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SOUNDBOX: LINEAGE, CURATED BY COLLABORATIVE PARTNER JULIA BULLOCK AVAILABLE NOW ON SFSYMPHONY+

Program includes music by J.S. Bach, Hildegard von Bingen, Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson, Francis Poulenc, Ricky Ian Gordon, Elizabeth Ogonek, Aruán Ortiz, Nina Simone, Esperanza Spalding, and George Walker

SoundBox: Lineage features performances by classical singer Julia Bullock; soprano Natalia Salemmo; mezzo-soprano Silvie Jensen; violinist Benjamin Beilman; pianists Sarah Cahill, Marc Shapiro, and John Wilson; conductor Daniel Stewart; and members of the SF Symphony and Chorus

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—The San Francisco Symphony and Collaborative Partner Julia Bullock present a SoundBox program titled *Lineage*—an audio and visual snapshot of how lineage can inform, influence, impact, and express itself in a musical context—available for on-demand streaming March 11 on SFSymphony±. In addition to curating the program, Bullock performs her signature rendition of Nina Simone and Weldon Irvine's "Revolution" and joins members of the SF Symphony and Chorus in performances of Nina Simone's "Images," fellow Collaborative Partner Esperanza Spalding's "Little Fly," Aruán Ortiz's *Mompouana*, selections from Francis Poulenc's *Rapsodie Nègre*, and Ricky Ian Gordon's *Litany*. Other performances on the program include George Walker's Lyric for Strings and "variations on many forms," from Elizabeth Ogonek's *In Silence* conducted by Daniel Stewart, with the latter featuring violinist Benjamin Beilman; J.S. Bach's Invention No. 13 in A minor and "In this uncontainable night," from Elizabeth Ogonek's *Orpheus Suite* (after Rilke) performed by pianist Sarah Cahill; and Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's "Plain Blue/s" from *Blues Forms* featuring SF Symphony violinist Wyatt Underhill as soloist. SoundBox: Lineage is available now via sfsymphonyplus.org with an SFSymphony+ subscription and for individual purchase.

Julia Bullock's SoundBox program, originally scheduled to take place last Spring and postponed due to the pandemic, has been adapted from live performance to a digital format. In her Curator Statement, Bullock shares: "I've found that musicians often share a lot about the various influences in their lives—whether they be historical, political, philosophical, personal, or based on other mediums of art. They let diverse influences not only impact their work, but find ways to let them register explicitly. It's like musicians are hyper conscious of their lineage—they honor it and value it. So, as I continue to follow along the path and legacy of artists that came before me, lineage has become increasingly important—it's a part of knowing from where I originated and letting that inform where I envision myself going. The musicians on this SoundBox program could not make music all together in one place, or even at one time, but the very nature of this program—which links material that spans across almost 900 years—captures an audio and visual snapshot of how lineage can inform, influence, impact, and express itself in a musical context."



- Click here to access the SoundBox Press Kit, which includes the Digital Program Book with artist biographies and program notes, Artist Headshots, and Production Images.
- Click here to view full list of upcoming SFSymphony+ releases
- Complimentary SFSymphony+ memberships are available for members of the media. Please email <u>publicrelations@sfsymphony.org</u> to request free access.

About Julia Bullock

Combining versatile artistry with a probing intellect and commanding stage presence, American classical singer Julia Bullock has, in her early thirties, already headlined productions and concerts at some of the preeminent arts institutions worldwide. An innovative programmer whose artistic curation is in high demand, her curatorial positions include San Francisco Symphony Artist-in-Residence in 2019–20 and Collaborative Partner beginning with the 2020–21 season, Esa-Pekka Salonen's first as Music Director; Artist-in-Residence of London's Guildhall School for the 2020–21 and 2021–22 seasons; opera-programming host of new broadcast channel All Arts; founding core member of the American Modern Opera Company (AMOC); and 2018–19 Artist-in-Residence of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art. Bullock is also a prominent voice of social consciousness and activism.

Bullock has made key operatic debuts at San Francisco Opera in the world premiere of John Adams' *Girls of the Golden West*; Santa Fe Opera in Adams' *Doctor Atomic*; Festival d'Aix-en-Provence and Dutch National Opera in Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress*; and the English National Opera, Spain's Teatro Real, and Russia's Bolshoi Theatre in the title role of Purcell's *The Indian Queen*.

In concert, she has collaborated with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Gustavo Dudamel, the New York Philharmonic and Alan Gilbert, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Andris Nelsons, Japan's NHK Symphony and Paavo Järvi, and both the Berlin Philharmonic's Karajan Academy and London Symphony Orchestra with Sir Simon Rattle, among others. Her recital highlights include appearances at New York's Carnegie Hall, the

Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, Cal Performances at UC Berkeley, Boston's Celebrity Series, Washington's Kennedy Center, and the Mostly Mozart and Ojai Music festivals, where she joined Roomful of Teeth and the International Contemporary Ensemble for the world premiere of *Josephine Baker: A Portrait*. This led to the creation of *Perle Noire: Meditations for Joséphine*, a work conceived by Bullock in collaboration with Peter Sellars, and written for her by Tyshawn Sorey and Claudia Rankine. Her growing discography includes Adams' *Doctor Atomic*, recorded with the composer conducting the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and *West Side Story*, with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony, both of which were nominated for Grammy Awards.

