



# SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

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(High resolution images of the San Francisco Symphony's holiday performances are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Press Room](#). Photo credit L to R: Kara Brodgesell, Mario Elias, Universal Studios)

## **THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY CONCERT SEASON, NOVEMBER 27—DECEMBER 31, 2018**

**Special guest performers include Pink Martini, Vanessa Williams, Mariachi Sol de México® de José Hernández, and Midtown Men**

**The SFS performs live accompaniment to three iconic holiday films including Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*; *Love Actually*; and *Home Alone***

**Family-friendly performances include the Symphony's annual Deck the Hall celebrations, Cirque de la Symphonie, *Peter and the Wolf* performed by the SFS Youth Orchestra with guest narrator Richard Dreyfuss, and 'Twas the Night: A Festival of Carols**

**Enjoy traditional Christmas music performed by the Orchestra and SFS Chorus with Handel's *Messiah*, and Holiday Brass**

**Edwin Outwater conducts the San Francisco Symphony in New Year's Gaiety featuring drag sensation Peaches Christ, December 31**

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The San Francisco Symphony's (SFS) 2018 holiday season at Davies Symphony Hall offers a festive array of concerts for all ages, from traditional Christmas classical concerts including **Handel's *Messiah*** and **Holiday Brass** to family-friendly events including the Orchestra's annual **Deck the Hall** concerts; the circus feats of **Cirque de la Symphonie**; the SFS Youth Orchestra's annual performance of **Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf***; and a chance to sing along to favorite Christmas tunes with **'Twas the Night: A Festival of Carols**. Featured guest artists this holiday season include

**Pink Martini**; acclaimed entertainer **Vanessa Williams** and the **Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir**; **Mariachi Sol de México® de José Hernández**; and stars from the original cast of Broadway's *Jersey Boys*, **The Midtown Men**. Holiday film presentations, featuring the SFS performing the score live, include Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, Universal Pictures' *Love Actually*, and holiday classic *Home Alone*. Closing out the holiday season, **Edwin Outwater** leads the SFS in **New Year's Gaiety**, featuring San Francisco's premiere drag sensation **Peaches Christ** and other guest stars in a program full of fabulous surprises and dazzling performances.



(High resolution images of the San Francisco Symphony's holiday performances are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Press Room](#). Photo credit L to R: Chris Hornbecker, *no credit*, Kristen Loken)

Internationally-flavored ensemble [Pink Martini](#) and the San Francisco Symphony kick off the holiday season on **November 27–28** with [Christopher Bell](#) conducting. Featuring vocalist [China Forbes](#) and bandleader-pianist [Thomas Lauderdale](#), Pink Martini performs their unique blend of cabaret, samba, retro pop, and jazz. On **December 7–8** [William Eddins](#) conducts the SFS, the [Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir](#), and featured vocalist [Vanessa Williams](#) in **Holiday Soul**—an electrifying program of soul, jazz, and Christmas favorites; and [Mariachi Sol de México® de José Hernández](#) returns for a festive musical tribute to Mexico's Christmas traditions, performing Mexican and American holiday favorites in a **A Merry-Achi Christmas, December 9**. On **December 22**, [The Midtown Men](#) bring their one-of-a-kind concert experience to Davies Symphony Hall, singing holiday hits and favorite tunes from The Beatles, The Rascals, The Turtles, Motown, The Four Seasons, and more. This sensational production reunites four stars from the original Broadway cast of *Jersey Boys*—Tony Award winner Christian Hoff, Michael Longoria, Daniel Reichard, and Tony Award nominee J. Robert Spencer—as they celebrate the music that defined the '60s.

The Symphony's holiday line-up includes programs well-suited for children and families, starting with two **Deck the Hall** concerts on **December 2**. This festive children's concert and celebration features a lively array of musical vignettes from Symphony musicians and special guests, including members of [Beach Blanket Babylon](#), the [San Francisco Boys Chorus](#), [Young Women's Choral Projects of San Francisco](#), [San Francisco Ballet School trainees](#), and Appalachian instrumental trio [D'Pa Jo](#), with [Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser](#) conducting. On **December 5**, the acrobats, strongmen, and performing artists of [Cirque de la Symphonie](#) join the SF Symphony for a special holiday show, executing their jaw-dropping feats to the thrilling music of composers like Tchaikovsky, Debussy, Bizet, and others, mixed with plenty of holiday hits. The SF Symphony Youth Orchestra's annual performance of **Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf**, narrated by [Richard Dreyfuss](#) and led by Wattis Foundation Music Director [Christian Reif](#), takes place **December 9**. On **December 23**, [Ragnar Bohlin](#) conducts members of the SF Symphony's brass section and the SFS Chorus, the [San Francisco Girls Chorus](#), and organist [Jonathan Dimmock](#) in **'Twas the Night: A Festival of Carols**, a program in which the audience is encouraged to sing along to favorite seasonal tunes!

