

46th SEASON



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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
KRONOS QUARTET
TIMO ANDRES | PIANO
Spooky



Friday, October 31, 2025 | 8pm
Herbst Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – September 30, 2025 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents a special Halloween-themed evening with **Kronos Quartet** and pianist **Timo Andres** on **Friday, October 31, 2025, 8pm**, at **Herbst Theatre**. Their program will include the haunting Philip Glass score for *Dracula*, selections from Bernard Herrmann's iconic score for *Psycho*, selections from George Crumb's *Black Angels*, and other works perfectly suited for a thrilling Halloween.

Patrons are encouraged to attend this special event in costume, and a special Halloween-themed cocktail—"Vampire's Kiss"—will be available for purchase at the lobby bar.

Tickets are \$90/\$80/\$65 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.

"In presenting a Halloween-themed program for the first time, we turned to the San Francisco-based ensemble that was founded to play one of the 'spookiest' pieces of chamber music ever written -- George

Crumb's *Black Angels*. The Kronos Quartet, always up for an adventure, is also well known for performances of many Philip Glass works, and this special concert will feature movements from the Crumb piece and excerpts from the Glass score for the 1931 silent film *Dracula*. Along with other works and improvisations, performed by Kronos and pianist Timo Andres, this program should make for a thrilling—and sometimes chilling—evening, full of tricks and treats.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

ABOUT KRONOS QUARTET

For 50 years, San Francisco's **Kronos Quartet**—David Harrington (violin), Gabriela Díaz (violin), Ayane Kozasa (viola), and Paul Wiancko (cello)—has challenged and reimaged what a string quartet can be. Founded at a time when the form was largely centered on long-established, Western European traditions, Kronos has been at the forefront of revolutionizing the string quartet into a living art form that responds to the people and issues of our time.

In the process, Kronos has become one of the most celebrated and influential groups of our era, performing thousands of concerts worldwide, releasing more than 70 recordings of extraordinary breadth and creativity, and collaborating with many of the world's most accomplished composers and performers. Through its nonprofit organization, Kronos Performing Arts Association (KPAA), Kronos has commissioned more than 1,100 works and arrangements for string quartet—including the recently completed *50 for the Future* library of free, educational repertoire. Kronos has received more than 40 awards, including three Grammy® Awards and the Polar Music, Avery Fisher, and Edison Klassiek Oeuvre Prizes—among the most prestigious awards given to musicians. In 2024, the Library of Congress announced its acquisition of the Archive of Kronos Quartet/Kronos Performing Arts Association, a collection that includes 50 years' worth of manuscripts, instruments, costumes, video and audio recordings, photographs, and more. Together, these materials constitute an invaluable record of Kronos/KPAA's genesis, growth, and legacy, and will now be permanently housed in the Library's Music Division alongside the storied histories of influential artists and composers from around the world.

Kronos' adventurous approach dates back to the ensemble's origins. In 1973, David Harrington formed the group after hearing George Crumb's *Black Angels*, an innovative, Vietnam War-inspired work featuring bowed water glasses, spoken-word passages, and electronic effects. In addition to this formative work, Kronos began building its own eclectic repertoire for string quartet, performing and recording compositions by 20th-century masters (Sofia Gubaidulina, Astor Piazzolla, Alfred Schnittke), contemporary composers from around the world (Sahba Aminikia, Nicole Lizée, Vladimir Martynov, Aleksandra Vrebalov), jazz legends (Charles Mingus, Thelonious Monk, Maria Schneider), rock artists (Jimi Hendrix, Sigur Rós, Pete Townshend), and artists who defy genre (Laurie Anderson, Trevor Paglen, Tanya Tagaq).

Integral to Kronos' work is a series of long-running, in-depth collaborations with many of the world's foremost composers, resulting in a vast body of Kronos-commissioned works for string quartet. One of the quartet's most long-standing and frequent collaborators is Terry Riley, whose work with Kronos includes *Sunrise of the Planetary Dream Collector* (1980), *Salome Dances for Peace* (1985–86), and *Sun Rings* (2002). Aleksandra Vrebalov has written more than 20 pieces for Kronos, including *Pannonia Boundless* (1998); *...hold me, neighbor, in this storm...* (2007); and *Beyond Zero* (2014), a multimedia meditation on World War I in collaboration with filmmaker Bill Morrison. The quartet has also collaborated extensively with Philip Glass, recording an album of his string quartets in 1995 and premiering *String Quartets No. 6* (2013)

and No. 7 (2014); with Franghiz Ali-Zadeh, whose works are featured on the full-length 2005 release *Mugam Sayagi*; and with Steve Reich, whose string quartets *Different Trains* (1989), *Triple Quartet* (2001), and *WTC 9/11* (2011) were written for and recorded by Kronos.

In recordings, Kronos has collaborated with numerous artists from around the world, including Chinese pipa virtuoso Wu Man, a collaborator since the early 1990s; Indian tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain; Azeri master vocalist Alim Qasimov; legendary Bollywood “playback singer” Asha Bhosle; punk legend Patti Smith; Romanian band Taraf de Haïdouks; Iranian vocalist Mahsa Vahdat; and Trio Da Kali, an ensemble of griot musicians from Mali. Kronos has performed live with the likes of Paul McCartney, David Bowie, Allen Ginsberg, Rokia Traoré, Tom Waits, Rhiannon Giddens, Howard Zinn, Betty Carter, Van Dyke Parks, Caetano Veloso, k.d. lang, and The National, and has appeared on recordings by artists such as Nine Inch Nails, Dan Zanes, Glenn Kotche, Dave Matthews Band, Joan Armatrading, Angélique Kidjo, and the San Francisco Girls Chorus. In dance, the famed choreographers Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, Alonzo King, Eiko & Koma, and many others have created pieces set to Kronos’ music.

