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SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY OCTOBER 2024 PROGRAMMING

Orchestral Series Concerts

October 4–6 Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Orchestra in a concert featuring Brahms' Symphony No. 4 and Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1 with Sayaka Shoji in her Orchestral Series debut

October 18–20 Principal Cello Rainer Eudeikis joins Salonen and the Symphony in his Orchestral Series solo debut performing Salonen's Cello Concerto

October 25–26 Thomas Wilkins conducts a program of 20th century American music featuring George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*, performed by pianist Michelle Cann in her Orchestral Series debut

Family-Friendly Programming

October 26 Thomas Wilkins leads the Orchestra in a Music for Families concert

Great Performers Series & Chamber Music

October 27 Pianist Emanuel Ax kicks off the 2024–25 Great Performers Series with a solo recital

The Legion of Honor Chamber Series launches October 27 with SF Symphony Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik, cellist Peter Wyrick, and pianist Anton Nel

Film Series

October 31 Scott Terrell conducts Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* live-to-picture

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen and the San Francisco Symphony begin October with two Orchestral Series programs, including Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 4 and Dmitri Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1 with Sayaka Shoji on October 4–6 and Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, *Pastoral*, Claude Debussy's *La Mer*, and Salonen's own Cello Concerto featuring SF Symphony Principal Cello Rainer Eudeikis on October 18–20.

Thomas Wilkins conducts an Orchestral Series program featuring George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* with pianist Michelle Cann on October 25–26 and a Music for Families concert on October 26. October also features a chamber concert at the Gunn Theater at Legion of Honor on October 27, a Great Performers Series concert featuring Emanuel Ax in a solo piano recital on October 27, and Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho* live-to-picture, conducted by Scott Terrell on October 31.



Orchestral Series

October 4–6: Salonen Conducts Brahms 4

Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Orchestra in Dmitri Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No. 1, which premiered several years after it was written due to government censorship. These performances feature violinist Sayaka Shoji, who makes her Orchestral Series debut. Salonen also conducts Johannes Brahms' Symphony No. 4, his final symphony. The finale, an interpretation of the ancient passacaglia form, incorporates Bach's Cantata No. 150, "For Thee, O Lord, I Long."

October 18–20: Salonen Conducts Beethoven's *Pastoral*

Principal Cello Rainer Eudeikis joins Salonen and the Orchestra in his Orchestral Series solo debut for the first San Francisco Symphony performances of Salonen's own Cello Concerto. Salonen explained that the Cello Concerto, which he wrote for Yo-Yo Ma, was born "when I decided to spend a few months researching for new kinds of textures without a concrete plan how to use them." The program features two additional works that evoke the natural world: Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, *Pastoral*, which Beethoven described as "more an expression of feeling than painting," and Claude Debussy's *La Mer*, which was inspired by seascapes in literature and art.

Inspired by Beethoven's *Pastoral* Symphony and Debussy's *La Mer*, "Nature in Art. Art in Nature," a photography exhibit featuring works of art by young photographers from San Francisco nonprofit First Exposures, will be displayed in the Davies Symphony Hall First Tier lobby from September 12 to November 2. San Francisco Symphony community partner First Exposures provides an accessible space for youth impacted by social and economic inequity to learn photography in a community-based setting with support from a photographer who serves as both a mentor and a positive adult role model. By leveraging the power of mentoring relationships and photography, First Exposures' programs empower young people to thrive,

express themselves creatively, and become leaders in their communities. To learn more, visit firstexposures.org.

October 25–26: Wilkins Conducts *Rhapsody in Blue*

Thomas Wilkins, Principal Conductor of the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, conducts a program of 20th century American music, including two iconic pieces by George Gershwin: *Rhapsody in Blue*, featuring pianist Michelle Cann in her Orchestral Series debut, and *Porgy and Bess*, A Symphonic Picture. The Orchestra also performs Leonard Bernstein's Suite from *Candide*, based on the novel by Voltaire, and the first San Francisco Symphony performances of William Grant Still's *Wood Notes*, inspired by the landscapes of the American South and the poetry of Joseph Mitchell Pilcher.

Family-Friendly Programming

October 26: Music for Families

In addition to his Orchestral Series program, Thomas Wilkins conducts a Music for Families concert. Alongside his role at the Hollywood Bowl, Wilkins is the Germeshausen Youth and Family Concerts Conductor and the Artistic Advisor of Education and Community Engagement of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. The program includes music from Bedřich Smetana's Dance of the Comedians from *The Bartered Bride*; John Williams' Flight to Neverland from *Hook*; Felix Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4, *Italian*; Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4; Edvard Grieg's *In the Hall of the Mountain King* from *Peer Gynt* Suite No. 1; Antonín Dvořák's Slavonic Dance No. 1 in C major, Opus 46; Johannes Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 5 in G minor; and Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov's *Capriccio espagnol*. This concert is best suited for children ages 5 to 12.



Chamber Series & Great Performers Series

October 27: Chamber Music at Gunn Theater at Legion of Honor

In the first Legion of Honor Chamber Series concert of the season, SF Symphony Concertmaster Alexander Barantschik, former Symphony cellist Peter Wyrick, and guest pianist Anton Nel perform Johann Sebastian Bach's Sonata in A major for Violin and Harpsichord, BWV 1015; Bach's Sonata No. 3 in G minor for Viola da gamba (Cello) and Harpsichord, BWV 1029; and Franz Schubert's Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, D.929. This season marks 22 years of San Francisco Symphony's partnership with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

October 27: Emanuel Ax Piano Recital

The Great Performers Series kicks off October 27 with a recital featuring beloved pianist Emanuel Ax. The program includes Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Sonata No. 13, Opus 27, no.1, *Quasi una Fantasia* and its more well-known counterpart, Piano Sonata No. 14, Opus 27, no.2, *Moonlight*. The concert also features John Corigliano's Fantasia on an Ostinato, based on music

from Beethoven's Symphony No. 7; Robert Schumann's wistful Arabeske in C major, Opus 18; and Schumann's Fantasy in C major, Opus 17, originally dedicated to Franz Liszt.