The SFS continues the tradition of presenting classical music associated with the Christmas season with performances of **Handel's Messiah** on **December 14–15**. [Jane Glover](#) conducts the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus in Handel's glorious masterpiece, featuring soprano [Ying Fang](#), mezzo-soprano [Elizabeth DeShong](#), tenor [Nicholas Phan](#), and baritone [Joshua Hopkins](#). Then, on **December 16**, members of the SF Symphony brass, percussion, and timpani sections, conducted by [Edwin Outwater](#), present a mix of classical and popular holiday favorites in **Holiday Brass**.

The holiday season includes screenings of Christmas-themed films with the SFS performing the score live to picture. On **November 30, December 1 & 6**, [Ted Sperling](#) leads the SFS in performances of Tim Burton's fantastical tale *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, featuring Danny Elfman's delightfully quirky score. **December 11–12** concerts present another holiday favorite—Universal Pictures' romantic comedy *Love Actually* with a score by Craig Armstrong, conducted by

[Erik Ochsner](#). Then, on **December 19–21**, [Randall Craig Fleischer](#) leads the San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, joined by the [Ragazzi Boys Chorus](#) and [Young Women's Choral Projects of San Francisco](#), in Chris Columbus' beloved holiday comedy *Home Alone*, featuring music by John Williams.

On **December 31**, conductor [Edwin Outwater](#) leads the San Francisco Symphony in **New Year's Gaiety**, a fabulously festive evening featuring famed drag sensation [Peaches Christ](#), comedian/vocalist [Jane Lynch](#), vocalist [Cheyenne Jackson](#), actor/singer [Varla Jean Merman](#), violinist [Thorgy Thor](#), vocalist [Breanna Sinclairé](#), the [HomoPhonics](#) (an affiliate of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus), and members of [Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence](#).

Throughout the month of December, the lobbies of Davies Symphony Hall are transformed into a holiday wonderland, complete with towering trees decorated with handmade ornaments made by children and volunteers from local schools and community groups.

#### CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

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

**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

**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](mailto:davieshallpreorder@ggcatering.com) before the performance to place an order.

## SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY'S 2018 HOLIDAY CONCERTS

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### PINK MARTINI with the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

[Tuesday, November 27, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Christopher Bell](#) conductor  
[Thomas M. Lauderdale](#) piano  
[China Forbes](#) vocalist  
[Pink Martini](#)  
San Francisco Symphony

Program to be announced.

**Tickets:** \$65–175

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### THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS with the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

➤ *Film Series*

[Friday, November 30, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Ted Sperling](#) conductor  
San Francisco Symphony

Danny ELFMAN

*The Nightmare Before Christmas*

Henry SELICK director

Tickets: \$55–185

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## DECK THE HALL

[Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 11 am and 3 pm](#)

**Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser** conductor  
**San Francisco Boys Chorus, Ian Robertson** director  
**San Francisco Ballet School Trainees** dancers  
**Young Women’s Choral Projects of San Francisco, Susan McMane** director  
**D’Pa Jo** Appalachian instrumental trio  
**Edna Cabcabin Moran** Hawaiian hula dancer  
**Phillip Harris** baritone  
**Beach Blanket Babylon**  
Members of the **San Francisco Symphony**

**ANDERSON**

*Sleigh Ride*

**San Francisco Symphony**

**VARIOUS (arr. John HIGGINS)**

*Christmas on Broadway*

**San Francisco Boys Chorus**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**TCHAIKOVSKY**

Spanish Chocolate from *The Nutcracker*

**San Francisco Ballet School Trainees**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**TRADITIONAL (arr. Justin Ouellet)**

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas/Holly Jolly Christmas

**D’Pa Jo** Appalachian instrumental trio

“It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year”

**POLA and WYLE (arr. Erik MORALES)**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**R.A. ANDERSON (arr. STEPHENSON)**

“Mele Kalikimaka”

**Young Women’s Choral Projects of San Francisco**

**Edna Cabcabin Moran** Hawaiian hula dancer

**San Francisco Symphony**

**TCHAIKOVSKY**

Russian Dance (Trepak) from *The Nutcracker*

**San Francisco Ballet School Trainees**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**TORMÉ**

“The Christmas Song”

**TBD** trombone

**TRADITIONAL (arr. RUTTER/ROBERTSON)**

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

**Phillip Harris** baritone

**Young Women’s Choral Projects of San Francisco**

**San Francisco Boys Chorus**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**VARIOUS (arr. KECK)**

Selections with Beach Blanket Babylon

**Beach Blanket Babylon**

**San Francisco Symphony**

**MARKS (arr. NORRIS)**

Sing-along: “Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer”

