



**SAN FRANCISCO  
SYMPHONY**  
MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS • MUSIC DIRECTOR



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(High resolution images of Edwin Outwater and Stephen Hough are available from the San Francisco Symphony's [Online Photo Library](#))

## **EDWIN OUTWATER LEADS THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY WITH PIANO SOLOIST STEPHEN HOUGH, JANUARY 28-31 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

**Program explores fascinations with the exotic East in music by Weber, Busoni, and Hindemith, and  
Saint-Saëns's Piano Concerto No. 5, *Egyptian***

**SAN FRANCISCO, January 11, 2016** – Conductor and longtime San Francisco Symphony colleague Edwin Outwater leads the Orchestra in a multi-faceted program that has become a hallmark of his conducting career, January 28-31 at Davies Symphony Hall. Pianist Stephen Hough joins Outwater and the SFS in Saint-Saëns's Piano Concerto No. 5, *Egyptian*. Additional music exploring the exoticism of the East includes Weber's Overture to *Oberon*, excerpts from Busoni's *Turandot Suite*, and Hindemith's *Symphonic Metamorphosis of Themes by Weber*.

Describing the thematic arc of his program, Edwin Outwater says:

This program is a musical jewel box, full of sparkling delights. I decided to surround the Saint-Saëns concerto with other works that evoke the exotic. Both Busoni and Weber wrote music connected to Carlo Gozzi's *commedia dell'arte* play, *Turandot*. Hindemith's reference to *Turandot* is actually a version of a version: a scherzo based on Carl Maria von Weber's musical treatment of *Turandot*. And although Weber's *Oberon* Overture is based on a German poem of the same name, the original fairy-tale is derived from the medieval French epic *Huon de Bordeaux* that takes place in France, Persia, and North Africa.

[Edwin Outwater](#) most recently appeared at the SF Symphony curating this season's opening [SoundBox](#) concerts in December, which took audiences on a journey through the subversive culture of cabaret with performing artist Meow Meow. Outwater additionally serves as the SFS's Director of Summer Concerts, in which his recent highlights include conducting summer performances with Shara Worden, Bryce Dessner, Angélique Kidjo, and SFS Principal Trumpet Mark Inouye, among others. He served as Resident Conductor of the San Francisco Symphony from 2001 to 2006 and from 2001 to 2005 he was Wattis Foundation Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Outwater is Music Director of Ontario's Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony (KWS). In the 2015-16 season, the KWS's 70th anniversary season and Outwater's ninth as Music Director, the orchestra continues its groundbreaking "Intersections" series celebrating the intimate relationship between music and geometry, collaborating with Inuit throat singer Tanya Tagaq and premiering Scott Good's newly commissioned score to silent horror classic *The Hands of Orlac*. Other KWS highlights include a complete Beethoven concerto cycle with pianist Stewart Goodyear, a world premiere from Owen Pallett, and *Die Fledermaus* in concert.

Edwin Outwater's extensive guest conducting schedule this season features returns to the Chicago and Tokyo metropolitan symphonies, accounts of Caroline Shaw's new violin concerto with the Indianapolis and North Carolina symphonies, and a trio of programs with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales.

He conducted on two recent recording releases: *Expanded*, which captures his Barbican Centre debut with These New Puritans, and Sarah Kirkland Snider's album *Unremembered*, released on New Amsterdam Records. In 2011, Outwater directed the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony on its first commercial CD release in more than a decade, *From Here On Out*, which features the music of Nico Muhly, Radiohead's Jonny Greenwood, and Arcade Fire's Richard Reed Parry, on the Analekta label.

A native of Santa Monica, California, Outwater attended Harvard University, graduating cum laude in 1993 with a degree in English literature; he received his master's degree in conducting from UC Santa Barbara.

