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SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY NOVEMBER 2026 PROGRAMMING

SF Symphony & Alonzo King LINES Ballet Collaboration

November 19–21 Alonzo King LINES Ballet joins the San Francisco Symphony and conductor James Gaffigan to present two world premiere works set to Debussy's *Prélude à L'Après-midi d'un faune* and Copland's suite from *Appalachian Spring*, with choreography by LINES Artistic Director Alonzo King

Program also features Principal Cello Rainer Eudeikis as soloist in Prokofiev's *Sinfonia concertante*

Additional Orchestral Series Programs

November 6 & 8 Fabien Gabel conducts d'Indy's *Istar*, Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard, the first San Francisco Symphony performances of Debussy's "*Le jet d'eau*" from *Cinq poèmes de Charles Baudelaire* with Leonard, and the first San Francisco Symphony performances of Strauss's Symphonic Fantasy on *Die Frau ohne Schatten*

November 13–15 Marie Jacquot makes her Orchestral Series debut conducting the first San Francisco Symphony performances of Holmès's *Andromède*, Respighi's *Concerto gregoriano* with violinist Sayaka Shoji, and selections from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*

Special Events and Great Performers Series

November 7 San Francisco Symphony presents its 19th annual Día de los Muertos celebration featuring conductor José Luis Gómez, violinist Francisco Fullana, salterio players David Hernández Pozos and Claudio Israel Vázquez, and Casa Círculo Cultural

November 10 H     Grimaud plays a piano recital of works by Beethoven and Schubert

November 30 Violinist Hilary Hahn, baritone Matthias Goerne, and pianist Gloria Chien play works by Beethoven and Bach, as well as *Wir*, a new work by Reena Esmail

Film Series

Sarah Hicks conducts live-to-picture performances of *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas* (November 24) and Steven Spielberg's *Hook* (November 27–28)

SF Symphony Youth Orchestra

November 22 SF Symphony Youth Orchestra and Wattis Foundation Music Director Radu Paponiu open their 2026–27 season with a concert of works by Michael Tilson Thomas, Kod  ly, and Brahms

Chamber Music Concerts

November 1 SF Symphony musicians present a chamber music concert at Davies Symphony Hall

November 1 SF Symphony Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik, cellist Peter Wyrick, and pianist Anton Nel perform a chamber music program at the Legion of Honor

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—The San Francisco Symphony's November programming lineup features three Orchestral Series programs exploring works inspired by storytelling, myth, faith, and nature, led by guest conductors Fabien Gabel, James Gaffigan, and Marie Jacquot in her Orchestral Series debut; a special collaboration with Alonzo King LINES Ballet for two world-premiere performances; the SF Symphony's 19th annual D  a de los Muertos program; a solo piano recital with H     Grimaud; and a chamber performance with violinist Hilary Hahn, baritone Matthias Goerne, and pianist Gloria Chien featuring a new work by Reena Esmail. The month also includes live-to-picture film series performances of *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas* and *Hook*, the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra's season-opening performance with Wattis Foundation Music Director Radu Paponiu, and chamber music concerts at Davies Symphony Hall and the Gunn Theater at the Legion of Honor.



SF Symphony & Alonzo King LINES Ballet collaboration

November 19–21: Alonzo King LINES Ballet and *Appalachian Spring*

November 19–21, the San Francisco Symphony and conductor James Gaffigan (music director designate of Houston Grand Opera and general music director of Komische Oper Berlin) are

joined by San Francisco-based dance company Alonzo King LINES Ballet for two world premiere performances set to orchestral favorites—Claude Debussy’s symphonic poem *Prélude à L’Après-midi d’un faune* (*Prelude to The Afternoon of a Faun*) and the suite from Aaron Copland’s quintessentially American ballet *Appalachian Spring*, choreographed by LINES Artistic Director Alonzo King. This is the Orchestra’s fifth collaboration with Alonzo King LINES Ballet since 2020 and their third mainstage performance with the Symphony since the Symphony’s Re-Opening Night concert in 2021. “Returning to collaborate with the San Francisco Symphony feels both like a homecoming and an evolution of a shared artistic language,” said Alonzo King. “Creating world premiere works with these extraordinary artists—reimagining the expansive Americana of Copland’s *Appalachian Spring* and the evocative, impressionistic textures of Debussy’s *Afternoon of a Faun*—is an invitation to explore how movement and sound breathe together in real time. When dancers and musicians meet in this way, something larger than either form emerges: a living architecture of emotion, memory, and the human spirit.”

