazzling *El Salón México* captures the spirit of a dance hall he visited during his first trip to Mexico. Piazzolla revolutionized tango music, and his sizzling *Libertango* intertwines the style with elements of jazz and classical. His fiery *Aconcagua* will feature the acclaimed Julien Labro on bandoneón. Contemporary composer Gabriela Lena Frank's vivid *Three Latin American Dances* bears a kinship to Bernstein, and Márquez's spirited *Danzón* No. 2 is one of the of the most popular contemporary Mexican compositions today.

The Alexander Campbell McNally and Tina Mahar McNally Memorial Concert

MOZART MEETS KLEZMER

MOZART Overture to *Lucio Silla*, K. 135

GOLIJOV *The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind*

MOZART Symphony No. 39 in E-flat Major, K. 543

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

DAVID KRAKAUER klezmer clarinet

Mozart's opera *Lucio Silla* has it all – political ambition, rivalry, love – and its grand overture is a miniature three movement symphony. His Symphony No. 39 is one of his three final symphonies, written during a time of great struggle for the composer. Influenced by Haydn, No. 39 is warm, sonorous, and dazzling. The HSO welcomes back David Krakauer, widely considered one of the world's greatest clarinetists, for Golijov's *The Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind*.

APRIL 12 - 14, 2019



VAUGHAN WILLIAMS & MENDELSSOHN

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Fantasia on "Greensleeves"

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS *Dona nobis pacem*

MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 2, Op. 52a

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

HARTFORD CHORALE Richard Coffey, music director

VOCAL SOLOISTS to be announced

Heavenly voices will fill Mortensen Hall in April! Vaughan Williams' blissful Fantasia on "Greensleeves" was originally used in his opera, *Sir John with Love*, inspired by Shakespeare's *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. His haunting *Dona nobis pacem* is a plea for peace in the years leading up to WWII. Mendelssohn's elegant Symphony No. 2 echoes Beethoven's Ninth, and is a celebration of the German Reformation.

MAY 3 - 5, 2019



BEETHOVEN'S 5TH

BRITTEN "Four Sea Interludes" from *Peter Grimes*

HIGDON Concerto 4-3

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 5 in C minor, Op. 67

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

TIME FOR THREE string trio

Nicolas (Nick) Kendall, violin

Charles Yang, violin

Ranaan Meyer, double bass

Beginning with those unforgettable four notes, Beethoven's blazing Symphony No. 5 "emanates directly and solely from the genius of Beethoven," said Hector Berlioz. The HSO welcomes the groundbreaking, category-shattering trio Time for Three for Higdon's Concerto 4-3, a work that blends bluegrass with traditional classical. And Britten's haunting "Four Sea Interludes" from the opera *Peter Grimes* reflects the turmoil of both the opera's characters and the sea off Britain's Suffolk coast.

Sponsored by [The Saunders Fund for Innovative Programming](#)

MAY 31 - JUNE 2, 2019



MAHLER 5

BEETHOVEN Concerto for Violin, Violoncello & Piano
in C Major, Op. 56, "Triple Concerto"

MAHLER Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp minor

FEATURING

CAROLYN KUAN conductor

LEONID SIGAL HSO concertmaster

ERIC DAHLIN HSO assistant principal cello

MARGREET FRANCIS HSO piano

We conclude our 75th season with Mahler's epic Symphony No. 5! This pivotal work moves from tragedy to celebration, and its fourth movement, a declaration of love for his wife Alma, is his most renowned composition. Beethoven's rich "Triple Concerto" features a dynamic interplay between soloists and orchestra, and showcases three of the HSO's gifted musicians.

MASTERWORKS
2018-2019



MASTERWORKS
concerts are performed in

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Sunday at 3pm

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