Kronos’ work has featured prominently in a number of films, including *A Thousand Thoughts*, a unique multimedia piece that blends live music by Kronos and narration by Sam Green with archival footage and filmed interviews to create a “live documentary” that tells the story of Kronos’ expansive career. Written and directed by Green and Joe Bini, the work premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2018 and has since toured around the world. Most recently, the quartet performed on the soundtrack for *Users* (2021) and is both seen and heard in the documentary *Zappa* (2020). Kronos’ music has been featured in two Academy Award-nominated documentaries: *Dirty Wars* (2013)—for which Kronos’ David Harrington served as Music Supervisor—and *How to Survive a Plague* (2012). Kronos has also recorded complete film scores by Jacob Garchik for Guy Maddin’s *The Green Fog* (2017); Clint Mansell for Darren Aronofsky’s *The Fountain* (2006) and *Requiem for a Dream* (2000); and Philip Glass for *Dracula* (1999)—a restored edition of the 1931 Bela Lugosi classic.

ABOUT TIMO ANDRES

Timo Andres (b. 1985, Palo Alto, CA) is a composer and pianist who grew up in rural Connecticut and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

In January 2025, Andres was awarded the biennial Elise L. Stoecker Prize from Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, in recognition of significant contributions to the field of chamber music. Shortly thereafter, Andres performed at Stanford Live with Conor Hanick, and at the Phillips Collection with Aaron Diehl; they perform their duo program at Carnegie Hall in 2026. Later this season Andres reunites with the Calder Quartet to perform his recent piano quintet *The Great Span* in New York City for the People’s Symphony.

Other recent highlights include a sold-out solo recital debut for Carnegie Hall, and the world premiere of a piano concerto for Aaron Diehl at the Los Angeles Philharmonic, led by John Adams. Andres’s orchestrations and arrangements for Justin Peck’s 2024 production of Sufjan Stevens’s *Illinoise* completed an acclaimed limited run on Broadway at the St. James Theater following sold-out runs at The Fisher Center at Bard, the Chicago Shakespeare Theater, and at New York City’s Park Avenue Armory. For his work on the production, Andres was nominated for 2024 Tony Award for Best Orchestrations.

Andres continues with performances of Philip Glass's Piano Etudes internationally; he is a trusted collaborator of Philip Glass, serving as advisor and editor of a 2023 edition of the Etudes published by Artisan. Andres performed these works last season at Lincoln Center, the Chicago Humanities Festival, the Music Academy of the West, for NPR's Tiny Desk Concerts, and in 24/25 performs the Etudes at the Glass House in Stamford, CT, for Carolina Performing Arts, and at the Elbphilharmonie and the Philharmonie Berlin.

Notable works include *Everything Happens So Much* for the Boston Symphony; *Strong Language* for the Takács Quartet, commissioned by Carnegie Hall and the Shriver Hall Concert Series; *Steady Hand*, a two-piano concerto commissioned by the Britten Sinfonia premiered at the Barbican by Andres and David Kaplan; and *The Blind Banister*, a concerto for Jonathan Biss, which was a 2016 Pulitzer Prize Finalist.

As a pianist, Timo Andres has appeared with the LA Phil, North Carolina Symphony, the Albany Symphony, the New World Symphony, the Metropolis Ensemble, among others. He has performed solo recitals for Lincoln Center, and Wigmore Hall. Timo's collaborators include Becca Stevens, Jeffrey Kahane, Gabriel Kahane, Brad Mehldau, Nadia Sirota, and—of course—Philip Glass, who selected Andres as the recipient of the City of Toronto Glenn Gould Protégé Prize. He was nominated for a Grammy award for his performances on 2021's *The Arching Path*, an album of music by Christopher Cerrone; and his 2024 album, *The Blind Banister* with Metropolis Ensemble, is Grammy-nominated for Best Engineered Album, Classical. Andres's collaborations with Sufjan Stevens also include his May 2023 recording with Conor Hanick of Stevens's latest album, *Reflections*; arrangements of ballets for New York City Ballet, and a solo piano album, *The Decalogue*.

A Nonesuch Records artist, Andres has multiple albums on the label since his debut, *Shy and Mighty*, in 2010. A Yale School of Music graduate, he is a Yamaha/Bösendorfer Artist and is on the composition faculty at the Mannes School of Music at the New School.

The evening's program will be as follows:

SPOOKY

CRUMB: *Black Angels: 1. Departure + God Music*

OSWALD: *Spectre*

RAMALLAH UNDERGROUND (arr. Jacob Garchik): *Tashweesh*

PENDERECKI: *Quartetto per archi*

LIZÉE: *ZonelyHearts: PhoneTap + CCTV*

GLASS: *Dracula Suite*

HERRMANN (arr. Kronos Quartet): *Psycho: The Murder (Shower Scene)*

Plus unannounced improvisations and Timo Andres playing solo piano works

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

SPOOKY, with KRONOS QUARTET and TIMO ANDRES, PIANO

WHEN: Friday, October 31, 2025, 8pm

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

PROGRAM: **SPOOKY:** **CRUMB:** *Black Angels: 1. Departure + God Music*; **OSWALD:** *Spectre*;

RAMALLAH UNDERGROUND (arr. Jacob Garchik): *Tashweesh*; **PENDERECKI:** *Quartetto per archi*;

LIZÉE: *ZonelyHearts: PhoneTap + CCTV*; **GLASS:** *Dracula Suite*; **HERRMANN** (arr. Kronos Quartet):

Psycho: The Murder (Shower Scene); **Plus unannounced improvisations and Timo Andres playing**

solo piano works

CONCERT TICKETS: \$95//\$80/\$65

CONTACT: (415) 392.2545; sfperformances.org

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

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