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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES 2023-2024 SEASON

Subscription Ticket Information: On Sale April 11, 2023
SF Performances Ticket Office 415-677-0325
Single Ticket Information: On Sale August 15, 2023
Press Room

Venues:

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

St. Mark's Lutheran Church: St. Mark's Square at 1111 O'Farrell Street (at Franklin Street),

San Francisco

2023-2024 SEASON CALENDAR

All dates, times, prices, artists, and programs are subject to change.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Alexander String Quartet
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2023 | 7:00pm
Herbst Theatre | \$50

A special event celebrating the **Alexander String Quartet**'s 35th Anniversary as San Francisco Performances' Quartet-in-Residence. Tickets for the concert are \$50; tickets for the full Gala Evening start at \$500. Proceeds benefit San Francisco Performances' arts education programs.

OCTOBER 2023

Isata Kanneh-Mason, piano FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: HAYDN: Piano Sonata No. 60 in C Major, Hob. XVI/50; FANNY MENDELSSOHN: Easter Sonata;

ROBERT SCHUMANN: Kinderszenen, Op. 15; CHOPIN: Piano Sonata No. 3 in B Minor, Op. 58

A Leonard Bernstein and Opus Klassik Award winner for best young artist, **Isata Kanneh-Mason** returns to SF Performances as she continues to move and inspire audiences worldwide.

Stephanie Jones, guitar
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023 | 7:30pm
St. Mark's Lutheran Church | \$60

PROGRAM: Works by PIAZZOLLA, JOBIM/DYENS, SÉRGIO ASSAD, and others

Award-winning young Australian guitar phenomenon **Stephanie Jones** makes her SF Performances debut. A "guitarists' guitarist," she is highly regarded among her peers as well as an audience and critical favorite. "The classical guitar has found a brilliant interpreter in Stephanie Jones. She delivers a magical sound with the deepest musical expressions." — Sérgio Assad

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Calder Quartet

Timo Andres, piano

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: ANDRES: *Machine, Learning;* plus a new piano quintet; **SCHUBERT:** *Rosamunde* Quartet in A Minor;

ANN SOUTHAM: Remembering Schubert

This versatile and vibrant ensemble excels equally at composer collaborations and standard-setting performances of classics. They present two programs this season, mixing it up with chamber music milestones and thrilling new voices. For this performance, the **Calder Quartet** is joined by acclaimed pianist/composer **Timo Andres** for a program that includes the West Coast premiere of a new work by Andres.

lan Bostridge, tenor SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

PROGRAM: SCHUBERT: Winterreise

Awarded the Cooper Prize for non-fiction for his book, *Schubert's Winter Journey: Anatomy of an Obsession*, English tenor **Ian Bostridge** brings the receipts for this recital of Schubert's engrossing song cycle. His credentials as artist and biographer lend a depth and breadth of insight and understanding to these gloriously brooding settings of 24 poems that evoke facets of love and loss.

JACK Quartet

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: All JOHN LUTHER ADAMS

Through close collaboration with today's most exciting and sought-after composers, **JACK** inspires and infuses new works with tremendous energy and riveting attention.

Saturday Mornings

Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023, 10am

Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 1 | AUSTRIA

SCHOENBERG: String Quartet No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 7; WEBERN: Langsamer Satz; Five Movements for Strings

The esteemed and popular **Alexander String Quartet** has enlivened SF Performances seasons for more than three decades, joined by Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg**. This season, in a series of six concerts, they'll explore in music and words some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times

NOVEMBER 2023

Miranda Cuckson, violin Blair McMillen, piano THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: Works by JANÁČEK, BEETHOVEN, PROKOFIEV, and ROSS LEE FINNEY

This is the Bay Area debut of these two internationally celebrated young artists, noted for their innate expressivity, musical dexterity, and boundlessly evident love for music and live performance.

Jay Campbell, cello Conor Hanick, piano

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: ERIC WUBBELS: *Gretchen am Spinnrade;* **SCHUBERT:** Two Impromptus for piano (A-Flat Major, F Minor), Op. 90; **GYÖRGY LIGETI:** Three Etudes (*Fanfare, Arc-en-ceil, L'escalier*); **RACHMANINOFF:** Sonata for cello and piano in G Minor, Op. 19

SF Performances audiences know exuberant cellist **Jay Campbell** as a member of the JACK Quartet and Junction Trio. This season welcomes his return with pianist **Conor Hanick**—both accomplished interpreters of music new and old. They dig in to an eclectic program.

