



# SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

Contact:

Public Relations Department

San Francisco Symphony

(415) 503-5474

[publicrelations@sfsymphony.org](mailto:publicrelations@sfsymphony.org)

[www.sfsymphony.org/press](http://www.sfsymphony.org/press)

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(Images of the MTT, Mark Volkert, and Yefim Bronfman are available for download in the [Photo Library](#))

## **MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS AND THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY PERFORM BEETHOVEN'S PIANO CONCERTO NO. 5, *EMPEROR*, WITH YEFIM BRONFMAN DECEMBER 5-8**

**Program also includes world premiere of *Pandora*, a new work by SFS Assistant Concertmaster Mark Volkert; Orchestra makes its debut at Green Music Center at Sonoma State University**

**SAN FRANCISCO, November 8**—[Michael Tilson Thomas](#) (MTT) leads the [San Francisco Symphony](#) (SFS) in the world premiere of *Pandora*, a new work by SFS Assistant Concertmaster Mark Volkert, Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5, *Emperor*, with pianist Yefim Bronfman, and R. Strauss' *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks* on December 5, 7, and 8 at Davies Symphony Hall in San Francisco. On December 6, the Orchestra performs in its debut at the recently opened Green Music Center at Sonoma State University.

Assistant Concertmaster of the SFS violin section since 1972, Mark Volkert's *Pandora* is based on a chamber trio of the same name that he expanded for orchestra at the suggestion of SFS Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas. MTT says of Volkert, "he writes with such understanding and brilliance, especially for strings, because he is such a master string player himself." The SFS has previously performed Volkert's *Sinfonietta for Small Orchestra* (in 1981) and his *Solus for Thirty Violins* (in 1996). Volkert is the longest tenured musician currently performing in the orchestra, and many chamber music pieces have been performed by SFS musicians during Davies Hall chamber music concerts. The Youth Orchestra performed his *Songs from the Sea* in March 2000.

A frequent collaborator with the San Francisco Symphony and Michael Tilson Thomas, Yefim Bronfman also performs chamber music with SFS musicians on December 9 at Davies Symphony Hall. This season Bronfman is engaged in a year-long orchestral and chamber residency with the Bayerischer Rundfunk Orchestra and Mariss Jansons, and also performs with the Vienna Philharmonic and Michael Tilson Thomas in Vienna and London in April 2013. [Click here to see a video of Bronfman and MTT.](#)

### **SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

Davies Symphony Hall

[Wednesday, December 5 at 8 pm \(Davies\)](#)

[Thursday, December 6 at 8 pm \(Green Music Center\)](#)

[Friday, December 7 at 8 pm \(Davies\)](#)

[Saturday, December 8 at 8 pm \(Davies\)](#)

**Michael Tilson Thomas** *conductor*

**Yefim Bronfman** *piano*

**San Francisco Symphony**

**R. Strauss** *Till Eulenspiegel's Merry Pranks, Opus 28*

**Mark Volkert** *Pandora (World Premiere)*

**Beethoven** Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major, Opus 73, *Emperor*

**PRE-CONCERT TALK:** Scott Foglesong will give an "Inside Music" talk from the stage one hour prior to each concert. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open 15 minutes before.

**AUDIO PROGRAM NOTES:** A free podcast of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5 will be downloadable from [sfsymphony.org/podcasts](http://sfsymphony.org/podcasts) and from the iTunes store.

**BROADCAST:** These concerts will be broadcast on Classical 89.9/90.3/104.9 KDFC and [kdfc.com](http://kdfc.com) on Tuesday, December 18 at 8pm Pacific Time.

**TICKETS:** \$15-\$150 (Davies Symphony Hall); \$15-\$145 (Green Music Center). Tickets are available at [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org), by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco. Tickets for the Green Music Center concert are available at the Green Music Center Box Office, located on the first floor of the SSU Student Union in the interior of the Sonoma State University Campus.

### **CHAMBER MUSIC with SF Symphony Musicians and Yefim Bronfman**

[Sunday, December 9 at 2 pm](#)

Davies Symphony Hall

**John Harbison** *Twilight Music: Trio for Horn, Violin, Piano*

**Nicole Cash**, horn; **Dan Carlson**, violin; **Marc Shapiro**, piano

**Dohnányi** Serenade in C major for String Trio, Opus 10

**Yukiko Kurakata**, violin; **Katie Kadarauich**, viola; **Sébastien Gingras**, cello

**Brahms** Piano Quintet in F minor, Opus 34

**Nadya Tichman**, **Dan Nobuhiko Smiley**, violin; **Jonathan Vinocour**, viola; **Amos Yang**, cello; **Yefim Bronfman**, piano

**TICKETS:** Tickets: \$36. Tickets are available at [sfsymphony.org](http://sfsymphony.org), by phone at 415-864-6000, and at the Davies Symphony Hall Box Office, on Grove Street between Van Ness Avenue and Franklin Street in San Francisco.



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