

45th SEASON



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 27, 2024

Contact: Terry Conway

(415) 677-0328 or terry@sfperformances.org

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES 2024-2025 SEASON FALL SCHEDULE

Fall highlights include:

JUST ADDED: New performances at the historic Presidio Theatre

New works by Caroline Shaw & Gabriel Kahane

The SFP debuts of Anthony Roth Costanzo and Karim Sulayman

The launch of the Alexander String Quartet's final performance season

A gala celebration featuring composer/pianist Jake Heggie and tenor Nicholas Phan

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – August 27, 2024 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) opens its 45th season on **Saturday, September 28**, in grand style with a special performance marking the launch of two new series of concerts at the historic **Presidio Theatre**, in San Francisco's Presidio. In this season opener, the **Hot Club of San Francisco** celebrates the 90th anniversary of the founding of Stéphane Grappelli and Django Reinhardt's pioneering continental jazz quintet in Paris, the Quintette du Hot Club de France.

In all, SFP has added six performances at the Presidio Theatre to the 2024-25 season in addition to previously announced performances at the Herbst Theatre, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, and the Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall at the SF Conservatory of Music's Oak Street facility. The [Performances at the Presidio Series](#) continues on **October 12** with a performance by tenor **Karim Sulayman** and guitarist **Sean Shibe**, and continues in **February 2025** with the return of **Dreamers' Circus**, the innovative Nordic trio. [Sunday Strings](#), a Sunday afternoon series of collaborative performances curated by violinist Owen Dalby and featuring a mix of highly acclaimed musicians,

launches in **February 2025**.

On **October 4**, two beloved Bay Area-based artists, composer/pianist **Jake Heggie** and tenor **Nicholas Phan**, pair up for this season's fundraising gala benefitting San Francisco Performances' arts education programs. The Gala includes a pre-concert cocktail reception (6pm), a concert (7pm), and a post-concert-dinner. Gala tickets start at \$500; concert-only tickets are available for \$50.

On **October 12**, tenor **Karim Sulayman** and guitarist **Sean Shibe** bring their *Broken Branches* program to the Presidio Theatre, a modern musical traversal of the Silk Road ranging from the Middle Ages to the present. This compelling program reflects the artists' own "in-between" identities, as each grew up in the West with roots in the East.

The **Alexander String Quartet** opens its final season of performing together on **October 26** with the first of five **Saturday Morning Series** concerts exploring the relationship between Josef Haydn — "father of the string quartet" — and his young protégé, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The quartet, alongside composer-lecturer **Robert Greenberg, Ph.D**, brings chamber music alive in a unique concert/lecture format. The series continues on November 2, January 11, January 25, and wraps up on February 8.

On the evening of **October 26**, the up-and-coming **Esmé Quartet** returns to the Herbst with a program of Mozart, Ligeti, and Schubert. The Esmé is acclaimed for its spellbinding dynamics, stylistically assured interpretations, and precision ensemble playing.

One of the world's truly great chamber ensembles, the highly-acclaimed **Jerusalem Quartet**, has just marked 30 years of performing a wide and varied repertoire. They bring their stunning depth of expression to a program of works by Haydn, Shostakovich, and Dvořák on **November 7**.

Celebrated pianist **Natasha Paremski** returns to SFP on **November 13**, with her powerful interpretations and flawless technique. Her program includes works by Chopin, Prokofiev, and Stravinsky.

The following night, **November 14**, Pulitzer and Grammy©-winning composer-performer **Caroline Shaw** and acclaimed singer-songwriter **Gabriel Kahane** collaborate on a program centering on new work, inspired by the magical realism of Argentine author Jorge Luis Borges' short story *The Library of Babel*, bringing to the forefront their combined gifts as supreme musical storytellers of our time.

The multifaceted and captivating countertenor **Anthony Roth Costanzo** makes his Bay Area recital debut on **November 19** with a wide-ranging program that includes works by Handel, Philip Glass, Verdi, and an homage to Barbara Streisand.

Our fall performances wrap up on **December 4** with what promises to be a thrilling performance by highly-acclaimed clarinetist **Anthony McGill** and the Grammy Award©-winning **Pacifica Quartet**. Their program includes **Ben Shirley's** *High Sierra Sonata*, which was featured on their Grammy©-nominated *American Stories* album.

Shirley has ties to the Bay Area, and his path from addiction and homelessness to becoming a composer and orchestrator was documented in the film *Skid Row Marathon*.

