

44th SEASON



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ONLINE POSTING:

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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
JONATHAN BISS | PIANO
Echoes of Schubert



January 18, 2024

March 14, 2024

May 2, 2024

7:30pm | Herbst Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – December 12, 2023 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents a special three-part series created by acclaimed pianist **Jonathan Biss** that asks contemporary American composers of three generations to consider and musically respond to the legacy of Franz Schubert. The *Echoes of Schubert* series begins **January 18**, and continues on **March 14** and **May 2, 2024**.

Tickets are \$80/\$70/\$60 and can be purchased at sfperformances.org or by calling 415.392.2545. Tickets can also be purchased at the door as available, including 50% off student rush tickets and 20% off senior rush tickets. Tickets for the full series are \$225/\$195/\$165 and can be purchased at sfperformances.org or by calling 415.677.0325.

“SF Performances' mission to give the world's best artists opportunities to create personally meaningful programs is perfectly exemplified in this three-part series with pianist Jonathan Biss. We are honored to present this extraordinarily accomplished artist once again, in three programs that ask some of today's most compelling composers to respond to the profound and timeless call of Franz Schubert's piano works.”
— Melanie Smith, SFP President

ABOUT JONATHAN BISS

Jonathan Biss is a world-renowned educator and critically-acclaimed author, and has appeared internationally as a soloist with the Los Angeles and New York Philharmonics, the Boston, Chicago, and San Francisco Symphonies, and the Cleveland and Philadelphia Orchestras as well as the London Philharmonic, the Royal Concertgebouw, the Philharmonia, and Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, among many other ensembles. Biss is also Co-Artistic Director alongside Mitsuko Uchida at the Marlboro Music Festival, where he has spent fifteen summers.

In the 2023-24 season, Biss returns to perform with the Saint Louis Symphony and Stéphane Dénève, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and Ramón Tebar, and the Philadelphia Orchestra and Yannick Nézet-Séguin at Carnegie Hall. Biss continues his collaboration with Mitsuko Uchida featuring Schubert's music for piano 4-hands at Carnegie Hall and more. He will also appear with the Brentano Quartet at Chamber Music Detroit, Club the Royal Conservatory of Toronto, and more.

European engagements this season include performances with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Karina Canellakis and the BBC National Orchestra and Ryan Bancroft. Biss reunites with the Elias String Quartet at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Cockermouth Music Society, and Wigmore Hall. In the new year, Biss will perform works by György Kurtág and Schubert at the Sala Verdi in Milan. He concludes his European season with the Orchestre de chambre de Paris and conductor Pekka Kuusisto and Timo Andres's *The Blind Banister*, part of his ongoing *Beethoven/5* commissioning project.

Biss is the recipient of numerous honors, including the Leonard Bernstein Award, the Andrew Wolf Memorial Chamber Music Award, an Avery Fisher Career Grant, the Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award, and a Gilmore Young Artist Award. His albums for EMI won the Diapason d'Or de l'Année and Edison awards. He was an artist-in-residence on American Public Media's Performance Today and was the first American chosen to participate in the BBC's New Generation Artist program. He is also on the piano faculty of the New England Conservatory.

Biss is a third-generation professional musician; his grandmother is Raya Garbousova, one of the first famous female cellists (for whom Samuel Barber composed his Cello Concerto), and his parents are violinist Miriam Fried and violist/violinist Paul Biss. Growing up surrounded by music, Biss began his piano studies at age six, with his first musical collaborations alongside his mother and father. He studied with Evelyne Brancart at Indiana University and Leon Fleisher at the Curtis Institute of Music.

[Watch Jonathan Biss](#)

The programs will be as follows:

January 18:

TYSON GHOLSTON DAVIS: ... *Expansions of Light*, for piano (2023)

SCHUBERT: Impromptu in F Minor, D. 935, No. 1; Sonata in C Minor, D. 958

March 14:

ALVIN SINGLETON: New Work

SCHUBERT: Impromptu in A Flat Major, D. 935, No. 2; Sonata in A Major, D. 959

May 2:

TYSHAWN SOREY: New Work

SCHUBERT: Impromptu in B flat Major, D. 935, No. 3; Sonata in B flat Major, D. 960

Please note our health and safety protocols: Masks and up-to-date vaccinations are encouraged but not required to attend our performances. This policy will be adjusted if city or state health orders change.

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES

San Francisco Performances has been a leader in the Bay Area cultural scene since our founding in 1979. With a strong curatorial vision and adventurous programming, we are the city's premier presenter of intimate concerts and solo performances.

We have introduced hundreds of established and emerging classical music, jazz, and dance artists to audiences, including Yo-Yo Ma, the Juilliard String Quartet, Philip Glass, Wendy Whelan, and the Paul Taylor Dance Company. We also champion a new generation, committed to building a contemporary and equitable repertoire. Performers like the Catalyst Quartet, violinist Jennifer Koh, tenor Lawrence Brownlee, and pianist/composer Vijay Iyer are moving their art into the present and future, making it accessible to younger audiences while converting many traditionalists to new possibilities. They represent the path forward.

Quality, intimacy, and connection are the hallmarks of San Francisco Performances. We nurture unique relationships with today's best artists to create an accessible, warm, and engaging arts experience.

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

(Please include [our name as the presenter](#) --many thanks!)

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

JONATHAN BISS, PIANO

WHEN: Thursday, January 18, 2024, 7:30pm

WHERE: Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

PROGRAM: *Echoes of Schubert* Program 1: **TYSON GHOLSTON DAVIS:** ... *Expansions of Light*, for piano (2023); **SCHUBERT:** Impromptu in F Minor, D. 935, No. 1; Sonata in C Minor, D. 958

CONCERT TICKETS: \$80/\$70/\$60

CONTACT: (415) 392.2545; sfperformances.org

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

JONATHAN BISS, PIANO

WHEN: Thursday, March 14, 2024, 7:30pm

WHERE: Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

PROGRAM: *Echoes of Schubert* Program 2: **ALVIN SINGLETON:** New Work; **SCHUBERT:** Impromptu in A Flat Major, D. 935, No. 2; Sonata in A Major, D. 959

CONCERT TICKETS: \$80/\$70/\$60

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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

JONATHAN BISS, PIANO

WHEN: Thursday, May 21, 2024, 7:30pm

WHERE: Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

PROGRAM: *Echoes of Schubert* Program 3: **TYSHAWN SOREY:** New Work; **SCHUBERT:** Impromptu in B flat Major, D. 935, No. 3; Sonata in B flat Major, D. 960

CONCERT TICKETS: \$80/\$70/\$60

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For high-resolution images, contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org
or click [here](#)

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