**NELSON/ROLLINS**

Sing-along: “Frosty the Snowman”

**TRADITIONAL (arr. FINNEGAN)**

Sing-along: “Deck the Hall”

Tickets: \$46–66

**VIP Packages:** One of the best ways to experience Deck the Hall is by purchasing a VIP ticket package. This includes premium concert seating, access to a pre-concert party with food, games, special crafts and a photo with Santa! Call the San Francisco Symphony Volunteer Council for details at (415) 503-5500 or [click here](#). This event is expected to sell out.

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## CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE

[Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Edwin Outwater](#) conductor  
[Cirque de la Symphonie](#) performers  
San Francisco Symphony

ANDERSON	<i>A Christmas Festival</i>
SCHUBERT	<i>Ave Maria</i>
ANDERSON	<i>Sleigh Ride</i>
TCHAIKOVSKY (arr. ELLINGTON/STRAYHORN)	Peanut Butter Brigade (March) from <i>The Nutcracker Suite</i>
Kristen ANDERSON-LOPEZ/Robert LOPEZ	Music from <i>Frozen</i>
TCHAIKOVSKY	Waltz from <i>The Sleeping Beauty</i> , Opus 66
John WILLIAMS	Flight to Neverland from <i>Hook</i>
TRADITIONAL	Deck the Halls
BIZET	Farandole from <i>L'Arlésienne Suite No. 2</i>
Alan SILVESTRI	Main Title from <i>The Polar Express</i>
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV	Dance of the Tumblers from <i>The Snow Maiden</i>
TCHAIKOVSKY	Waltz of the Flowers from <i>Nutcracker Suite</i> , Opus 71a
ANDERSON	<i>Bugler's Holiday</i>
DAVIS/ONORATI/SIMEONE	"Little Bolero Boy"
TRADITIONAL	"We Wish You a Merry Christmas"

Tickets: \$29–115

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## HOLIDAY SOUL with VANESSA WILLIAMS

[Friday, December 7, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)  
[Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 7:30pm](#)

[William Eddins](#) conductor  
[Vanessa Williams](#) vocalist  
[Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir](#)  
San Francisco Symphony

Program to be announced.

Tickets: \$25–130

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## ANNUAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA HOLIDAY CONCERT

[Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 2 pm](#)

Christian Reif conductor  
Richard Dreyfuss narrator  
San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra

TCHAIKOVSKY	Selections from <i>The Nutcracker</i>
DVOŘÁK	Slavonic Dance, Op. 72 No. 2 in E minor
BIZET	Farandole from <i>L'Arlésienne Suite No. 2</i>
DURUFLÉ	<i>Ubi caritas et amor</i>
PROKOFIEV	<i>Peter and the Wolf</i>
	<b>Peter Dreyfuss</b> narrator
MARKS (arr. NORRIS)	"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" (sing-along)
PIERPOINT (arr. ROMERO)	"Jingle Bells" (sing-along)

TRADITIONAL (arr. DRAGON) "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" (sing-along)

Tickets: \$25–110

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## A MERRY-ACHI CHRISTMAS

[Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Mariachi Sol de Mexico® de José Hernández](#)

Program to be announced.

*Note: The San Francisco Symphony does not appear in this performance.*

Tickets: \$15–95

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## LOVE ACTUALLY with the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

[Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Erik Ochsner](#) conductor

San Francisco Symphony

Craig ARMSTRONG

*Love Actually*

Richard CURTIS director

Tickets: \$90–185

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## MESSIAH, JANE GLOVER CONDUCTING

[Friday, December 14, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, December 15, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Jane Glover](#) conductor

[Ying Fang](#) soprano

[Elizabeth DeShong](#) mezzo-soprano

[Nicholas Phan](#) tenor

[Joshua Hopkins](#) baritone

[San Francisco Symphony Chorus](#), Ragnar Bohlin director

San Francisco Symphony

HANDEL

*Messiah*

Tickets: \$34–170

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## HOLIDAY BRASS

[Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Edwin Outwater](#) conductor

