46th SEASON



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 10, 2025 Contact: Terry Conway

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SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES 2025-2026 SEASON WINTER & SPRING SCHEDULE

Highlights include:

- The San Francisco Performances debuts of Augustin Hadelich, Nikola Printz, Miah Persson, Claire Chase, and Ruckus
- The return of audience favorites Anthony McGill, Richard Goode, Davóne Tines, Edgar Meyer, the Danish String Quartet and the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain
- The eleventh year of our PIVOT Festival, with three nights of innovative performances curated by Andy Meyerson of The Living Earth Show

SAN FRANCISCO, **CA – December 10**, **2025** – San Francisco Performances (SFP) continues its 46th season in 2026 with an exceptional lineup of thoughtfully curated programs, created and performed by some of the world's most distinguished artists.

Our 2026 performances begin on **January 30th** with our 11th annual boundary-pushing **PIVOT Festival**, guest curated this season by **Andy Meyerson** of Bay Area-based **The Living Earth Show**, featuring performances by vocalist **Tanner Porter**, San Francisco Ballet dancer/choreographer **Myles Thatcher**, and Bay Area ensembles **Bucket List** (featuring visionary composer/creator **Mark Applebaum**), **KoollooK** (featuring renowned dancer/choreographer **Babatunji**), and **Trust Me** (featuring groundbreaking storytelling artist **Lynnee Breedlove**).

PIVOT's first night (**January 30**) is a multi-dimensional evening of works from two generations of living composers—members of the **Sleeping Giant** collective (Timo Andres, Christopher Cerrone, Jacob Cooper, Ted Hearne, Robert Honstein, and Andrew Norman) and their protegés, performed by **Tanner Porter**, **Travis Andrews**, and **Andy Meyerson**. Night two (**January 31**) features three diverse and compelling bands of Bay Area

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composer/performers sharing the stage for an evening of music and movement, including: **Bucket List** (Mark Applebaum, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson), **KoollooK** (Babatunji, Dennis Aman, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson) and **Trust Me** (Lynnee Breedlove, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson). The final night of PIVOT (**February 1**) features a thrilling collaboration between San Francisco Ballet soloist and choreographer **Myles Thatcher** and **Andy Meyerson,** in a contemporary take on the classical ballet pas de deux. Their program will include **John Cage**'s *Child of Tree*, with choreography by **Merce Cunningham**—a work that hasn't been performed publicly since Cage's death; Nicole Lizée's *The Filthy 15*, with choreography by **Rex Wheeler (aka Lady Camden)**, inspired by songs were at the center of a censorship battle in the 1980s; and a world premiere by Myles Thatcher, with music by Bach.

February 7th brings an exciting collaboration between baritone **Davóne Tines** and early music ensemble **Ruckus**, reimagining American revolutionary music as the nation prepares to mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Their program, titled *What is Your Hand in This*, was conceived by Doug Balliett, Davóne Tines, and Clay Zeller-Townson, and asks audiences to confront the complexity of America's founding and to reflect on their own role in its ongoing story.

February 20 marks the return of a San Francisco Performances audience favorite, violinist **Jennifer Koh**. Forward-thinking and keenly gifted, Koh champions the music of today and tomorrow while cherishing works of the past that brightly resonate with audiences. She performs with pianist **Thomas Sauer**, who is praised by audiences and critics alike for playing with clarity, expressivity, and assured stylistic sense.

Pulitzer Prize-winning composer David Lang has combined and reimagined three texts by iconic Japanese novelist Ryunosuke Akutagawa (*Rashomon*) in *note to a friend*. This haunting monodrama addresses eternal human fascinations with death, love, family, and suicide. The **Attacca Quartet** pairs up with **Theo Bleckmann**, a multi Grammy®-nominated vocalist, composer, and recording artist, for the west coast premiere of Lang's piece on **February 27th** that is sure to be memorable.