Julia Bullock was born in Saint Louis, MO, and holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music, Bard College's Graduate Vocal Arts Program, and New York's Juilliard School. She lives with her husband, conductor Christian Reif, in Munich.

About SoundBox

The San Francisco Symphony's groundbreaking SoundBox series returns for a seventh season in 2021, in a new digital format with eclectic programs curated by Esa-Pekka Salonen, Julia Bullock, Destiny Muhammad, Nico Muhly, and Claire Chase. The new video series features performances by members of the San Francisco Symphony and guest artists, unique video projections created by Adam Larsen and Yee Eun Nam, and lighting design by Luke Kritzeck. There will be seven SoundBox programs, released once a month February through August (with the exception of June).

SoundBox was launched in 2014 as an experimental, late-night concert series for culturally curious audiences. The series is known for continuously pushing the envelope with adventurous programming, innovative design, and multimedia elements. Live SoundBox performances take place in a warehouse-like rehearsal space adjacent to Davies Symphony Hall, enhanced by a Meyer Constellation Sound System, which can alter the space's acoustics to accommodate a variety of musical styles and ensembles, providing ultimate versatility. This season's digital SoundBox programs continue to explore new possibilities of the concertgoing experience in the digital realm—some filmed and recorded in the same rehearsal space, utilizing the Meyer Constellation Sound System, and others on the Davies Symphony Hall stage.

About SF Symphony+

Priced at \$120 for the entire season (February 4—August 31, 2021), SFSymphony+ memberships provide exclusive access to premium original San Francisco Symphony digital content, including seven new SoundBox programs, five new CURRENTS episodes, and other special projects to be announced. Access to individual SoundBox and CURRENTS episodes can also be purchased for \$15 per episode. Premium episodes range 30 to 55 minutes in duration and remain available for on-demand streaming indefinitely after purchase. SF Symphony donors who have contributed \$250 or more this season and all 2020-21 Season subscribers automatically receive a complimentary membership for SFSymphony+ (February–August 2021). Memberships are available for sale now at <a href="style="style-type-styl

SFSymphony+ will also feature content available for all to enjoy free of charge, without requiring a log-in. This includes the Symphony's 2021 Chinese New Year Virtual Celebration: Year of the Ox on February 20 and newly-recorded chamber music performances by SF Symphony musicians. Previously released programs, including Throughline: San Francisco Symphony—From Hall to Home, the Día de los Muertos, and Deck the Hall virtual celebrations, and the first four episodes of CURRENTS, will also be available for free on SFSymphony+.

SFSymphony+ is available now for browser-based streaming worldwide via <u>sfsymphonyplus.org</u> and coming soon to app and TV services (Apple TV, Amazon FireTV, Chromecast, Roku, smart TVs), smartphones, and tablets.

CALENDAR EDITORS:

All SoundBox episodes launch Thursdays at 10AM PST / 1PM EST and will remain available for ondemand streaming indefinitely.

SoundBox — Lineage: Julia Bullock

Released March 11, 2021

Julia Bullock curator and classical singer

Daniel Stewart conductor

Natalia Salemmo soprano

Silvie Jensen mezzo-soprano

Sarah Cahill piano

Marc Shapiro piano

John Wilson piano

Benjamin Beilman violin

Wvatt Underhill violin

Steve Condiotti director and director of photography

Taylor Joshua Rankin editor

Luke Kritzeck director of lighting

Adam Larsen projection designer

Members of the San Francisco Symphony Chorus, Ragnar Bohlin director

Members of the San Francisco Symphony

NINA SIMONE and WELDON IRVINE (arr. Julia Bullock)

Revolution

WALTER DONALDSON and GUS KAHN

Love Me or Leave Me (Nina Simone's performance from *The Ed Sullivan Show* © SOFA Entertainment)

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Invention No. 13 in A minor, BWV 784

HILDEGARD VON BINGEN

O frondens virga (Excerpt from the San Francisco Girls Chorus 2003 album Christmas)

NINA SIMONE (text by William Waring Cuney)

Images

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR PERKINSON

Plain Blue/s from Blues Forms, for Solo Violin

GEORGE WALKER

Lyric for Strings

Aruán ORTIZ (transcribed Edmar Colón)

Mompouana

Esperanza SPALDING (poem by William Blake)

Little Fly

Elizabeth OGONEK

II. variations on many forms, from In Silence

FRANCIS POULENC

Pastorale and Final, from Rapsodie nègre

Elizabeth OGONEK

III. In this uncontainable night, from *Orpheus Suite* (after Rilke)

Ricky Ian GORDON (poem by Langston Hughes)

Litany

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