Dublin Guitar Quartet
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2023
Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: PHILIP GLASS: String Quartet No. 2 *Company;* Piano Etudes No. 2, 9, 16, and 20; String Quartet No. 3 *Mishima;* WOJCIECH KILAR: *Orawa;* RACHEL GRIMES: *Book of Leaves* MARC MELLITS: New arrangement;

ARVO PÄRT: Summa

A rare foursome devoted to contemporary music, from the celebratory to the cerebral. The DGQ has piloted an impressive list of premieres, new work, and original arrangements from compositional giants—and works audiences clamor to hear—delivered with tremendous vitality and style. "A wonderful ensemble. The Dublin Guitar Quartet has carved a place for itself in the world of classical music." — Philip Glass

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Saturday Mornings

Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023, 10am

Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 2 | RUSSIA

STRAVINSKY: Three Pieces for String Quartet; Concertino for String Quartet; **PROKOFIEV:** String Quartet No. 1 in B Minor, Op. 50

The second of six concerts this season in which the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg** explore some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times.

Stephen Hough, piano

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

PROGRAM: MOMPOU: Cants Mágics; SCRIABIN: Piano Sonata No 5, Op 53; DEBUSSY: Estampe;

HOUGH: Partita; LISZT: 3 Petrarch Sonnets; Dante Sonata

Stephen Hough's astonishing career can be traced over three decades of satisfying SF Performances recitals witnessing his thoughtful selection of music, emotional resonance, and a style full of joy and wit.

Castalian String Quartet
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: JANÁČEK: String Quartet No. 1 *Kreutzer Sonata*; MARK-ANTHONY TURNAGE: *Awake* (composed for Castalian String Quartet, premiering 2023); **MENDELSSOHN:** Quartet in F Minor, Op 80

In an ingenious chain of inspirations spanning 220 years, the Castalian's program— and the Turnage commission featured on it—mark the 100th anniversary of Janáček's *Kreutzer Sonata* quartet. For his new quartet, Turnage returned to words by the Beethoven sonata's original dedicatee for inspiration.

DECEMBER 2023

Beijing Guitar Duo SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2023 | 7:30pm St. Mark's Lutheran Church | \$60

PROGRAM: FRANCK: Prélude, Fugue et Variation Op. 18; DEBUSSY: Petite Suite; FAURÉ: Dolly Suite, Op. 56;

GRANADOS: Valses Poéticos; ALBÉNIZ: Bajo la Palmera; Castilla; PIAZZOLLA: Tango Suite

Boasting a powerful, accomplished style and the ability to perform practically anything, the **Beijing Duo** is credited with inspiring and energizing the next generation of classical guitarists. Legendary guitarist Manuel Barrueco proclaimed them "the best guitar duo in the world."

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

JANUARY 2024

Jonathan Biss, piano THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

Echoes of Schubert, Program 1: TYSON GHOLSTON DAVIS: New Work; SCHUBERT: Impromptu in F Minor, D. 935 no. 1 and Sonata in C Minor, D. 958

San Francisco Performances favorite **Jonathan Biss** returns with an ambitious and intriguing series of recitals that ask contemporary American composers of three generations to consider and musically respond to the legacy of Franz Schubert. At just 23, Tyson Gholston Davis has been commissioned by an astonishing array of artists and ensembles, including the Juilliard String Quartet and Eighth Blackbird.

PIVOT Festival January 24 – 26, 2024 This is the ninth year of the PIVOT Festival, created for adventurous audiences interested in unique arts experiences. This season, guest curator **Gabriel Kahane** and friends dig deep into music that asks enduring and enlightening questions about our ever-changing world and seeks the uplift of answers rooted in shared experience

Gabriel Kahane and Attacca Quartet WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

Gabriel Kahane and Roomful of Teeth THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

Gabriel Kahane, Attacca Quartet, and Roomful of Teeth FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

Programs to be announced

Saturday Mornings

Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024, 10am

Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 3 | CZECHOSLOVAKIA

JANÁČEK: String Quartet No. 1, *Kreutzer Sonata;* **HAAS:** String Quartet No. 2, Op. 7, *From the Monkey Mountains*

The third of six concerts this season in which the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg** explore some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times.

