

44th SEASON



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**SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
STEPHEN HOUGH | PIANO**



**Tuesday, November 14, 2023 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre**

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – October 25, 2023 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents the incomparable pianist **Stephen Hough** on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 7:30pm** at **Herbst Theatre**. **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.**

“Sir Stephen Hough has appeared numerous times on our stage over the years. Always an audience favorite, we look forward to hearing this very personal program, which is a hallmark of his deeply thoughtful artistry. The program will also include one of his own new works, as part of the California Festival.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

The [California Festival](#) is a statewide music celebration showcasing the most compelling and forward-looking voices in performances of works written in the past five years. Hough’s program includes a new composition of his own, *Partita*.

ABOUT STEPHEN HOUGH

Named by *The Economist* as one of Twenty Living Polymaths, **Stephen Hough** combines a distinguished career and a longstanding international following as a pianist with those of composer and writer. The first classical pianist to be awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, he was made a Commander of the Order of the

British Empire in the New Year Honors 2014 and was awarded a Knighthood for Services to Music in the Queen's Birthday honors 2022.

In the 2022–23 season Hough performed over 90 concerts across five continents. Recent and upcoming orchestral highlights include return appearances with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam, Orchestre National de France, Vienna Symphony, London Philharmonic, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, and the Finnish Radio, as well as with the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center, the St. Louis, Cincinnati, Detroit and Houston symphonies, and the New York Philharmonic.

Mr. Hough is a regular guest at festivals such as Salzburg, Mostly Mozart, Edinburgh, La Roque-d'Atheron, Aldeburgh and the BBC Proms, where he has made 29 appearances. In June 2020, he returned to London's Wigmore Hall to give the UK's first live classical music concert in a major venue since the nationwide lockdown earlier that year. Recent and upcoming recital highlights include a return to London's Royal Festival Hall (International Piano Series) and performances at Caramoor and in Paris Sydney, Atlanta, Toronto, Manchester's Bridgewater Hall and New York City's 92nd Street Y.

Mr. Hough's extensive discography of over 60 CDs on the Hyperion label has garnered international awards including the Diapason d'Or de l'Année, several Grammy® nominations, and eight *Gramophone* Awards, including Record of the Year and the Gold Disc. Recent releases include the complete piano concertos of Beethoven with the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra under Hannu Lintu; *Brahms: The Final Piano Pieces*; the complete Chopin Nocturnes; a Schumann recital; and Schubert Sonatas. His recording of Mompou's *Musica callada* was released in early 2023.

As a composer, Stephen Hough has written for orchestra, choir, chamber ensemble and solo piano. Recent commissions include composing the commissioned work for the 2022 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, as piece that was performed by all 30 competitors, and his String Quartet No. 1 *Les Six Recontres* commissioned by the Takacs Quartet.

As a writer, Mr. Hough's memoir *Enough: Scenes from Childhood*, was published earlier this year. It follows his collection of essays *Rough Ideas: Reflections on Music and More*, which won a 2020 Royal Philharmonic Society Award and was named one of the *Financial Times*' Book of the Year 2019. Hough's first novel, *The Final Retreat*, was published by Sylph Editions in 2018. He has also been published by the *New York Times* and in London in *The Telegraph*, *The Times*, *The Guardian* and the *Evening Standard*. For seven years he wrote more than six hundred articles for his blog in *The Telegraph*, which became one of the most popular and influential forums for cultural discussion.

Stephen Hough resides in London and is an Honorary Member of the Royal Philharmonic Society, a Visiting Professor at the Royal Academy of Music and at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford University, holds the International Chair of Piano Studies at the Royal Northern College of Music, and is on the faculty of The Juilliard School in New York.

[Watch](#) Stephen Hough

The evening's program will be as follows:

MOMPOU: *Cants Mágics*

SCRIABIN: Piano Sonata No. 5, Op. 53

DEBUSSY: *Estampes*

HOUGH: *Partita*

LISZT: *3 Petrarch Sonnets, Dante Sonata*

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

STEPHEN HOUGH, PIANO

WHEN: Tuesday, November 14, 2023 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: **MOMPOU:** *Cants Mágics*; **SCRIABIN:** Piano Sonata No. 5, Op. 53; **DEBUSSY:** *Estampes*;

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

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

CONTACT: (415) 392.2545; sfperformances.org

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

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