



**SAN FRANCISCO
SYMPHONY**

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR

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(The New World Symphony performs John Cage's *The Seasons* on April 23, 2016 at the New World Center)

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS LEADS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY IN FOUR DISTINCT CONCERT PROGRAMS IN MARCH

Concerts Include First SFS Performances of Mikhail Gnesin's *The Jewish Orchestra at the Ball of Nothingtown* March 1–4, and John Cage's *The Seasons* with Video Accompaniment March 23–26

MTT Conducts Mahler's Symphony No. 1 and Adagio from Symphony No. 10 March 30–April 2

Cellist Gautier Capuçon Performs Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1, SFS Principal Tuba Jeffrey Anderson Performs U.S. Premiere of Robin Holloway's *Europa and the Bull*, and Violinist Nicola Benedetti Performs Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1

March Concerts Also Include Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, *Pathétique* and Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra

SAN FRANCISCO, February 7 — Michael Tilson Thomas (MTT) conducts the San Francisco Symphony (SFS) in four distinct concert programs in March, featuring rarely heard symphonic works paired with masterpieces from the core repertoire. The month opens **March 1–4** with MTT conducting the first SFS performances of **Mikhail Gnesin's dance suite *The Jewish Orchestra at the Ball of Nothingtown*** and **Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, *Pathétique***. Cellist **Gautier Capuçon** returns to perform **Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1**.

Michael Tilson Thomas conducts **John Cage's** avant-garde ballet, ***The Seasons***, **March 23–26** with visualization conceived by MTT with projections designed by video artist Clyde Scott and lighting design by Luke Kritzeck. A provocative canvas of color palettes designed to bring viewers into a deeper realm of imagery associated with each season, the projections and lighting were created for an earlier [performance at the New World Symphony](#) in 2016 and have since been further developed and re-worked for these performances. The concerts also feature **Bartók's** virtuosic **Concerto for Orchestra**. **SFS Principal Tuba Jeffrey Anderson** is featured in the U.S. premiere of concertante for tuba and orchestra, ***Europa and the Bull*** by [Robin Holloway](#) on **March 23 and 24**. A SFS co-commission with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, ***Europa and the Bull*** is inspired by the tale and paintings of Jupiter's pursuit of beautiful nymph Europa as he woos her in the form of a bull, portrayed by the tuba. The work received its world premiere in Liverpool in October 2015. **Violinist Nicola Benedetti** returns on **March 25 and 26** to perform **Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1**.

The month of March concludes March 30–April 2 with MTT conducting a program of two of **Mahler's Adagio from Symphony No. 10** and **Symphony No. 1**. MTT's Mahler recordings with the San Francisco Symphony have garnered seven Grammy awards.



(High resolution images of Nicola Benedetti, Michael Tilson Thomas, Gautier Capuçon, and Jeff Anderson are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Photo Library](#))

Calendar editors, please note:

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS CONDUCTING

[Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 2 pm](#)

[Friday, March 3, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, March 4, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

Davies Symphony Hall
201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA

[Michael Tilson Thomas](#) conductor

[Gautier Capuçon](#) cello

San Francisco Symphony

GNESIN

The Jewish Orchestra at the Ball of Nothingtown, Opus 41 [first SFS performance]

SHOSTAKOVICH

Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major, Opus 107

TCHAIKOVSKY

Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Opus 74, *Pathétique*

Audio Program Notes: Listen to a free podcast about Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, 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: Peter Grunberg 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, March 14 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.

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.

Tickets: \$15–\$162.

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.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS CONDUCTING

[Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Friday, March 24, 2017 at 7:30 pm](#)

Michael Tilson Thomas conductor

[Jeffrey Anderson](#) tuba

San Francisco Symphony

CAGE	<i>The Seasons</i> [with video]
ROBIN HOLLOWAY	<i>Europa and the Bull</i> , Opus 121 (SFS Co-commission, U.S. premiere)
BARTÓK	Concerto for Orchestra

Tickets: \$38-\$158.

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.

[Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 2 pm](#)

Michael Tilson Thomas conductor

[Nicola Benedetti](#) violin

San Francisco Symphony

CAGE	<i>The Seasons</i> [with video]
BRUCH	Violin Concerto No. 1 in G major, Opus 26
BARTÓK	Concerto for Orchestra

Tickets: \$35-\$162.

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.

Audio Program Notes: Listen to free podcasts about Cage’s *The Seasons* and Bartok’s Concerto for Orchestra, 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: Peter Grunberg 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 4 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.

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, MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS CONDUCTING

[Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Friday, March 31, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, April 1, 2017 at 8 pm](#)

[Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 2 pm](#)

Michael Tilson Thomas conductor
San Francisco Symphony

MAHLER Adagio from Symphony No. 10 in F-sharp major
MAHLER Symphony No. 1 in D major

Audio Program Notes: Listen to a free podcast about Mahler's Symphony No. 1, 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: John Palmer 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 11 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.

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.

Tickets: \$15-\$162.

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.

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

March 1–4 performances of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6 are made possible by the Athena T. Blackburn Endowed Fund for Russian Music.

Gautier Capuçon's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

March 23–24 performances of Europa & the Bull are supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for New Works of Music.

Nicola Benedetti's appearance is generously supported by the Shenson Young Artist Debut Fund.

Nicola Benedetti's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.

March 1–April 2 concerts are made possible through the generosity of KPMG LLP.

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