Pianist **Lise de la Salle** returns to our stage on **March 12** with a program of works by Chopin and Liszt. A powerful and intense pianist, she has boldly maintained a youthful fire in the course of a fast-paced 20-year career.

Grammy© winner **David Russell** has returned to San Francisco Performances more than any other guitarist, captivating audiences with every strum. He's back on **March 14th** with his flawless technique, broad repertory, and warm stage presence.

Grammy© winner and sought-after violinist **Augustin Hadelich** makes his San Francisco Performances debut at the peak of an impressive international career, earning praise as one of the finest violinists in the world. He is matched in artistry and skill by pianist **Francesco Piemontesi**. Together, they explore works by De Grigny, Debussy, Poulenc, Rameau, and others on **March 20**.

The Brentano String Quartet is among the world's most revered and celebrated quartets. Known for its unique

sensibility and probing interpretive style, the Quartet has performed across five continents in the world's most prestigious venues and festivals. On **March 26**, they bring their exceptional musicianship to an all-Haydn program.

On **March 27th**, the virtuosic bassist and composer **Edgar Meye**r returns to San Francisco Performances with the **Dover Quartet**—the perfect match for his clever programming that spans multiple genres. The two-time Grammy©-nominated Dover Quartet is one of the world's most in-demand chamber ensembles. Together, they'll explore some of Meyer's compositions as well as works by Mozart and Mendelssohn.

As solo artists, SF Performances veterans **Jason Vieaux** and **JIJI** are about as high voltage as guitar playing can get. On **March 28**, this former teacher and pupil pair up to light up the stage with a vibrant approach to standard repertory and a knack for what's hot today and what tomorrow will sound like.

Anthony McGill's SF Performances debut was a highlight of our 2024-25 season. In addition to his dynamic international solo career, McGill is the principal clarinetist of the New York Philharmonic. His eagerly awaited return on **April 3** pairs him with highly acclaimed pianist and frequent collaborator **Gloria Chien**.

In this season's **Gift Concert**, free to SFP subscribers and donors, versatile Bay Area-based mezzo-soprano **Nikola Printz** makes their San Francisco Performances debut in concert with acclaimed pianist **Terrence Wilson** and SFP veterans **Catalyst Quartet**. On **April 7**, they explore works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Edward Elgar, Libby Larsen, and Antonín Dvořák

Swedish soprano **Miah Persson** rewards audiences with an intelligent and personable approach to everything she sings, with each song, phrase, and note supported by her background in stage and recital work. On **April 9**, she makes her SFP debut in a program of Nordic songs, accompanied by compatriot **Magnus Svensson**, a highly regarded pianist and choice partner of many leading singers

The supremely beloved pianist **Richard Goode** returns to SFP on **April 10.** He is widely praised as one of today's leading interpreters of Classical and Romantic music, and is a perennial favorite the world over.

Composer and multi-faceted performer **Caroline Shaw** became the youngest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Music at age 30. She is widely acclaimed for highly polished and inventive works that move among roles, genres, and mediums, imagining a world that has not been heard before but has always existed. On **April 12**, she and the **Attacca Quartet** explore a wide-ranging program that includes some of her own works.

The Grammy®-nominated **Danish String Quartet** continue to assert their preeminence among the world's finest string quartets. Widely celebrated for their artistry and vitality and renowned for the palpable joy they exude in music-making, the Danish String Quartet has become one of today's most in-demand classical quartets. Their **April 14** program includes works by Stravinsky, Schnittke, and traditional Nordic music arranged by the Quartet.

Energy and exhilaration are words that are often used to describe performances by the Ébène Quartet. In the past

two decades the quartet has set standards by making familiar repertoire accessible in new ways, and by constantly seeking ways to connect with audiences. On **April 16**, they present a program of works by Beethoven, Brahms, and Debussy.