PERFORMANCE VENUES

Herbst Theatre

401 Van Ness Avenue (at McAllister), San Francisco

Presidio Theatre

99 Moraga Avenue, in the Presidio of San Francisco

Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall

50 Oak Street (at Van Ness), San Francisco

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

1111 O'Farrell Street (at Franklin), San Francisco

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions are still available for the 2024-25 Season

Subscribers receive benefits including savings on single ticket prices, priority seating, free ticket exchange privileges, and invitations to annual gift concerts. Call SF Performances' subscriber hotline at **(415) 677-0325** or visit sfperformances.org.

Single tickets are on sale now.

Single tickets may be purchased by calling the main box office line, **(415) 392-2545**, or visiting our website at sfperformances.org. (Subscribers have priority seating.)

Senior, Student, and Group discounts are available. See sfperformances.org for details.

2024-25 SEASON FALL CALENDAR

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

SEPTEMBER 2024

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 | 7:30pm

Hot Club of San Francisco

Presidio Theatre, 99 Moraga Avenue | \$60/\$45

PROGRAM: To be announced from the stage

Our 2024-25 season opens in grand style with a special performance celebrating the 90th anniversary of the founding of Stéphane Grappelli and Django Reinhardt's pioneering continental jazz quintet in Paris, the Quintette du Hot Club de France.

OCTOBER 2024

45th Anniversary Gala

Jake Heggie | Piano

Nicholas Phan | Tenor

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024

War Memorial Green Room and Herbst Theatre

PROGRAM: To be announced

A special evening to celebrate and support San Francisco Performances' award-winning music education programs. Cocktails and dinner culminate with what promises to be a memorable performance by Bay Area-based international sensations **Nicholas Phan**, tenor, and composer-pianist **Jake Heggie**.

The Gala includes a pre-concert cocktail reception (6pm), a concert (7pm), and a post-concert-dinner. Gala tickets start at \$500; concert-only tickets are available for \$50.

Karim Sulayman | Tenor

Sean Shibe | Guitar

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2024 | 7:30pm

Presidio Theatre | \$60/\$45

PROGRAM: *Broken Branches:* **PURCELL:** *Music for a While*; **DOWLAND:** *Praeludium; Fantasia; Time Stands Still*; **CACCINI:** *Dalla porta d'oriente*; **MONTEVERDI:** *Si dolce è'l tormento; La mia turca*; **TRADITIONAL:** *La prima vez* (Sephardic); *Lamma bada* (Arab Andalusian); **DARWISH:** *El Helwa di*; **RODRIGO/FAIRUZ:** *Li Beirut*; **HARVEY:** *Sufi Dance*; **CHAKER:** *A butterfly in New York*; **TAKEMITSU:** *In the woods: Wainscot pond*; **BRITTEN:** *Songs from the Chinese*; **MENDEZ:** *Cucurucucu Paloma*

A modern musical traversal of the Silk Road ranging from the Middle Ages to the present, this compelling program reflects the artists' own "in-between" identities, as each grew up in the West with roots in the East. Sulayman has been lauded for his "lucid, velvety tenor and pop-star charisma" (*BBC Music Magazine*). "Shibe's music-making is masterful, beautiful and convincing in every way" (*The Times*, UK).

Saturday Mornings

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

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024 | 10am

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

PROGRAM: MOZART: Quartet in G Major, K. 80; **HAYDN:** Quartet in D Major, Op. 17 No. 6; Quartet in F Minor, Op 20 No. 5

Our Saturday Morning Series is one of our most popular offerings. These lively concerts with the **Alexander String Quartet** and Music Historian-in-Residence **Dr. Robert Greenberg** are filled with great music and insightful, humorous commentary.

This season will mark the final bow of our beloved Alexander String Quartet, which will say farewell to performing together at the triumphant close of 36 glorious years as SF Performances' Ensemble-in-Residence.

The five concerts included in this series, *Papa Joe and Wolfgang*, dynamically explore the relationship between Josef Haydn — “father of the string quartet” — and his young protégé, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, who brought the string quartet to a pinnacle of form, technique, variety, and emotion.

Zakarias Grafilo, violin

Yuna Lee, violin

David Samuel, viola

Sandy Wilson, cello

Esmé Quartet

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2024 | 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: MOZART: String Quartet in D Major, K. 575; **LIGETI:** String Quartet No. 1; **SCHUBERT:** String Quartet in G Major, D. 887

One of the world's most watched young ensembles, the **Esmé Quartet**, at less than a decade old, is celebrated for what the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* calls “depth and maturity.” Winners of the Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition, the Esmé is acclaimed for its spellbinding dynamics, stylistically assured interpretations and precision ensemble playing.

