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(High resolution images of Daniel Harding, Paul Lewis, Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, and Christian Reif are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Photo Library](#). Photo credit L to R: Julian Hargreaves, Josep Molina / Harmonia Mundi, B Ealovega, Terrence McCarthy)

GUEST CONDUCTOR DANIEL HARDING AND PIANIST PAUL LEWIS MAKE THEIR SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY DEBUTS, APRIL 12–14

RESIDENT CONDUCTOR CHRISTIAN REIF LEADS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, APRIL 26–29

April 12–14 concerts include R. Strauss' *Ein Alpensinfonie* and Paul Lewis performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3

April 26–29 concerts feature Holst's *The Planets*, Siegfried's Rhine Journey from Wagner's *Götterdämmerung*, and Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 in A major with pianist Jean-Efflam Bavouzet

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Daniel Harding makes his San Francisco Symphony (SFS) conducting debut **April 12–14** at Davies Symphony Hall, leading the Orchestra in **R. Strauss'** tone poem *Ein Alpensinfonie (An Alpine Symphony)*—the composer's musical depiction of a day spent climbing in the Alps. Currently Music Director of the Orchestre de Paris and the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Harding is also Conductor Laureate of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, with whom he has worked for over 20 years. **Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3** concludes the program, with English pianist **Paul Lewis** also making his SFS debut. Lewis' cycles of core piano works by Beethoven and Schubert have received unanimous critical and public acclaim worldwide, and consolidated his reputation as one of the world's foremost interpreters of the central European classical repertoire. His numerous awards have included the Royal Philharmonic Society's Instrumentalist of the Year, two Edison awards, three *Gramophone* awards, the Diapason D'or de l'Année, the Preis Der Deutschen Schallplattenkritik, the Premio Internazionale Accademia Musicale Chigiana, and the South Bank

Show Classical Music award. He holds honorary degrees from Liverpool, Edge Hill, and Southampton Universities, and was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours. Please visit Paul Lewis' [website](#) for his full biography.

April 26–29 concerts, led by San Francisco Symphony Resident Conductor **Christian Reif**, feature **Holst's** astrologically-inspired suite ***The Planets***. Reif is in his second season as Resident Conductor and Wattis Foundation Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra; he made his SFS debut in 2015, following two seasons as Conducting Fellow with the New World Symphony in Miami, where he was mentored by Michael Tilson Thomas. For the 1920 premiere performance of *The Planets* by the London Symphony Orchestra, Holst provided this note: "These pieces were suggested by the astrological significance of the planets; there is no programme music, neither have they any connection with the deities of classical mythology bearing the same names. If any guide to the music is required the subtitle to each piece will be found sufficient, especially if it be used in the broad sense. For instance, Jupiter brings jollity in the ordinary sense, and also the more ceremonial type of rejoicing associated with religions or national festivities. Saturn brings not only physical decay, but also a vision of fulfillment. Mercury is the symbol of mind." Women of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus join the SFS in the performance of Neptune, the Mystic. The concerts also include pianist **Jean-Efflam Bavouzet** performing **Liszt's** poetic **Piano Concerto No. 2 in A major**, and **Siegfried's Rhine Journey from *Götterdämmerung***, the final portion of **Wagner's** four-opera cycle *Der Ring des Nibelungen* (*The Ring of the Nibelungen*).

Calendar editors, please note:

All concerts take place at Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

Tickets are available at 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.

Pre-Order Food and Drinks: Concertgoers may pre-order drinks and snacks [here](#) by 11am the day of a performance to arrange to have them ready at Davies Symphony Hall either before the concert or at intermission.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, DANIEL HARDING CONDUCTING

[Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 2 pm](#)

[Friday, April 13, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Daniel Harding](#) conductor [SFS debut]

[Paul Lewis](#) piano [SFS debut]

San Francisco Symphony

BEETHOVEN

Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Opus 37

R. STRAUSS

Ein Alpensinfonie (An Alpine Symphony), Opus 64

Audio Program Notes: Listen to a free podcast about Strauss's *Alpine* symphony, hosted by [KDFC's Rik Malone](#). All podcasts are archived, and can be streamed from sfsymphony.org/podcasts and downloaded from the [iTunes store](#) and from soundcloud.com/sfsymphony.

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.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 8 pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and kdfc.com where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

Tickets: \$15–159

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, CHRISTIAN REIF CONDUCTING

[Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 10 am \(Open Rehearsal\)](#)

[Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Friday, April 27, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 2 pm](#)

Christian Reif conductor

[Jean-Efflam Bavouzet](#) piano

Women of San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Ragnar Bohlin director

San Francisco Symphony

WAGNER

Siegfried's Rhine Journey from *Götterdämmerung*

LISZT

Piano Concerto No. 2 in A major

HOLST

The Planets, Opus 32

Audio Program Notes: Listen to a free podcast about Holst's *The Planets*, hosted by [KDFC's Rik Malone](#). All podcasts are archived, and can be streamed from sfsymphony.org/podcasts and downloaded from the [iTunes store](#) and from soundcloud.com/sfsymphony.

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.

Tickets: \$39–159

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The San Francisco Symphony receives support from over 10,000 individual donors and 150 partner institutions.

The April 12–14 concerts are generously sponsored by Mrs. William R. Kimball.

Daniel Harding's appearance is supported by the Louise M. Davies Guest Conductor Fund.

Paul Lewis's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

The Thursday Matinee concerts are endowed by a gift in memory of Rhoda H. Goldman.

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

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