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MASTERWORKS 2021-2022





I am so thrilled that the Hartford Symphony Orchestra is **BACK!** We couldn't be more excited to return to the Belding Theater stage, to bring music of great classical and contemporary composers to life. In this concert guide, I am sharing with you my personal thoughts on the programs we have planned to celebrate our return to **LIVE** music. **We can't wait to see you in October!**

*Carolyn Kuan,
Music Director*

2021-2022 Season
AT-A-GLANCE

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BENEFITS

Beethoven 7

Masterworks returns!

OCTOBER 1-3, 2021

Bernstein & Copland

NOVEMBER 5-7, 2021

Tchaikovsky & Grieg

DECEMBER 3-5, 2021

From the New World

JANUARY 14-16, 2022

Firebird

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2022

Mendelssohn's Italian

MARCH 11-13, 2022

**Rachmaninoff &
Tchaikovsky**

APRIL 8-10, 2022

**Scheherazade
& Shankar**

MAY 6-8, 2022

Beethoven's Ninth

JUNE 10-12, 2022

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- » As a subscriber, you will receive discounts at our partner restaurants in the Greater Hartford area.
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- » Invitation to our exclusive annual meeting in October 2021.
- » Free bar drink for new subscribers.

2021-2022 MASTERWORKS
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OCTOBER 1-3, 2021

Beethoven 7

Masterworks returns!



NOVEMBER 5-7, 2021

Bernstein & Copland



Rossini *William Tell* Overture

Assad *É Go!!* For Orchestra and Audience Members

Beethoven Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Op. 92

FEATURING

Joseph Young conductor

Clarice Assad composer and vocalist

“Praised as the ‘Greatest. Music. Ever.’, the 7th is my favorite Beethoven Symphony - pure joy and thrill. Interactive symphonic experience is the new rising star of classical music. Join composer Clarice Assad to explore her engaging *É Go!!*, inspired by female Brazilian soccer player Marta Vieira da Silva. And to reunite all of us, what could be better than the touching and dramatic *William Tell* Overture with its beloved ‘Dawn,’ ‘Call to the Cows,’ and finale, also widely-known as the theme to *The Lone Ranger!*” - **CK**

Copland *Rodeo: Four Dance Episodes*

Marsalis “Blues” and “Hootenanny” from Violin Concerto in D Major

Bernstein *West Side Story* Symphonic Dances

Karpman *All American*

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor

Leonid Sigal violin

“From ‘If He’d Be a Buckaroo’ to ‘Hoedown’ featured in the ‘Beef. It’s What’s for Dinner.’ campaign, Copland’s American West *Four Dance Episodes* is fun, comfortable and always makes me smile inside and out. Grammy-winning composer Laura Karpman’s exhilarating *All American*, inspired by music of American women composers, is the perfect encore to Bernstein’s passionate and iconic *West Side Story*. And did you know the legendary trumpeter Wynton Marsalis is also a fantastic composer? Come explore with us his jazz-infused Violin Concerto that is fresh, unique and sophisticated.” - **CK**

Masterworks

DECEMBER 3-5, 2021

Tchaikovsky & Grieg



Grieg Music from *Peer Gynt*
Tchaikovsky Act I Finale from *The Nutcracker*
Grieg Piano Concerto, Op. 16

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor
Pianist to be announced

“I fell in love with *The Nutcracker* as a child and almost came to the US at age 8 to pursue a career as a ballerina. One of Tchaikovsky’s most breathtaking musical moments that symphonic audiences rarely get to hear is in the Act I Finale - that purely magical moment when the clock strikes twelve, and the toys come alive. Grieg’s romantic Piano Concerto features one of the most famous openings in classical music. His music from *Peer Gynt*, including the famous ‘Morning Mood’ and ‘In the Hall of the Mountain King,’ captures various adventures from the Norwegian mountains to the North African desert.” - **CK**

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JANUARY 14-16, 2022

From the New World



Still Darker America
Price Concerto in One Movement for Piano
Dvořák Symphony No. 9, Op. 95
“From the New World”

FEATURING

Jeri Lynne Johnson conductor
Michelle Cann piano

“We celebrate the new year with music and artists I have long admired and loved. Piano Concerto in One Movement is composed by Florence Price, who, in 1933, became the first Black woman to have her music performed by a major orchestra. *Darker America* by Black composer William Grant Still was a response to Gershwin’s *Rhapsody in Blue*. Still treats the blues to a thorough symphonic development in order to chart a triumphant course representative of the African-American experience. Dvořák’s love of spirituals can be heard in his music, especially in the *Largo* movement of his Symphony No.9, which inspired ‘Goin’ Home.” - **CK**

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Saunders Fund for Innovative Programming

Masterworks

FEBRUARY 11-13, 2022

Firebird



Bizet Selections from *Carmen*
He/Chen *The Butterfly Lovers*
Stravinsky *The Firebird Suite* (1911)

