



**SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY**  
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(High resolution images of Itzhak Perlman and Emanuel Ax are available for download from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Photo Library](#))

**VIOLINIST ITZHAK PERLMAN PERFORMS AS CONDUCTOR AND SOLOIST WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY JANUARY 9-10; AND IN RECITAL WITH PIANIST EMANUEL AX JANUARY 18 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

**SAN FRANCISCO, December 23, 2016** – Violinist [Itzhak Perlman](#) performs as conductor and soloist with the San Francisco Symphony January 9-10, and in recital with pianist Emanuel Ax on January 18 at Davies Symphony Hall as part of the duo's eight-city tour commemorating Perlman's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Perlman has been a frequent guest of the San Francisco Symphony both on the conductor's podium and as violin soloist since his debut in 1969 under conductor Rafael Kubelik.

Perlman will lead the Orchestra as violin soloist in Beethoven's Romance No. 1 in G major, Romance No. 2 in F major, and conduct the Orchestra in Mozart's Symphony No. 25 in G minor, and Brahms's Symphony No. 4 in E minor, January 9-10. He and pianist Ax will perform selected sonatas by Mozart, Fauré and R. Strauss in recital on January 18.

Having performed with every major orchestra and at venerable concert halls around the globe, Perlman was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom in November 2015 by President Obama for his meritorious contributions to cultural endeavors of the United States and for being a powerful advocate for people of disabilities. In 2013, he was granted a

Kennedy Center Honor by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in celebration of his distinguished achievements and contributions to the cultural and educational life of the United States.

Born in Israel in 1945, Perlman completed his initial training at the Academy of Music in Tel Aviv. An early recipient of an America-Israel Cultural Foundation scholarship, he came to New York and soon was propelled to national recognition with an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show in 1958. Following his studies at the Juilliard School with Ivan Galamian and Dorothy DeLay, he won the prestigious Leventritt Competition in 1964, which led to a burgeoning worldwide career. The winner of 16 Grammy Awards, he has established himself as a cultural icon and household name in classical music.

Perlman has further delighted audiences through his frequent appearances on the conductor's podium. He has performed as conductor with the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Symphony, National Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the symphony orchestras of Dallas, Houston, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Montreal and Toronto, as well as at the Ravinia and Tanglewood festivals. He was Music Advisor of the St. Louis Symphony from 2002 to 2004 where he made regular conducting appearances, and he was Principal Guest Conductor of the Detroit Symphony from 2001 to 2005. Internationally, Mr. Perlman has conducted the Berlin Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, London Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, and the Israel Philharmonic. He last performed with the SFS as conductor and soloist in 2012 and as a recitalist in 2013.

### **About Emanuel Ax**

A frequent guest soloist and longtime friend of the San Francisco Symphony, [Emanuel Ax](#) made his San Francisco Symphony debut in 1979, performing Grieg's Piano Concerto under conductor Walter Weller. In 1992, during the San Francisco Symphony's Beethoven Festival, Ax performed the complete cycle of Beethoven's five Piano Concertos within a two-week span. Ax is featured on the current SFS recording of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 and a previous recording of Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 4, both conducted by Michael Tilson Thomas and released on SFS Media. Three prominent duo collaborations will be carried through Ax's 2015-16 season. Beginning with the release of sonatas by Fauré and Strauss on the Deutsche Grammophon label, Ax will partner with long-time friend and colleague Itzhak Perlman for concerts in Kansas City, Ravinia, Dallas, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and La Jolla in the first half of the season. A return visit to Japan will be followed by concerts in Paris, Berlin, Rome, Tel Aviv, and Amsterdam. As an annual guest with the New York Philharmonic, he will play Brahms Piano Concerto No. 2 with Alan Gilbert, and will make return visits to orchestras in Houston, Chicago, and Pittsburgh. Ax performs in Philadelphia and New York with violinist Pamela Frank in a program of Mozart Sonatas. Long-standing partner Yo-Yo Ma will join Ax in Norfolk, VA, Washington, DC, and Carnegie Hall, where they will program all the Beethoven Sonatas for cello and piano. Solo recitals in Tokyo, Arizona, Florida, Texas, and Boston will culminate in an appearance at Carnegie Hall as part of the venue's 125th anniversary celebrations in May.

### ***Calendar editors, please note:***

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#### **ITZHAK PERLMAN with the SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY**

[Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 8 pm](#)

[Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 2 pm](#)

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

**Itzhak Perlman** violinist and conductor  
**San Francisco Symphony**

<b>BEETHOVEN</b>	Romance No. 1 in G major, Opus 40 Romance No. 2 in F major, Opus 50
<b>MOZART</b>	Symphony No. 25 in G minor, K183 (173dB)
<b>BRAHMS</b>	Symphony No. 4 in E minor, Opus 98

**Tickets:** \$35-\$159

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.

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**ITZHAK PERLMAN and EMANUEL AX in RECITAL**

[Monday, January 18, 2016 at 8 pm](#)

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

**Itzhak Perlman** violin  
**Emanuel Ax** piano

**MOZART, FAURÉ, and R. STRAUSS** selected sonatas

**Tickets:** \$25-\$175

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.

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*Itzhak Perlman's appearance is supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Fund for Guest Artists.*

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