Film Series

October 31: *Psycho*—Film with Live Orchestra

Scott Terrell, Associate Professor of Orchestral Studies at the Louisiana State University School of Music, conducts Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*, composed by Bernard Hermann, live-to-picture on Halloween. Starring Anthony Perkins and Janet Leigh, the 1960 film helped pioneer the slasher film genre. Terrell makes his San Francisco Symphony debut in this concert.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

Tickets:

Tickets for concerts at Davies Symphony Hall can be purchased via [sfsymphony.org](https://www.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.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Salonen Conducts Brahms 4

Friday, October 4, 2024, at 7:30pm

Saturday, October 5, 2024, at 7:30pm

Sunday, October 6, 2024, at 2:00pm

Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor

Sayaka Shoji violin [Orchestral Series Debut]

San Francisco Symphony

DMITRI SHOSTAKOVICH Violin Concerto No. 1

JOHANNES BRAHMS Symphony No. 4

Tickets: \$30–179

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/salonen-brahms4>

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, October 20, at 7:00pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](https://www.kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Salonen Conducts Beethoven's *Pastoral*

Friday, October 18, 2024, at 7:30pm

Saturday, October 19, 2024, at 7:30pm

Sunday, October 20, 2024, at 2:00pm

Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor

Rainer Eudeikis cello [Orchestral Series Debut]

San Francisco Symphony

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6, *Pastoral*

ESA-PEKKA SALONEN Cello Concerto [First San Francisco Symphony Performances]

CLAUDE DEBUSSY *La Mer*

Tickets: \$30–179

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/salonen-beethoven-pastoral>

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, October 27, at 7:00pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](https://www.kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

Lobby exhibition: In the First Tier lobby, audience members can view “Nature in Art. Art in Nature,” a photography exhibit featuring works of art by young photographers from San Francisco nonprofit First Exposures, which connect the nature-inspired musical visions of Beethoven’s *Pastoral* Symphony and Debussy’s *La Mer* to our own Bay Area landscape. The exhibition is on display from September 12 to November 2.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Wilkins Conducts *Rhapsody in Blue*

Friday, October 25, 2024, at 7:30pm

Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 7:30pm

Thomas Wilkins conductor

Michelle Cann piano [Orchestral Series Debut]

San Francisco Symphony

LEONARD BERNSTEIN Suite from *Candide*

GEORGE GERSHWIN *Rhapsody in Blue*

WILLIAM GRANT STILL *Wood Notes* [First San Francisco Symphony Performances]

GEORGE GERSHWIN *Porgy and Bess*, A Symphonic Picture

Tickets: \$30–199

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/Rhapsody-in-Blue>

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Sunday, November 3, at 7:00pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](https://www.kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

MUSIC FOR FAMILIES

Saturday, October 26, 2024, at 2:00pm

Thomas Wilkins conductor
San Francisco Symphony

BEDŘICH SMETANA Dance of the Comedians from *The Bartered Bride*

JOHN WILLIAMS Flight to Neverland from *Hook*

FELIX MENDELSSOHN Finale from Symphony No. 4 in A major, Opus 90, *Italian*

PIOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY Music from Symphony No. 4 in F minor, Opus 36

EDVARD GRIEG *In the Hall of the Mountain King* from *Peer Gynt* Suite No. 1

ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK Slavonic Dance No. 1 in C major, Opus 46

JOHANNES BRAHMS Hungarian Dance No. 5 in G minor

NICOLAI RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Finale from *Capriccio espagnol*, Opus 34

Tickets: \$15–79

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/music-for-families-oct>

CHAMBER SERIES

Gunn Theater at Legion of Honor
Sunday, October 27, 2024, at 2:00pm

Alexander Barantschik violin
Peter Wyrick cello
Anton Nel harpsichord and piano

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Sonata in A major for Violin and Harpsichord, BWV 1015

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH Sonata No. 3 in G minor for Viola da gamba (Cello) and Harpsichord, BWV 1029

FRANZ SCHUBERT Piano Trio No. 2 in E-flat major, D.929

Tickets: \$125

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/chamber-gunn-oct>

GREAT PERFORMERS SERIES

Emanuel Ax Piano Recital

Sunday, October 27, 2024, at 7:30pm

Emanuel Ax piano

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 13, Opus 27, no.1, *Quasi una Fantasia*

JOHN CORIGLIANO Fantasia on an Ostinato

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN Piano Sonata No. 14, Opus 27, no.2, *Moonlight*

ROBERT SCHUMANN Arabeske in C major, Opus 18

ROBERT SCHUMANN Fantasy in C major, Opus 17

Tickets: \$30–199

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/emanuel-ax-recital>

FILM SERIES

***Psycho*—Film with Live Orchestra**

Thursday, October 31, 2024, at 7:30pm

Scott Terrell conductor

San Francisco Symphony

Psycho

BERNARD HERRMANN composer

ALFRED HITCHCOCK director

Tickets: \$69–179

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/psycho>

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The October 25 concert is presented in partnership with the San Francisco Arts Commission.

The October 25-26 concerts are made possible by The Matthew Kelly Family Foundation.

Thomas Wilkins' appearance is supported by the Louise M. Davies Guest Conductor Fund.

Generous sponsorship for the October 25-26 concerts is also provided by Andy & Teri Goodman.

The Music for Families Series is supported by Chevron.

Chevron is the Presenting Sponsor of the Great Performers Series.

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