Raehann Bryce-Davis, mezzo-soprano SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2024 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: AMY BEACH: Three Browning Songs, Op. 44; The Year's at the Spring; Ah, Love, but a day!; I send my heart up to thee!; RICHARD WAGNER: Wesendonck Lieder; Der Engel; Stehe Still!; Im Treibhaus; Schmerzen; Träume; MELISSA DUNPHY (text by Walt Whitman): Come, My Tan-Faced Children; MARGARET BONDS (text by Langston Hughes): Birth; FLORENCE PRICE (text by Louise C. Wallace): The Crescent Moon; MARIA THOMPSON CORLEY: The Beauty in my Blackness; I'm Not An Angry Black Woman; PETER ASHBOURNE: Fi Mi Love Have Lion Heart: No. 3 – Banyan Tree; No. 4 – Fi Mi Love Have Lion Heart; No. 5 – Nobody's Business

Raehann Bryce-Davis has made the opera and concert world sit up and take notice of her abundant energy and magnetic style. A gifted singing actress, she has a distinctive point of view in recital programs that bring together voices and stories old and new that resonate with love and courage, resilience and humanity.

FEBRUARY 2024

Javier Perianes, piano
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: CLARA SCHUMANN: *Variations on a theme by Robert Schumann*, Op. 20; **SCHUMANN:** Sonata for Piano in F Minor, Op. 14, III. *Quasi variazioni. Andantino de Clara Wieck;* **BRAHMS:** *Variations on a Theme of Robert Schumann*, Op. 9; **GRANADOS:** *Goyescas*

Javier Perianes has maintained a lifelong passion for music ignited in childhood in a small home village in Spain. He is among the most active and acclaimed pianists of our time, and his performances are infused with energy and excitement that powerfully draws listeners into his world of freshness and wonder.

Pepe Romero, guitar SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55 PROGRAM: To be announced

How we listen to classical guitar—and what we listen to—we owe in part to the Romero family, and **Pepe Romero** has been among its most active and influential members. This solo recital celebrates his 80th birthday and more than seven decades on the professional stage.

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Camille Thomas | Cello THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | Free to Subscribers and Donors PROGRAM: To be announced

The first Gift Concert of this season. Free to subscribers and donors; tickets go on sale to the general public at a later date.

Leila Josefowicz, violin John Novacek, piano SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

PROGRAM: DEBUSSY: Sonata for Violin and Piano in G Minor, L140; **SZYMANOWSKI:** *Mythes, Trois Poèmes,* Op. 30; **ERKKI-SVEN TÜÜR:** *Conversio* for Violin and Piano; **STRAVINSKY:** Divertimento from *The Fairy's Kiss*

Every performance by **Leila Josefowicz** is a revelation of new things to be heard and felt in the familiar and a happy introduction to new sounds from less familiar creative voices. **John Novacek** is "a pianist well worth keeping an ear open for" (*Fanfare*).

Pierre-Laurent Aimard, piano
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60
PROGRAM: To be announced

Throughout a remarkable career, **Pierre-Laurent Aimard** has been the pianist of choice of leading composers as collaborator and interpreter. His approach to classical and Romantic music is often to discover what made historic creators mayericks and innovators of their time.

Lawrence Brownlee, tenor
Kevin Miller, piano
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

PROGRAM: RISING: ROBERT OWENS: Desire, Op.13; Silver Rain, Op. 11; JEREMIAH EVANS: April Son; Lost Illusions; Southern Mansion; MARGARET BONDS: Songs of the Seasons; CARLOS SIMON: Vocalise I, II, III; DAMIEN SNEED: Beauty that is never old; The Gift to Sing; To America; SHAWN OKPEBHOLO: Romance; JOEL

THOMPSON: Supplication; Compensation; My People

It's hard to keep eyes and ears off this accomplished and charismatic artist. "I want people to feel like they're listening to someone who has something thoughtful and meaningful to say," says **Lawrence Brownlee**, who returns to SF Performances after his 2018 debut. Brownlee is deeply thoughtful about his connection to audiences, through selection of repertory and musical storytelling.

MARCH 2024

Saturday Mornings
Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence
SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024, 10am
Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 4 | UNITED STATES

PISTON: String Quartet No. 1; BARBER: String Quartet in B Minor, Op. 11

The fourth of six concerts this season in which the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg** explore some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times. Looking back to the early years of the last century, the Quartet and Greenberg will explore the rich history of bright innovation during often dark times.