Pianist [Stephen Hough](#) made his San Francisco Symphony debut in 1990, and last appeared with the Orchestra in February 2013, performing Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 with conductor Pablo Heras-Casado. Over the course of his career, Hough has distinguished himself not only as an insightful concert pianist, but also as a writer and composer. In 2001 he was the first classical performing artist to win a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. He was awarded Northwestern University's 2008 Jean Gimbel Lane Prize in Piano, won the Royal Philharmonic Society Instrumentalist Award in 2010, and in January 2014 was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth in the New Year's Honors List.

Hough's 2015-16 performance season includes an extensive tour of Asia, and return appearances with the orchestras of Cleveland, Los Angeles, Montreal, Houston, Vancouver, and New Jersey in North America, and with the London Philharmonic and the Finnish Radio Symphony in Europe. He gives recitals at New York's 92nd Street Y, London's Barbican Centre, in Quebec and Kansas City, and at Dartmouth and Northwestern University.

Hough's compositions for orchestra, choir, chamber ensemble, and solo piano have been commissioned and performed by the choirs of Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral, and by musicians of the Berlin Philharmonic, London's National Gallery, Wigmore Hall, Le Musée de Louvre, and Musica Viva Australia, among others. He has performed his two piano sonatas in London, New York, Saint Paul, and Chicago. Also a noted writer, Hough regularly contributes articles in print and online for leading publications in the UK. His book, *The Bible as Prayer*, was published by Continuum and Paulist Press in 2007.

Hough's more than fifty recordings have garnered several Grammy nominations and such awards as the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis, Diapason d'Or, Monde de la Musique, and eight *Gramophone* awards, including two Record of the Year awards and the Gold Disc. His 2012 recording of the complete Chopin waltzes was awarded the *Diapason d'Or de l'Année*. Mr. Hough's most recent releases, all for Hyperion, include the two Brahms Piano Concertos with the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra under Mark Wigglesworth; *In the Night*, featuring works by Beethoven, Schumann, and Mr. Hough

himself; Grieg's Lyric Pieces; and a recording of his mass, *Missa mirabilis*, with the Colorado Symphony. He most recently released an acclaimed recording of the music of Scriabin and Janáček in August of 2015.

Hough resides in London where he is a visiting professor at the Royal Academy of Music and holds the International Chair of Piano Studies at his alma mater, the Royal Northern College in Manchester. He is also a member of the faculty at the Juilliard School.

**Calendar editors, please note:**

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## **SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY, EDWIN OUTWATER CONDUCTING**

Davies Symphony Hall

201 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA

[Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 2 pm](#)

[Friday, January 29, 2016 at 8 pm](#)

[Saturday, January 30, 2016 at 8 pm](#)

[Sunday, January 31, 2016 at 2 pm](#)

**Edwin Outwater** conductor

**Stephen Hough** piano

**San Francisco Symphony**

**WEBER**

Overture to *Oberon*, J.306

**SAINT-SAËNS**

Piano Concerto No. 5 in F major, Opus 103, *Egyptian*

**BUSONI**

Excerpts from *Turandot* Suite, Opus 41 [first SFS performances]

**HINDEMITH**

*Symphonic Metamorphosis of Themes by Weber*

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**Audio Program Notes:** Listen to a free podcast about *Hindemith's Symphonic Metamorphosis of Themes by Weber*, hosted by [KDFC's Rik Malone](#). All podcasts are archived, and can be downloaded or streamed from [sfsymphony.org/podcasts](http://sfsymphony.org/podcasts) and from the [iTunes store](#).

**Pre-Concert Talk:** Laura Stanfield Prichard 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.

**CD Signings:** Stephen Hough will sign CDs in the Symphony Store immediately following the performances on January 28-31.

**Broadcast / Archived Stream:** A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, February 9 at 8 pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](http://kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

**Pre-Order Food and Drinks:** Concertgoers can 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-\$165.

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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*Edwin Outwater's appearance is supported by the Louise M. Davies Guest Conductor Fund.*

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

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