Highly praised flutist **Claire Chase** makes her San Francisco Performances debut on April 18. She's a musician, interdisciplinary artist, curator, and teacher who strives to reimagine music for solo flute. *Density 2036* is her ambitious and far-reaching 24-year project to create a new body of flute repertory leading up to the 100th anniversary of composer Edgard Varese's seminal 1936 flute solo, *Density 21.5*.

The wildly popular **Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain** wraps up our season on **May 1** with their trademark blend of madcap humor and exceptional strumming.

VENUES

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

St. Mark's Lutheran Church: St. Mark's Square at 1111 O'Farrell Street (at Franklin), San Francisco

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscriptions are still available for the 2025-26 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** <u>sfperformances.org</u>.

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

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

2025-26 SEASON WINTER - SPRING CALENDAR

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

JANUARY 2026

PIVOT Festival
January 30 - February 1, 2026
Herbst Theatre
Taube Atrium Theatre

Now in its eleventh year, San Francisco Performances' annual PIVOT Festival is eagerly anticipated by audiences and critics for its fresh, delightful sampling of captivating and compelling music of our time. Guest curated this year by **Andy Meyerson** of San Francisco's own **The Living Earth Show**, these three programs offer a thrilling and intimate survey of the networks, interconnections, and impacts of new music.

January 30
Tanner Porter | Vocals
Travis Andrews | Guitar
Andy Meyerson | Percussion
Herbst Theatre | 7:30pm
\$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: Legacies

In this evening of multidimensional works by two generations of living composers, vocalist **Tanner Porter** joins **The Living Earth Show** guitarist **Travis Andrews** and percussionist **Andy Meyerson** in performances of works by **Sleeping Giant** composers group members and their protegés. Featured will be music by Timo Andres, Christopher Cerrone, Jacob Cooper, Ted Hearne, Robert Honstein, and Andrew Norman.

January 31
Bucket List
KoollooK
Trust Me
Herbst Theatre | 7:30pm
\$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: Satellite

The second night of PIVOT features three diverse and compelling bands of Bay Area composer/performers sharing the stage for an evening of original music and movement, including: **Bucket List** (Mark Applebaum, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson), **KoollooK** (Babatunji, Dennis Aman, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson) and **Trust Me** (Lynnee Breedlove, Travis Andrews, Andy Meyerson).

FEBRUARY 2026

February 1
Myles Thatcher | Dancer/Choreographer
Andy Meyerson | Percussion
Taube Atrium Theater | 7pm
\$60

PROGRAM: The Recital

For the final night of our PIVOT Festival, choreographer/dancer Myles Thatcher and percussionist Andy

Meyerson offer a contemporary take on the classical ballet *pas de deux*. Their program will include John Cage's *Child of Tree*, with choreography by Merce Cunningham, a work that hasn't been performed publicly since Cage's death; Nicole Lizée's *The Filthy 15*, with choreography by Rex Wheeler (aka Lady Camden), inspired by songs were at the center of a censorship battle in the 1980s; and a world premiere by Myles Thatcher, with music by Bach.

Myles Thatcher is a member of San Francisco Ballet and, among other works, he choreographed the company's acclaimed *Colorforms*, an innovative dance and film collaboration with SFMOMA.

Davóne Tines | Baritone

Ruckus

Saturday, February 7, 2026 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: Songs by **BALLIETT, CARR, HANDEL, SIMPSON, ALLAN & ROBINSON, COOKE**, and traditional hymns, songs, and reels

Ruckus is a shapeshifting, collaborative baroque ensemble known for its high-energy fusion of the early-music movement's questing, creative spirit with the grit, groove, and jangle of American roots music. Joined by versatile baritone **Davóne Tines**, they explore songs from baroque to contemporary, reimagining American revolutionary music as the nation prepares to mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Tines' artistry creates bright new intersections of history, genres, and styles, telling deeply personal, universally relevant stories of human connection.

