

46th SEASON



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ONLINE POSTING:**

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**SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES PRESENTS  
ANTHONY MCGILL | CLARINET  
GLORIA CHIEN | PIANO**



**Friday, April 3, 2026 | 7:30pm  
Herbst Theatre**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA** – March 5, 2026 – San Francisco Performances (SFP) presents acclaimed clarinetist **Anthony McGill** in recital with pianist **Gloria Chien** on **Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:30pm** at **Herbst Theatre**.

**Tickets are \$85/\$75/\$65 and can be purchased at [sfperformances.org](https://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.**

“We’re eagerly looking forward to the recital with Anthony McGill and Gloria Chien. While they have both performed on our stage previously, their intimate duo recital is a perfect showcase for their exceptional artistry, both individually and as collaborative partners. Their program, which features several of the most

beloved works from the clarinet and piano repertoire, is sure to be an audience favorite.” — Melanie Smith, SFP President

### **ABOUT ANTHONY MCGILL**

**Anthony McGill** is one of classical music’s most celebrated performers and advocates. In addition to his dynamic international solo and chamber music career, McGill is Principal Clarinet of the New York Philharmonic—the first African-American principal player in the organization’s history.

McGill was named *Musical America’s* 2024 Instrumentalist of the Year and received the 2020 Avery Fisher Prize.

McGill appears regularly as a soloist with top orchestras, including the New York and Los Angeles Philharmonics, the Metropolitan Opera, and the Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, and Detroit Symphony Orchestras. Highlights of the 2025-26 season include solo appearances with the New York Philharmonic; the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, where he and his brother Demarre McGill will premiere a new concerto for clarinet and flute by Billy Childs under the direction of Jonathon Heyward; *The Knights* at Carnegie Hall; and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales in premiere performances of Gabriel Kahane’s *If love will not swing wide the gates*. As a chamber musician, McGill tours with Trio Afiori — a new ensemble he co-founded with mezzo-soprano Fleur Barron and pianist Gloria Chien — for a weeklong residency with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and performances at Chamber Music Northwest and across the U.S., featuring the premiere of a new work by Valerie Coleman. Additional chamber music highlights include The Annual Isaac Stern Memorial Concert at Carnegie Hall alongside Maxim Vengerov, Vilde Frang, James Ehnes, Daniel Müller-Schott, and Yefim Bronfman; continuing his decades-long collaboration with the Pacifica Quartet; performances with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; and recital appearances in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, and beyond.

An advocate for equity in classical music, McGill founded the #TakeTwoKnees movement and collaborates with the Equal Justice Initiative. He directs Juilliard’s Music Advancement Program and teaches at Curtis. A Curtis graduate himself, McGill serves on several arts organization boards and is a Backun Artist.

### **ABOUT GLORIA CHIEN**

Taiwanese-born pianist **Gloria Chien** has one of the most diverse musical lives as a noted performer, concert presenter, and educator. She made her orchestral debut at the age of sixteen with the Boston Symphony Orchestra with Thomas Dausgaard, and she performed again with the BSO with Keith Lockhart.

In recent seasons, she has performed as a recitalist and chamber musician at Alice Tully Hall, the Library of Congress, the Phillips Collection, the Dresden Chamber Music Festival, and the National Concert Hall in Taiwan. She performs frequently with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. In 2009, she launched String Theory, a chamber music series in Chattanooga, Tennessee that has become one of the region’s premier classical music presenters. The following year she was appointed Director of the Chamber Music Institute at Music@Menlo, a position she held for the next decade. In 2017, she joined her husband, violinist Soovin Kim, as artistic director of the Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival in Burlington, Vermont. The duo became artistic directors at Chamber Music Northwest in Portland, OR in 2020. They were named recipients of Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center’s Award for Extraordinary Service in 2021 for their efforts during the pandemic.

Most recently, Gloria released two albums: her *Gloria Chien LIVE* from the Music@Menlo LIVE label and

*Here With You* with acclaimed clarinetist Anthony McGill on Cedille Records. Gloria received her bachelor, masters and doctoral degrees at the New England Conservatory of Music with Wha Kyung Byun and Russell Sherman. She is Artist-in-Residence at Lee University in Cleveland, and Tennessee. She is a Steinway Artist.

Watch [Anthony McGill and Gloria Chien](#)

**The evening's program will be as follows:**

**DEBUSSY:** *Première Rhapsodie*

**ANDRÉ MESSAGER:** *Solo du Concours*

**SAINT-SAËNS:** Sonata in E-flat major for Clarinet and Piano, Op. 167

**SCHUMANN:** *Fantasiestücke*, Op. 73

**BRAHMS:** Clarinet Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 120, No. 2

### **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**

**ANTHONY MCGILL, Clarinet, and GLORIA CHIEN, Piano**

**WHEN:** Friday, April 3, 2026, 7:30pm

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

**PROGRAM:** **DEBUSSY:** *Première Rhapsodie*; **ANDRÉ MESSAGER:** *Solo du Concours*; **SAINT-SAËNS:** Sonata in E-flat major for Clarinet and Piano, Op. 167; **SCHUMANN:** *Fantasiestücke*, Op. 73; **BRAHMS:** Clarinet Sonata in E-flat major, Op. 120, No. 2

**CONCERT TICKETS:** \$85/\$75/\$65

**CONTACT:** (415) 392.2545; [sfperformances.org](https://sfperformances.org)

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

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