

46th SEASON



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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
MARK PADMORE | TENOR
PAUL LEWIS | PIANO



Friday, September 26, 2025 7:30pm
Herbst Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – September 3, 2025 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) opens its 46th season with beloved **tenor Mark Padmore** in recital with **pianist Paul Lewis** on **Friday, September 26, 2025, 7:30pm** at **Herbst Theatre**. Together, these frequent collaborators will explore works by Robert Schumann.

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.

“It’s a great honor for SF Performances to open its 46th season with a performance featuring two of the great Lieder interpreters of our time. Both Mark Padmore and Paul Lewis have appeared on our stage numerous times over the years, and we’re eagerly anticipating their upcoming collaboration in a program that features some of Schumann’s most beloved songs.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

ABOUT MARK PADMORE

Mark Padmore was born in London and studied at King's College, Cambridge. He has established an international career in opera, concert, and recital. His appearances in Bach Passions have gained particular notice, especially his renowned performances as Evangelist in the *St Matthew* and *St John* Passions with the Berlin Philharmonic and Simon Rattle, staged by Peter Sellars.

Recent performances have included Evangelist in the *St Matthew Passion* with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and Simon Rattle and with the Turku Philharmonic Orchestra; Britten *Nocturne* with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Ryan Wigglesworth and also with the Freiburg Chamber Orchestra; and Judith Weir's *In the Land of Uz* at the Worcester Three Choirs Festival.

In recital, Mark has sung Schubert *Winterreise* with Till Fellner at the Innsbrucker Festwochen and Mitsuko Uchida at Carnegie Hall New York, the Kimmel Center Philadelphia and the University of California at Berkeley.

Following a residency at Wigmore Hall in the 2021/22 season where he celebrated his relationship with pianists Till Fellner, Imogen Cooper, Mitsuko Uchida and Paul Lewis he recently returned to sing Vaughan Williams and Fauré with the Elias Quartet and James Baillieu, a program he recently performed with the same forces in Alicante, Spain.

Other recent recitals include performances in Barcelona and Madrid with Julius Drake; the Muziekgebouw Amsterdam with Till Fellner. He also appeared in recitals with guitar at Le Pont International Music Festival Japan.

Mark's most recent opera appearance was at the Grand Théâtre de Genève, singing the title role in a new production of Monteverdi *Il ritorno d'Ulisse in patria* conducted by Fabio Biondi. Another highlight was a new production of Britten's *Death in Venice* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden. Previous roles include Captain Vere in Britten *Billy Budd* and Evangelist in a staging of *St Matthew Passion* for the Glyndebourne Festival, and leading roles in Harrison Birtwistle *The Corridor* and *The Cure* at the Aldeburgh Festival.

His extensive and award-winning discography includes Schumann *Dichterliebe* with Kristian Bezuidenhout and Schubert song cycles with Paul Lewis, both for Harmonia Mundi.

Mark was Artistic Director of the St. Endellion Summer Music Festival in Cornwall from 2012–2022, voted 2016 Vocalist of the Year by Musical America and appointed CBE in the 2019 Queens' Birthday Honours List.

ABOUT PAUL LEWIS

Paul Lewis is one of the foremost interpreters of the Central European piano repertoire, with his performances and recordings of Beethoven and Schubert receiving universal critical acclaim. He was awarded CBE for his services to music, and the sincerity and depth of his musical approach have won him fans around the world.

This global popularity is reflected in the world-class orchestras with whom he works, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, London Symphony, Philharmonia, Bavarian Radio Symphony, NHK Symphony, New York Philharmonic, LA Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw and Leipzig Gewandhaus orchestras. His close relationship with the Boston Symphony Orchestra led to his selection as the 2020 Koussevitzky Artist at Tanglewood.

Lewis often focuses on specific composers in projects that allow him to take audiences deep inside the works. In 2026 and 2027, he will tour his *Mozart+* series around the world, juxtaposing Mozart's lesser-known piano repertoire with works by composers such as Poulenc, Chopin, and Weber, illuminating Mozart's influences over subsequent generations, as well as shining a light on works that are often overshadowed by his concertos. Previously, between 2022 and 2025, Lewis embarked on a Schubert Piano Sonata Series, presenting four programs of the completed sonatas at over 40 venues around the world.

With a natural affinity for Beethoven, Lewis has performed the composer's complete piano concerto cycle all over the world and was the first pianist to present it in a single BBC Proms season, in 2010. He has subsequently performed it in Tanglewood in 2022, Boston in 2023 with Andris Nelsons and Boston Symphony Orchestra, and in 2025 with Eivind Aadland and Oslo Philharmonic. He took part in the BBC's three-part documentary *Being Beethoven*.

Beyond many award-winning Beethoven and Schubert recordings, his discography with Harmonia Mundi also demonstrates his characteristic depth of approach in Romantic repertoire such as Schumann, Mussorgsky, Brahms and Liszt. In March 2025 he gave the world premiere of Thomas Larcher's Piano Sonata in Oviedo, Italy, and he continues to perform it around the world.

In chamber music, Lewis works closely with tenor Mark Padmore in lied recitals around the world—they have recorded three Schubert song cycles together—and he is co-Artistic Director of Midsummer Music, an annual chamber music festival held in Buckinghamshire, UK. In May 2025 he was the first non-American pianist to chair the jury of the Cliburn Piano Competition.

Watch Mark Padmore and Paul Lewis play Schumann's [*Mit Myrthen und Rosen*](#)

The evening's program will be as follows:

ALL ROBERT SCHUMANN

4 Hans Christian Andersen Lieder Op. 40 (*Märzveilchen*, *Muttertraum*, *Der Soldat*, and *Der Spielmann*)
Eichendorff Liederkreis Op. 39
Dichterliebe (16 Song Version) Op. 48

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

MARK PADMORE, Tenor and **PAUL LEWIS**, Piano

WHEN: Friday, September 26, 2025, 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: All **ROBERT SCHUMANN:** 4 *Hans Christian Andersen Lieder* Op. 40 (*Märzveilchen*, *Muttertraum*, *Der Soldat*, and *Der Spielmann*); *Eichendorff Liederkreis* Op. 39; *Dichterliebe* (16 Song Version) Op. 48

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

CONTACT: (415) 392.2545; sfperformances.org

For high-resolution images, contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org

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