Jennifer Koh | Violin Thomas Sauer | Piano Friday, February 20, 2026 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$75/\$65/\$55

PROGRAM: LILI BOULANGER: *D'un matin de printemps*; Two Pieces for Violin and Piano (*Nocturne* and *Cortège*); **TANIA LÉON:** *Para Violin y Piano;* **RAVEL:** Violin Sonata No. 2 in G Major; **SAARIAHO:** *Tocar* FAURÉ: Violin Sonata No. 1 in A Major, Op. 13

A favorite of Bay Area audiences, **Jennifer Koh** is avidly welcomed in concert and recital halls around the world. Forward thinking and keenly gifted, Koh champions the music of today and tomorrow while cherishing works of the past that brightly resonate with audiences. Pianist **Thomas Sauer** is praised by audiences and critics alike for playing with clarity, expressivity, and assured stylistic sense.

Attacca Quartet

Theo Bleckmann | Vocals

Friday, February 27, 2026 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$65/\$55/\$45

PROGRAM: DAVID LANG: note to a friend (West Coast premiere)

Pulitzer Prize-winning composer David Lang has combined and reimagined three texts by iconic Japanese novelist Ryunosuke Akutagawa (*Rashomon*) in *note to a friend*. Originally commissioned as a one-person opera by the Japan Society in New York and the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan center in Japan, this haunting monodrama addresses eternal human fascinations with death, love, family, and suicide. The **Attacca Quartet** pairs up with **Theo Bleckmann**, a multi Grammy®-nominated vocalist, composer and recording artist, for what is sure to be a memorable performance.

Attacca Quartet: Amy Schroeder and Domenic Salerni, violins; Nathan Schram, viola; Andrew Yee, cello

MARCH 2026

Lise de la Salle | Piano

Thursday, March 12, 2026 | 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: CHOPIN: Ballade No. 1 in G Minor, p. 23; Ballade No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 52; **LISZT:** Sonata for Piano

in B Minor, S178; Cantique d'amour, Réminiscences de Don Juan, S418

A powerful and intense pianist, **Lise de la Salle** has boldly maintained a youthful fire in the course of a fast-paced 20-year career. This seemingly boundless energy and drive are burnished with maturity and focus that make her a compelling interpreter worth hearing again and again.

David Russell | Guitar

Saturday, March 14, 2026 | 7:30pm

St. Mark's Lutheran Church | \$75

PROGRAM: To be announced

Grammy© winner **David Russell** has returned to SF Performances more than any other guitarist, and with good reason. His performances never cease to captivate audiences with his flawless technique, broad repertory, and warm stage presence.

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Augustin Hadelich | Violin

Francesco Piemontesi | Piano

Friday, March 20, 2026 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$85/\$75/\$65

PROGRAM: De GRIGNY(arr. Piemontesi): Recit du Chant; DEBUSSY: Violin Sonata; RAMEAU (arr. Piemontesi):

La Boucon; POULENC: Violin Sonata; KURTÁG: Tre Pezzi; FRANCK: Violin Sonata

Grammy© Award winner and sought-after violinist **Augustin Hadelich** makes his San Francisco Performances debut at the peak of an impressive international career, earning praise as one of the finest violinists in the world. He is matched in artistry and skill by pianist **Francesco Piemontesi**.

Brentano String Quartet

Thursday, March 26, 2026 |7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: All Haydn

The Brentano is among the world's most revered and celebrated quartets. Known for its unique sensibility and probing interpretive style, the Quartet has performed across five continents in the world's most prestigious venues and festivals. Over the course of three decades, it has maintained its reputation as one of the world's preeminent ensembles.