Members of the **San Francisco Symphony's Brass and Percussion Sections**

<b>BERNSTEIN</b>	Shivaree
<b>SHOSTAKOVICH (arr. Lawrence)</b>	Festive Overture
<b>TOPFF (arr. D. BALDWIN)</b>	<i>Lovet Den Herrn</i>
<b>GABRIELI (arr. HIGGINS)</b>	Two Selections from the <i>Sacrae symphoniae</i> <i>Canzon per sonar septimi toni</i> , No. 1 <i>Octavi toni</i>
<b>WADDELL (arr. Ward)</b>	<i>Rosa Mystica</i>
<b>TCHAIKOVSKY (arr. Higgins)</b>	Selections from <i>The Nutcracker</i> , Opus 71 March Arabian Dance Russian Dance [Trepak]
<b>DILORENZO</b>	'Twas the Night Before Christmas <b>Jessica Valeri</b> narrator
<b>BYRD (Arr. HOWARTH)</b>	Earl of Oxford's March
<b>GRAINGER (arr. Allen)</b>	Sussex Mummers Christmas Carol
<b>TRADITIONAL (arr. Ring)</b>	<i>Es wird scho glei dumpa</i>
<b>HANSEN</b>	<i>Veni, Veni Emmanuel</i>
<b>TRADITIONAL (arr. Snedecor)</b>	<i>Il est né, le divan Enfant</i>

Tickets: \$15–79

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**HOME ALONE with the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

➤ *Film Series*

[Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Friday, December 21, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Randall Craig Fleischer](#) conductor

[Young Women's Choral Projects of San Francisco](#), **Susan McMane** director

[The Ragazzi Boys Chorus](#), **Joyce Keil** artistic director

[San Francisco Symphony Chorus](#), **Ragnar Bohlin** director

San Francisco Symphony

John WILLIAMS

*Home Alone*

Chris COLUMBUS director

Tickets: \$50–165

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**HOLIDAY HITS with MIDTOWN MEN**

[Saturday, December 22, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[The Midtown Men](#) (original cast of *Jersey Boys*)

Program to be announced.

*Note: The San Francisco Symphony does not appear in this presentation.*

Tickets: \$20–79

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## 'Twas the Night: A Festival of Carols

[Sunday, December 23, 2018 at 7:30 pm](#)

[Ragnar Bohlin](#) conductor

[San Francisco Girls Chorus](#)

[San Francisco Symphony Chorus](#)

[Jonathan Dimmock](#) organ

Members of **San Francisco Symphony's brass section**

Program to be announced.

Tickets: \$25–90

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## NEW YEAR'S GAIETY: PEACHES CHRIST and the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

[Sunday, December 31, 2018 at 8 pm](#)

[Edwin Outwater](#) conductor, co-emcee

[Peaches Christ](#) co-emcee

[Jane Lynch](#) vocalist, actor, comedienne

[Cheyenne Jackson](#) vocalist, actor

[Varla Jean Merman](#) drag performer

[Thorgy Thor](#) drag performer

**Breanna Sinclairé** vocalist

[HomoPhonics](#) vocal ensemble

[Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence](#)

**San Francisco Symphony**

**GERSHWIN**

**John KANDER/EBB**

**Robert LOPEZ/Kristen ANDERSON-LOPEZ**

"Girl Crazy"

"Ring Them Bells"

"Let it Go"

**Varla Jean Merman** drag performer

"Mon Coeur S'ouvre a ta Voix" from *Samson et Delila*

"Somewhere" from *West Side Story*

**Breanna Sinclairé** vocalist

**Robyn/Alexander KRONLUND/Klas ÅHLUND**

**VARIOUS**

"Call Your Girlfriend (Boyfriend)"

"Price Tag"

"Don't You Forget about Me"

"Give Me Everything Tonight"

"King of the Road"

"Mambo Italiano"

**Jane Lynch** vocalist, actor, comedienne

The Blue Danube, Opus 314

Bagatelle No. 5

YMCA (Runaway skit)

*Rusland and Ludmila* Overture

**Thorgy Thor** drag performer

**STRAUSS II**

**HORN**

**MORALI/WILLIS**

**GLINKA**

**TBD**

Skit (TBD)

**Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence**

"Year End Review"

**Jane Lynch** vocalist, actor, comedienne

"Me and My Shadow"

**Jane Lynch** vocalist, actor, comedienne

**Cheyenne Jackson** vocalist, actor

"Something's Coming" from *West Side Story*

**Lior ROSNER**

**JOLSON/DRYER**

**BERNSTEIN/SONDHEIM**



**Sam COOKE**

“Change is Gonna Come”

**Cheyenne Jackson** vocalist, actor

**TRAD. (arr. Lior ROSNER)**

“Auld Lang Syne”

**Tickets: \$55–175**

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*The Film Series is supported by Maurice Kanbar.*

*The Holiday Soul concert on December 8 is presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission.*

*The SFSYO's Peter and the Wolf concert on December 9 is made possible through the generosity of Bank of America and presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission.*

*Support for vocal soloists in Handel's Messiah on December 14–15 is provided by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.*

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- SFS -