Jonathan Biss, piano THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

Echoes of Schubert, Program 2: ALVIN SINGLETON: New Work; SCHUBERT: Impromptu in A flat Major, D. 935 no. 2 and Sonata in A Major, D. 959

SFP favorite pianist **Jonathan Biss** presents a trio of programs this season in which he engages contemporary composers to create new works in response to some of Schubert's monumental piano music. Alvin Singleton (b. 1940) draws inspiration from a wide stream including folk and spiritual, classical and pop, with often surprising and theatrical nuance.

Calder Quartet and Antoine Hunter, Urban Jazz Dance Company SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: *The Mind's Ear: Motion Beyond Silence:* JOHN CAGE: Quartet in 4 Parts; **BEETHOVEN:** String Quartet Op.130 with *Grosse Fuge;* **JESSIE MONTGOMERY:** *Strum;* **CAROLINE SHAW:** *Entr'acte;* **JULIUS**

EASTMAN: Joy Boy

This is the second appearance of the versatile and vibrant **Calder Quartet** this season. This time, they're joined in a groundbreaking program by **Antoine Hunter**, the founder of Urban Jazz Dance Company, a superbly gifted choreographer and well-known advocate for the Deaf community. He expresses his experience in a hearing world through dance. This performance also features **Zahna Simon** of Urban Jazz Dance Company.

Ilker Arcayürek, tenor Simon Lepper, piano THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: Works by BEETHOVEN, SCHUMANN, HAHN, MENDELSSOHN, R. STRAUSS, BRAHMS, FAURÉ,

and others

The Guardian puts **Ilker Arcayürek** "in a class all his own" for his gilded tone, dramatic flexibility and captivating presence. **Simon Lepper** is an authoritative and polished pianist who is the perfect counterpart to Arcayürek's radiant technique.

Saturday Mornings

Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024, 10am

Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 5 | AUSTRIA

ZEMLINSKY: String Quartet No. 4, Op. 25; KORNGOLD: String Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Op. 34

The fifth of six concerts this season in which the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg** explore some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times. Looking back to the early years of the last century, the Quartet and Greenberg will explore the rich history of bright innovation during often dark times.

APRIL 2024

George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$90/\$75/\$60

PROGRAM: To be announced from the stage

A runaway hit of our 2021-22 season, the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain scored with audiences with its unique, energetic blend of arrangements from pop to classical, humor and, of course, lots and lots of strumming.

Jonathan Swensen | Cello Stephen Waarts | Violin Juho Pohjonen | Piano TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | Free to Subscribers and Donors

PROGRAM: To be announced

The second of our Gift Concerts this season. Free to subscribers and donors; tickets go on sale to the general public at a later date.

Dover Quartet and Leif Ove Andsnes, piano THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

PROGRAM: TURINA: La oración del torero (The Bullfighter's Prayer), Op. 34; DOHNÁNYI: Piano Quintet No. 2 in

E-flat minor, Op. 26; **BRAHMS**: Piano Quintet in F minor, Op. 34

Named one of the greatest string quartets of the last 100 years by *BBC Magazine*, the **Dover Quartet** is one of the most versatile and in-demand chamber ensembles. They're joined by pianist **Leif Ove Andsnes** and his commanding technique.

Saturday Mornings

Alexander String Quartet with Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024, 10am

Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

Music as a Mirror of Our World: The String Quartet from 1905 to 1946

Program 6 | UNITED KINGDOM

BRITTEN: String Quartet No. 2 in C Major, Op. 36; WALTON: String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor

The final concert in our 2023-24 Saturday Morning Series in which the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Robert Greenberg** explore some of chamber music's most intriguing and important composers, their works, lives, and times.

MAY 2024

Jonathan Biss, piano THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

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

San Francisco Performances favorite **Jonathan Biss** returns with an ambitious and intriguing series of recitals that ask contemporary American composers of three generations to consider and musically respond to the legacy of Franz Schubert. Tyshawn Sorey (b. 1980) is "a composer of radical and seemingly boundless ideas" (*Wall Street Journal*) who often melds composition and improvisation.

Pekka Kuusisto, violin Gabriel Kahane, piano FRIDAY, MAY 3, 2024 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50 PROGRAM: To be announced

This promises to be a thrilling concert, bringing together two close friends for a wide-ranging and centuries-spanning musical evening. At its center is the world premiere of a collaboratively written song cycle exploring the joys and griefs of life in the 21st century, around which Kuusisto and Kahane are building an eclectic program ranging from Bach and Nico Muhly to Scandinavian folk music and songs from Kahane's catalogue.

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 lyer 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.

For selected high-resolution images of the 2023-24 season please visit our <u>Press Room</u> or contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org.

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