



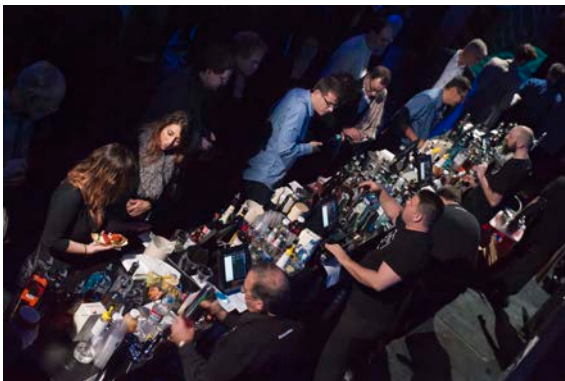
SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR



Contact:
Public Relations
San Francisco Symphony
(415) 503-5474
publicrelations@sfsymphony.org
sfsymphony.org/press

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(High resolution photos of SoundBox are available for download from the [SoundBox online press kit](#). Photo credit: Cory Weaver)

SOUNDBOX RETURNS DECEMBER 8 & 9 WITH CONNECTIONS, CURATED AND CONDUCTED BY MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS

Tickets go on sale at 10am PST on Monday, November 20 via sfsoundbox.com

The San Francisco Symphony's experimental and late-night live music series **SoundBox** kicks off its 2017–2018 season with a concert program titled **CONNECTIONS**, led by **Michael Tilson Thomas**, on **December 8 and 9**. Taking place in a backstage rehearsal space at Davies Symphony Hall, SoundBox welcomes culturally-adventurous listeners to evenings of eclectic musical exploration and discovery in a club-like setting. Each SoundBox performance is a unique sensory experience encompassing shifting stage settings, art installations, projection screens, and unexpected elements. A resounding critical success since its debut in 2014, SoundBox has been featured in **PBS NewsHour**, **Associated Press**, **CBS This Morning**, **KQED**, and **Wired**.

The December SoundBox programs are curated and conducted by Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas, who also performs in the shows. It features SFS musicians performing works representing cultures and genres that are as multifaceted as the musicians themselves, including works ranging from Fauré and Debussy to Dutilleux, Sam Post, and members of Arkaik. "The musicians of the San Francisco Symphony may be specialists but their lives encompass incredibly diverse, and sometimes unexpected, musical experiences," says SFS Director of Artistic Planning Matthew Spivey. "MTT is insatiably curious

and over the years he has become familiar with an eclectic array of music performed by SFS musicians and their families beyond the walls of Davies Symphony Hall. We'd like everyone to come experience this SoundBox program that highlights everything from Bach to Kazakh folk music to heavy metal. SoundBox is a place for the curious."

One of the signature elements of SoundBox has been the acoustic transformation of a 7,600 square foot warehouse-like rehearsal space adjacent to Davies Symphony Hall into an imaginative performance venue through use of the Meyer Sound Constellation system. With Constellation, composers and conductors select from different acoustic environments for each musical piece—and can custom program a completely new environment if desired. The use of this acoustic sound system provides ultimate versatility and accommodates a variety of musical styles and ensembles within one performance evening.

SoundBox accommodates approximately 500 people, some seated and some standing. The venue offers an alternative to that of the traditional concert hall experience. The space is designed for general admission seating with banquettes, ottomans, barstools, café tables, and high top cocktail tables. SoundBox has a full bar serving specialty cocktails and gourmet bar bites for enjoyment during the performances. Audience members can access more information on the works performed during each concert at sfsoundbox.com. The doors open at 8pm for each event, with the performance beginning at 9pm. Tickets to the December 8 and 9 SoundBox performances are available at 10 am, Monday, November 20. General admission is \$45. To become a supporter of SoundBox, patrons may purchase *Producer*-level tickets at \$350. For more information about the benefits of becoming a *Producer*, please go to <http://sfsoundbox.com/experience-soundbox/>

SoundBox images are available in the [online press kit](#).

MTT Curates and Conducts CONNECTIONS

Friday, December 8, 2017

Saturday, December 9, 2017

All shows begin at 9pm | Doors open 8pm | General Admission | Limited Seating

Michael Tilson Thomas curator and piano

Christian Reif conductor and piano

Tim Day flute

Britton Day piano

Oliver Herbert cello

Raushan Akhmedyarova violin

Chunming Mo violin

Alina Kobialka violin

Mayumi Wyrick violin

Amy Hiraga violin

Nancy Ellis viola

Peter Wyrick cello

Stephen Paulson bassoon

Greg Paulson guitar

Adam Larsen video designer

Luke Kritzeck lighting designer

Act I:

POULENC Sonata for Piano Four Hands
Britton Day, piano
Michael Tilson Thomas, piano

FAURÉ Morceau de concours
Tim Day, flute
Britton Day, piano

IBERT Entr'acte
Tim Day, flute
Britton Day, piano

DUTILLEUX I. Un poco indeciso from 3 Strophes Sur Le Nom de Sacher
Oliver Herbert, cello

DEBUSSY Cello Sonata in D Minor
Oliver Herbert, cello
Michael Tilson Thomas, piano

INTERMISSION

Act II:

SAM POST *Sketches from Kazakhstan*
Christian Reif, conductor
Raushan Akhmedyarova, solo violin

INTERMISSION

Act III:

SHOSTAKOVICH Præludium from Five Pieces for 2 Violins and Piano
(arr. Atovmian) **Chunming Mo & Alina Kobialka, violins**
Christian Reif, conductor

LIGETI Ballad and Dance
Chunming Mo & Alina Kobialka, violins

SCHUBERT Scherzo from String Quintet in C major, D.956
Mayumi Wyrick, violin
Amy Hiraga, violin
Nancy Ellis, viola
Oliver Herbert, cello
Peter Wyrick, cello

J. S. BACH Prelude from Cello Suite No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1008
Stephen Paulson, bassoon

ARKAIK Excerpts from Nemethia
Greg Paulson, electric guitar
Stephen Paulson, bassoon