



**SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY**

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(High resolution images of Yefim Bronfman and Joshua Gersen are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Photo Library](#).)

JOSHUA GERSEN CONDUCTS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, JUNE 20–22 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

Pianist Yefim Bronfman performs Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No. 2

Program features SF premiere of SFS co-commission *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra* by Steve Reich; Borodin's Polovtsian Dances from *Prince Igor*; and Arvo Pärt's *Fratres* for Strings and Percussion

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Conductor [Joshua Gersen](#) leads the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) in a dynamic program featuring the first SFS performances of Steve Reich's *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra*, Borodin's Polovtsian Dances from his opera *Prince Igor*, Arvo Pärt *Fratres* for Strings and Percussion—a work which exemplifies the composer's unique "tintinnabuli" principle of bell-like resonances—and Prokofiev's powerful Piano Concerto No. 2 performed by internationally-acclaimed pianist [Yefim Bronfman](#). Steve Reich's *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra*, co-commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and Baltic Sea Philharmonic, was premiered on November 1, 2018 by Susanna Mälkki and the Los Angeles Philharmonic at Walt Disney Hall. Described by *The New Yorker* as "a vista of shimmering desert stillness" and by *Musical America* as "exquisitely crafted," *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra* represents Reich's return to a large-scale canvas, its design combining the intricate detailing of the ensemble with the grandiose sound world afforded by the orchestra. Reich's music has long been championed by the San Francisco Symphony—his works first performed in the New and Unusual Music series throughout the 1980s, featured during the first American Mavericks Festival in 2000, and most recently celebrated in a concert dedicated to Reich's 80th birthday in September 2016.

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 food and beverages by calling 415-252-1937 or emailing Global Gourmet Catering staff at davieshallpreorder@ggcatering.com before the performance to place an order.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, JOSHUA GERSEN CONDUCTING

[Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 2 pm](#)

[Friday, June 21, 2019 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, June 22, 2019 at 8 pm](#)

[Joshua Gersen](#) conductor

[Yefim Bronfman](#) piano

San Francisco Symphony

Arvo PÄRT

Fratres for Strings and Percussion

Steve REICH

Music for Ensemble and Orchestra [SFS Co-Commission & First SFS Performances]

PROKOFIEV

Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Opus 16

BORODIN

Polovtsian Dances from *Prince Igor*

Please note that the conductor for this program has changed. Michael Tilson Thomas has withdrawn from all engagements from June 17 until September 3, 2019 to undergo medical treatment.

Tickets: \$20–156

Pre-Concert Talk: Laura Prichard will give an “Inside Music” talk from the stage one hour prior to each performance and will be joined by composer Steve Reich for a portion of each talk. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open 15 minutes before.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, July 2 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.

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

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

Support for Yefim Bronfman's appearance is provided by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

First performances of Steve Reich's *Music for Ensemble and Orchestra* commissioned by the San Francisco Symphony through the generosity of the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for New Works of Music.

The performances of Steve Reich's Music for Ensemble and Orchestra are supported by The Aaron Copland Fund for Music.

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