The concert program also includes Sergei Prokofiev’s *Sinfonia concertante*, featuring Principal Cello Rainer Eudeikis (Philip S. Boone Chair) as soloist. “Prokofiev’s *Sinfonia concertante* might well be the most demanding and energetic cello concerto in the repertoire,” said Eudeikis. “It has everything: technique-bending virtuosity, melodies that move you, and masterful writing that showcases the soloist and the orchestra. For me, it’s a musical Mount Everest that I’m thrilled to climb alongside my colleagues in the San Francisco Symphony.” This marks Eudeikis’s second solo concerto appearance with the Orchestra, following his performances of Esa-Pekka Salonen’s Cello Concerto in October 2024. The performance was released on SFS Media as a [live-concert recording](#) in August 2025.

Additional Orchestral Series Programs

November 6 & 8: Isabel Leonard Sings Ravel

Fabien Gabel, chief conductor of the Tonkünstler-Orchester Niederösterreich, conducts Vincent d’Indy’s vivid *Istar*, derived from a Babylonian myth about the goddess of love and fertility. Mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard joins Gabel and the Orchestra to perform Maurice Ravel’s *Shéhérazade*, a colorful work based on three poems by Tristan Klingsor. Gabel also conducts Leonard in the first SF Symphony performances of Claude Debussy and André Caplet’s orchestration of the evocative “*Le jet d’eau*” from Debussy’s song cycle *Cinq poèmes de Charles Baudelaire*. The program closes with the first SF Symphony performances of Richard Strauss’s Symphonic Fantasy on *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, based on his earlier opera about an empress who lacks both shadow and soul.

November 13–15: Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet*

Marie Jacquot, chief conductor of the Royal Danish Theatre Copenhagen and chief conductor of the WDR Symphony Orchestra, makes her Orchestral Series debut conducting the first SF Symphony performances of Augusta Holmès’s *Andromède*, a symphonic poem based on the Greek myth of the daughter of Cassiopeia. Sayaka Shoji performs Ottorino Respighi’s expressive *Concerto gregoriano*, inspired by the music of early Christianity. The program also includes selections from Sergei Prokofiev’s *Romeo and Juliet*, which depicts the fierce war of the Montagues and Capulets, set in contrast to the affair of the two titular star-crossed lovers.



Special Events and Great Performers Series

November 7: Día de los Muertos

José Luis Gómez, music director of the Tucson Symphony Orchestra, conducts the San Francisco Symphony's 19th annual Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) celebration, featuring music by Carlos Chávez, Evencio Castellanos Yumar, Arturo Márquez, and José Pablo Moncayo García. Violinist Francisco Fullana joins the Symphony to perform Márquez's "Folia Tropical" from *Fandango* for Violin and Orchestra; salterio players David Hernández Pozos and Claudio Israel Vázquez perform the world premiere of Luis Farfán Carrillo's *El Baile de la Catrina*; and dancers from Casa Círculo Cultural are featured throughout the concert.

Every year leading up to the Symphony's Day of the Dead celebration, the lobbies of Davies Symphony Hall are transformed with immersive art installations and altars built by local artists to honor the living and the deceased. Curated by longtime SF Symphony collaborator Martha Rodríguez-Salazar, this year's celebration is dedicated to the Mexican state of Tlaxcala, a land of deep ancestral roots, extraordinary cultural richness, and a worldview in which life and death remain in constant dialogue. The event includes preconcert activities for families, including live *catrinas* and interactive altars.

November 10: Hélène Grimaud Piano Recital

Pianist Hélène Grimaud plays a solo recital titled "The Last Testament," bringing together the last piano sonatas by Ludwig van Beethoven and Franz Schubert—Beethoven's Piano Sonata in C minor, Opus 111 and Schubert's Piano Sonata in B-flat major, D.960. Grimaud most recently appeared with the SF Symphony in September 2025, performing George Gershwin's Piano Concerto in F.