Wonhee Bae, violin

Yuna Ha, violin

Dimitri Murrath, viola

Ye-Eun Heo, cello

NOVEMBER 2024

Saturday Mornings

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2024 | 10am

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

PROGRAM: MOZART: Quartet in D Major, K. 155; Quartet in F Major, K. 168; Quartet in B-flat Major, K. 172

The second of five concerts this season in which the esteemed **Alexander String Quartet** and our Music Historian-in-Residence, **Dr. Robert Greenberg**, explore the relationship between Josef Haydn — “father of the string quartet” — and his young protégé, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, who brought the string quartet to a pinnacle of form, technique, variety, and emotion.

Zakarias Grafilo, violin

Yuna Lee, violin

David Samuel, viola

Sandy Wilson, cello

Jerusalem Quartet

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2024 | 7:30pm

Caroline H. Hume Concert Hall | \$85/\$75/\$65

PROGRAM: HAYDN: Quartet in B-flat Major, Op 50, No. 1 “Prussian”; **SHOSTAKOVICH:** Quartet No. 12 in D-Flat Major, Op. 133; **DVOŘÁK:** String Quartet in G-Major, Op. 106

One of the world’s truly great chamber ensembles, the highly-acclaimed **Jerusalem Quartet** has just marked 30 years circling the globe with a wide and varied repertoire and stunning depth of expression.

Alexander Pavlovsky, violin

Sergei Bresler, violin

Ori Kam, viola

Kyril Zlotnikov, cello

Natasha Paremski | Piano

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024 | 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: QUINN MASON: *Falling Slowly*; **CHOPIN:** *Berceuse* in D-flat Major, Op. 57; Sonata No. 2 in B-Flat Minor, Op. 35; **PROKOFIEV:** Selections from *Romeo and Juliet*; **STRAVINSKY:** *Three Movements from Petrushka*

A profoundly accomplished artist, **Natasha Paremski** consistently excites audiences through her powerful interpretations and flawless technique. The award-winning young pianist’s first recording topped the *Billboard* classical charts, and she has never looked back.

Caroline Shaw | Soprano, Viola
Gabriel Kahane | Piano, Vocals
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50
PROGRAM: *Hexagons*

Pulitzer and Grammy-winning composer-performer **Caroline Shaw** and acclaimed singer-songwriter **Gabriel Kahane** collaborate on a program centering on new work, inspired by the magical realism of Argentine author Jorge Luis Borges' short story *The Library of Babel*, bringing to the forefront their combined gifts as supreme musical storytellers of our time.

Anthony Roth Costanzo | Countertenor
Bryan Wagorn | Piano
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$80/\$70/\$60

PROGRAM: HANDEL: *Pena Tirana; Qella fiamma*; **JOEL THOMPSON:** *Supplication & Compensation*; **GREGORY SPEARS:** *Fearsome This Night*; **LISZT:** *Im Rhein; Uber all Gipfeln; Hohe Liebe; Ihr Glocken von Marling*; **BERLIOZ:** *Villanelle*; **VERDI:** *Non T'Accostare a l'urna*; **DUPARC:** *L'invitation au voyage*; **PHILIP GLASS:** *Liquid Days; Arc of Your Mallet; The Encounter*; **YVAIN/CHARLES/WILEMETZ/POLLOCK:** *My Man*; **GERSHWIN:** *The Man I Love; I Got Rhythm*

Anthony Roth Costanzo re-created the demanding title role of Philip Glass' monumental opera *Akhmaten* at the Met to universal acclaim, and now makes his Bay Area recital debut. With a childhood background in Broadway and a Grammy© Award to his credit, he deeply understands how to get inside musical characters and deliver captivating performances. He presents a varied program of historic and contemporary works, including an homage to Barbra Streisand. He is accompanied by acclaimed pianist **Bryan Wagorn**, who is Assistant Conductor at the Metropolitan Opera and regularly performs throughout the world as a soloist, chamber musician, and recital accompanist to the world's leading singers and instrumentalists.

DECEMBER 2024

Anthony McGill | Clarinet
Pacifica Quartet
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024 | 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

PROGRAM: DVOŘÁK: String Quartet Op. 96 "American"; **BEN SHIRLEY:** *High Sierra Sonata* for Clarinet and Quartet; **BRAHMS:** Clarinet Quintet in B Minor, Op. 115

The prestigious first clarinetist of the New York Philharmonic, **Anthony McGill** is an acclaimed soloist and chamber musician in his own right. He is one of classical music's most recognizable and brilliantly multifaceted figures. McGill is joined by the multiple Grammy Award©-winning **Pacifica Quartet** for a program which includes **Ben Shirley's** *High Sierra Sonata*, which was featured on their Grammy©-nominated *American Stories* album. Shirley has ties to the Bay Area, and his path from addiction and homelessness to becoming a composer and orchestrator was documented in the film *Skid Row Marathon*.

.....

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.

For selected high-resolution images of the 2024-2025 season please visit:

<https://sfperformances.org/media/media.html>

or contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org

#