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor
Sirena Huang violin

“There is a picture of me in college dressed as the risqué gypsy *Carmen*. Bizet’s music is simply irresistible with *Carmen*’s sultry melodies and the passion and bravado of bullfighters. To celebrate love, we juxtapose the Russian prince and princesses in Stravinsky’s glorious and magnificent *Firebird* with my favorite Chinese love story, *The Butterfly Lovers*, our Chinese *Romeo and Juliet*. We are thrilled to welcome back violinist Sirena Huang to the HSO to share this 1,000-year-old legend, which journeys from the joyful pentatonic youthful friendship to the final scene of two lovers turning into butterflies to be together forever.” - **CK**

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**The Alexander Campbell McNally and
Tina Mahar McNally Memorial Concert**

MARCH 11-13, 2022

Mendelssohn’s Italian



Mendelssohn Selections from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

Puts Flute Concerto

Mendelssohn Symphony No. 4, Op. 90, “Italian”

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor
Demarre McGill flute

“As a child, I believed I was a troublemaking fairy before coming to this world, and I have always loved that music can be a ‘Fountain of Youth’ - instantly transporting us to a world of light, innocence and fun. Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* brings the magic and beauty of Shakespeare’s play to life. He wrote his Symphony No. 4 when he visited Italy for the first time as a 20-year-old. Joy and wonder burst radiantly from the very first note. I think of American composer Kevin Puts as our modern-day Mendelssohn. Kevin once shared with me the Flute Concerto is one of his favorite works of his own. For me, it was love at first listen since conducting its world premiere in 2013.” - **CK**

Masterworks

APRIL 8-10, 2022

Rachmaninoff & Tchaikovsky



Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30

Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Op. 64, TH 29

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor

Henry Kramer piano

“I’ll never forget the comfort I found in Tchaikovsky’s Fifth as an emotional and artistic teenager. It understands loss and struggles, but also gentleness, desire, courage, hope and light. With ever more melodies, it is a symphony that belongs to all of us who strive, and it still always fills me with joy and optimism. This will be the first time I share this very special and private symphony with our HSO audience. Our night of indulgence will also include Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 3. Loved by virtuosic pianists, it is one of the most technically demanding, and most electrifying, of all Romantic concertos. Its raw emotional power intensified the Oscar-winning film *Shine*.” - **CK**

MAY 6-8, 2022

Scheherazade & Shankar



Shankar Sitar Concerto No. 1

Rimsky-Korsakov *Scheherazade*, Op. 35

FEATURING

Carolyn Kuan conductor

Sitar to be announced

“As an immigrant, it is always a joy to share the diversity of the world’s music with our audience. Beatles guitarist George Harrison collaborated closely with Ravi Shankar, and called him ‘the godfather of world music.’ Shankar’s enchanting Concerto for Sitar and Orchestra is a lush blend of Indian and Western classical music. I have always admired strong women, like *Scheherazade* in Rimsky-Korsakov’s masterpiece. Her bravery and 1,001 tales changed her life and the lives of all those around her. This music is dramatic, evocative, thrilling and wistful - qualities that speak to me in a very personal way.” - **CK**

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The Koski Memorial Concert

Masterworks

JUNE 10-12, 2022

Beethoven's Ninth



Glass Concerto for Saxophone
Quartet and Orchestra

Beethoven Symphony No. 9 in D minor,
Op. 125, "Choral"

FEATURING

Adam Boyles conductor

Resurgam Quartet saxophone quartet

Harrison Kliewe soprano saxophone

Colette Hall alto saxophone

Sean Tanguay tenor saxophone

Michael Raposo baritone saxophone

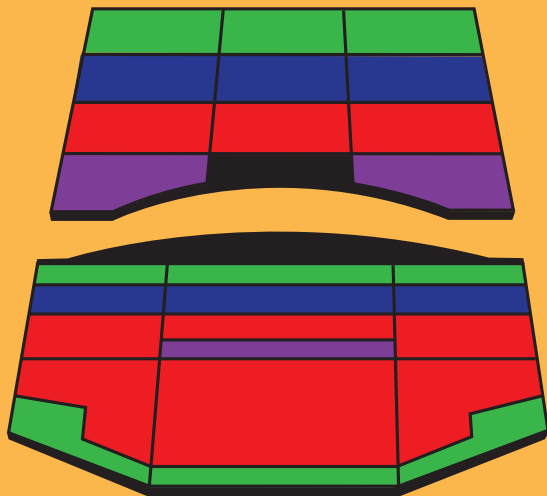
Hartford Chorale Richard Coffey,
music director

Vocal soloists to be announced

“We conclude the 2021-2022 season with our most delicious desserts and a true ‘Ode to Joy’ - Beethoven’s magnificent Symphony No. 9. Inspired by the ideals of freedom and equality, it is, for me, the most influential work in classical music and a celebration of humanity and togetherness. And when was the last time you heard a concerto for saxophone? We will raise the roof with not one, but four saxophones! Hip, brilliant and charismatic, the Hartford-based Resurgam Quartet takes us on a mesmerizing journey with Philip Glass’ jazzy and soulful Concerto for Saxophone Quartet and Orchestra.” - **CK**

Masterworks concerts are
performed in the
Belding Theater at The Bushnell

Friday & Saturday at 8 pm
Sunday at 3 pm



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Masterworks

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