November 30: Hilary Hahn/Matthias Goerne/Gloria Chien Trio

Violinist Hilary Hahn joins forces with baritone Matthias Goerne and pianist Gloria Chien for a trio performance. The concert kicks off with Hahn and Chien performing Ludwig van Beethoven's Violin Sonata in F major, Opus 24, *Spring*, followed by Chien and Goerne performing four additional vocal works by Beethoven: "Adelaide," "Mailed," "Der Liebende," and the pioneering song cycle *An die ferne Geliebte*. Hahn and baritone Goerne then perform *Wir*, a new SF Symphony co-commissioned work by Reena Esmail that weaves together the German poetry of Paul Celan with interstitial verse by Rebecca Gayle Howell and explores the fervent search for silence in our modern world. The program closes with the trio playing Johann Sebastian Bach's "Hier in meines Vaters Stätte" from Cantata No. 32, *Liebster Jesu, mein Verlangen*, and "Welt, ade, ich bin dein müde" from Cantata No. 158, *Der Friede sei mit dir*.



Film Series

November 24: Disney *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas* in Concert Live-to-Film

Sarah Hicks conducts *Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas* live-to-picture with the San Francisco Symphony, featuring a Golden Globe-nominated score by Danny Elfman. Bored with the same old scare-and-scream routine, Pumpkin King Jack Skellington longs to spread the joy of Christmas. But his merry mission puts Santa in jeopardy and creates a nightmare for good little boys and girls everywhere.

November 27–28: *Hook*—Film with Live Orchestra

Sarah Hicks leads the Orchestra in Steven Spielberg's *Hook* live-to-picture, featuring a Grammy-nominated score by John Williams. Starring Robin Williams as an adult Peter Pan—now Peter Banning, a workaholic lawyer who has forgotten his past life in Neverland—the film follows his daring return to rescue his children from Captain Hook (Dustin Hoffman) and rediscover the magic of who he truly is.

San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra

November 22: San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra: Brahms 4

Wattis Foundation Music Director Radu Paponiu conducts the first San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra concert of the 2026–27 season. The program features Michael Tilson Thomas's *Agnegram*, Zoltán Kodály's *Dances of Galánta*, and Johannes Brahms's Symphony No. 4. Comprised of more than 100 musicians ranging in age from 12 to 21 and representing communities from throughout the Bay Area, the SFSYO is recognized internationally as one of the finest youth orchestras in the world. The Youth Orchestra provides a tuition-free orchestral experience of preprofessional caliber to talented young Bay Area musicians. SFSYO members benefit from weekly rehearsals led by Paponiu and coachings with San Francisco Symphony musicians, and have the opportunity to work with world-renowned artists and conductors performing with the San Francisco Symphony.

Chamber Music Concerts

November 1: Chamber Music at Davies Symphony Hall: Andrès, Strauss, and Brahms

In this chamber music concert, San Francisco Symphony musicians perform Bernard Andrès's *Chants d'arrière-saison* for harp and bassoon, a string sextet version of Richard Strauss's *Metamorphosen*, and Johannes Brahms's Clarinet Trio.

November 1: Chamber Music at Gunn Theater at Legion of Honor: Mozart, Bridge, and Saint-Saëns

This chamber music program at the Gunn Theater at the Legion of Honor features SF Symphony Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik (Naoum Blinder Chair), former Symphony cellist Peter Wyrick, and guest pianist Anton Nel performing Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Piano Trio in G major, K.496; Frank Bridge's Cello Sonata in D minor, and Camille Saint-Saëns's Piano Trio No. 1

in F major, Opus 18. Celebrating 25 years with the SF Symphony this season, Barantschik plays a 1742 Guarneri del Gesù violin on loan from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

Tickets:

Tickets for concerts at Davies Symphony Hall can be purchased via sfsymphony.org or by calling the San Francisco Symphony Box Office at 415.864.6000.

Location:

Davies Symphony Hall is located at 201 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

CHAMBER SERIES

Davies Symphony Hall: Andrès, Strauss, and Brahms

Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00pm

Jane Cho violin
Jason Issokson violin
Katarzyna Bryla viola
Leonid Plashinov-Johnson viola
Starla Breshears cello
Amos Yang cello
Daniel G. Smith double bass
Carey Bell clarinet
Joshua Elmore bassoon
Katherine Siochi harp
John Wilson piano

BERNARD ANDRÈS *Chants d'arrière-saison*

RICHARD STRAUSS *Metamorphosen*

JOHANNES BRAHMS Clarinet Trio in A minor, Opus 114

Tickets: \$60

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Chamber-DHS-Nov

CHAMBER SERIES

Gunn Theater at Legion of Honor: Mozart, Bridge, and Saint-Saëns

Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00pm

Alexander Barantschik violin
Peter Wyrick cello

Anton Nel piano

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART Piano Trio in G major, K.496

FRANK BRIDGE Cello Sonata in D minor

CAMILLE SAINT-SAËNS Piano Trio No. 1 in F major, Opus 18

Tickets: \$125

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Chamber-Legion-Nov

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Isabel Leonard Sings Ravel

Friday, November 6, 2026, at 7:30pm

Sunday, November 8, 2026, at 2:00pm

Fabien Gabel conductor

Isabel Leonard mezzo-soprano

San Francisco Symphony

VINCENT D'INDY *Istar*

MAURICE RAVEL *Shéhérazade*

CLAUDE DEBUSSY (orch. Caplet/Debussy) “*Le jet d’eau*” from *Cinq poèmes de Charles Baudelaire* [First San Francisco Symphony Performances]

RICHARD STRAUSS Symphonic Fantasy on *Die Frau ohne Schatten* [First San Francisco Symphony Performances]

Tickets: \$55–185

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Isabel-Leonard-Sings-Ravel

Inside Music Talks: Friday, November 6 from 6:30pm–7:00pm and Sunday, November 8 from 1:00pm–1:30pm: Preconcert talks will be presented from the stage with Alicia Mastromonaco. Free to all ticketholders.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, November 29, at 7:00pm on Classical California 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and classicalcalifornia.org where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

SPECIAL EVENT

Día de los Muertos

Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 3:00pm

José Luis Gómez conductor

Francisco Fullana violin

David Hernández Pozos salterio soprano

Claudio Israel Vázquez salterio tenor

Casa Círculo Cultural

San Francisco Symphony

CARLOS CHÁVEZ Toccata for Orchestra

EVENCIO CASTELLANOS YUMAR *El río de las siete estrellas*

ARTURO MÁRQUEZ “Folia Tropical” from *Fandango* for Violin and Orchestra

JOSÉ PABLO MONCAYO GARCÍA *Huapango*

TRADITIONAL (orch. Farfán Carrillo) *El Baile de la Catrina* [World Premiere and San Francisco Symphony Commission]

CARLOS CHÁVEZ Zarabanda from *La hija de Cólquide*

ARTURO MÁRQUEZ *Danzón* No. 2

Tickets: \$27.50–139.50 (tickets for children and young adults under 18 are 50% off)

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Dia-de-los-Muertos

GREAT PERFORMERS SERIES

Hélène Grimaud Piano Recital

Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 7:30pm

Hélène Grimaud piano

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 32 in C minor, Opus 111

FRANZ SCHUBERT Piano Sonata No. 21 in B-flat major, D.960

Tickets: \$30–159

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Helene-Grimaud-Piano-Recital

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Prokofiev *Romeo and Juliet*

Friday, November 13, 2026, at 7:30pm

Saturday, November 14, 2026, at 7:30pm

Sunday, November 15, 2026, at 2:00pm

Marie Jacquot conductor [Orchestral Series Debut]

Sayaka Shoji violin

San Francisco Symphony

AUGUSTA HOLMÈS *Andromède* [First San Francisco Symphony Performances]

OTTORINO RESPIGHI *Concerto gregoriano*

SERGEI PROKOFIEV Selections from *Romeo and Juliet*

Tickets: \$30–185

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Romeo-and-Juliet

Inside Music Talks: Friday, November 13 from 6:30pm–7:00pm; Saturday, November 14 from 6:30pm–7:00pm; and Sunday, November 15 from 1:00pm–1:30pm: Preconcert talks with SF Symphony musicians will be presented from the stage with Benjamin Pesetsky, SF Symphony Associate Director of Editorial and Inside Music Talks. There will also be a prerecorded video talk with Jenny Judge, University of Melbourne. Free to all ticketholders.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, December 6, at 7:00pm on Classical California 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and classicalcalifornia.org where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Alonzo King *LINES Ballet and Appalachian Spring*

Thursday, November 19, 2026, at 7:30pm

Friday, November 20, 2026, at 7:30pm

Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 7:30pm

James Gaffigan conductor

Rainer Eudeikis cello

Alonzo King choreographer

Robert Rosenwasser costume designer

Alonzo King LINES Ballet

San Francisco Symphony

SERGEI PROKOFIEV Sinfonia concertante

CLAUDE DEBUSSY *Prélude à L'Après-midi d'un faune*

AARON COPLAND Suite from *Appalachian Spring*

Tickets: \$55–185

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Alonzo-King-LINES-Ballet

Inside Music Talks: Friday, November 13 from 6:30pm–7:00pm; Saturday, November 14 from 6:30pm–7:00pm; and Sunday, November 15 from 1:00pm–1:30pm: Preconcert talks with SF Symphony musicians and members of Alonzo King LINES Ballet, in conversation with Benjamin Pesetsky, SF Symphony Associate Director of Editorial and Inside Music Talks, will be presented from the stage. Free to all ticketholders.

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, December 13, at 7:00pm on Classical California 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and classicalcalifornia.org where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

YOUTH ORCHESTRA

San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra: Brahms 4

Sunday, November 22, 2026, at 6:00pm

Radu Paponiu conductor

San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra

MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS *Agnegram*

ZOLTÁN KODÁLY *Dances of Galánta*

JOHANNES BRAHMS Symphony No. 4

Tickets: \$40–75

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Youth-Orchestra-Nov

FILM SERIES

***Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas*—Film with Live Orchestra**

Tuesday, November 24, 2026, at 7:30pm

Sarah Hicks conductor

San Francisco Symphony

Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas

DANNY ELFMAN composer

HENRY SELICK director

Tickets: \$54–228 (tickets for children and young adults under 18 are 50% off)

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/The-Nightmare-Before-Christmas

FILM SERIES

***Hook*—Film with Live Orchestra**

Friday, November 27, 2026, at 7:30pm

Saturday, November 28, 2026, at 2:00pm

Sarah Hicks conductor

San Francisco Symphony

Hook

JOHN WILLIAMS composer

STEVEN SPIELBERG director

Tickets: \$49.50–229 (tickets for children and young adults under 18 are 50% off)

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Hook

GREAT PERFORMERS SERIES

Hilary Hahn/Matthias Goerne/Gloria Chien Trio

Monday, November 30, 2026, at 7:30pm

Hilary Hahn violin

Matthias Goerne baritone

Gloria Chien piano

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Violin Sonata No. 5 in F major, Opus 24, *Spring*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN “Adelaide,” Opus 46

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN “Mailed,” from Eight Songs, Opus 52

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN “Der Liebende,” WoO 139

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN *An die ferne Geliebte*, Opus 98

REENA ESMAIL *Wir* [San Francisco Symphony Commission]

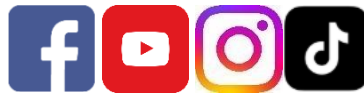
JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH "Hier in meines Vaters Stätte" from *Liebster Jesu, mein Verlangen*, BWV 32

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH "Welt, ade, ich bin dein müde" from *Der Friede sei mit dir*, BWV 158

Tickets: \$50–350

Ticket link: sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2026-27/Hilary-Hahn-Trio

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The November 7, 8, 24, and 27–28 concerts are presented in partnership with San Francisco Arts Commission.

Inside Music Talks are supported in memory of Horacio Rodriguez.

Marie Jacquot's appearance is generously supported by the Shenson Young Artist Debut Fund.

The November 13–15 and November 19–21 concerts are generously sponsored by the Athena T. Blackburn Endowed Fund for Russian Music.

The November 22 concert is generously supported by the Phyllis C. Wattis Youth Symphony Fund.

The film series is presented in honor of Misty Tyree, whose remarkable legacy ensures her lasting commitment to the San Francisco Symphony and its artistic mission.

The November 30 concert is generously sponsored by the Ralph I. Dorfman Commissioning Fund.

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