Brentano String Quartet: Mark Steinberg and Serena Canin, violins; Misha Amory, viola; Nina Lee, cello

Edgar Meyer | Double Bass

Dover Quartet

Friday, March 27, 2026 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$85/\$75/\$65

PROGRAM: MOZART: Divertimento in D Major, K. 136; MENDELSSOHN: Quartet No. 6 in F Minor, Op. 80;

MEYER: 2 Duets for Cello and Bass; Quintet for Strings

Astonishingly versatile and virtuosic bassist and composer **Edgar Meyer** returns to San Francisco Performances with the **Dover Quartet**—the perfect match for his clever programming that spans multiple genres, often springing from clever partnerships. "I learn a lot from collaboration," he told *Nashville Musicians* magazine. The two-time Grammy©-nominated Dover Quartet is one of the world's most in-demand chamber ensembles.

Dover Quartet: Joel Link and Bryan Lee, violins; Julianne Lee, viola; Camden Shaw, cello

Jason Vieaux | Guitar
JJJI | Guitar
Saturday, March 28, 2026 | 7:30pm
Taube Atrium Theatre | \$70

PROGRAM: Works by ALBÉNIZ, PUJOL, ARLEN, ROLAND DYENS, JIJI, BACH, METHENY, DOMENICO SCARLATTI, GSIMONTI, WREMBEL, TOWNER, and BELLINATI

As solo artists, SF Performances veterans **Jason Vieaux** and **JIJI** are about as high voltage as guitar playing can get. Together, as former teacher and pupil, they light up the stage with an electric interplay showcasing a vibrant approach to standard repertory and a knack for what's hot today and what tomorrow will sound like.

This program is presented in association with OMNI Foundation for the Performing Arts.

APRIL 2026

Anthony McGill | Clarinet Gloria Chien | Piano Friday, April 3, 2026 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$85/\$75/\$65 PROGRAM: To be announced

Anthony McGill's SF Performances debut was a highlight of the 2024-25 season. In addition to his dynamic international solo career, McGill is the principal clarinetist of the New York Philharmonic. His eagerly awaited return pairs him with highly acclaimed pianist and frequent collaborator **Gloria Chien**.

Nikola Printz | Mezzo-Soprano Terrence Wilson | Piano Catalyst Quartet Tuesday, April 7, 2026 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$55 FREE to Subscribers and Donors

PROGRAM: SAMUEL COLERIDGE-TAYLOR: Fantasiestücke for String Quartet, Op. 5; LIBBY LARSEN: Sorrow Song and Jubilee; ANTONÍN DVOŘÁK (arr. Noah Luna): Goin' Home (from the Largo of the Symphony "From the New World", Op.95) EDWARD ELGAR (arr. Donald Fraser): Sea Pictures, Op. 37

In this season's **Gift Concert**, free to SFP subscribers and donors, versatile Bay Area-based mezzo-soprano **Nikola Printz** makes their San Francisco Performances debut in concert with highly acclaimed pianist **Terrence Wilson** and SFP veterans **Catalyst Quartet**. On **April 7**, they explore works by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Edward

Elgar, Libby Larsen, and Antonín Dvořák

Miah Persson | Soprano Magnus Svensson | Piano Thursday, April 9, 2026 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: Nordic songs

Swedish soprano **Miah Persson** rewards audiences with an intelligent and personable approach to everything she sings, with each song, phrase, and note supported by her background in stage and recital work. She is joined by compatriot **Magnus Svensson**, who is a highly regarded accompanist and choice partner of many leading singers.

Richard Goode | Piano Friday, April 10, 2026 | 7:30pm Herbst Theatre | \$85/\$75/\$65 PROGRAM: To be announced

A supremely beloved artist, **Richard Goode** has an unassuming presence that understates the wellspring of interpretation and generosity of emotion that are the hallmarks of his performance. His passion for music and life shine through every note, making it easy to understand why he is a perennial favorite pianist the world over.

Attacca Quartet
Caroline Shaw | Violin & Vocals
Sunday, April 12, 2026 | 7pm
Taube Atrium Theatre | \$60

PROGRAM: SHAW: Entr'acte, The Evergreen; IV. Root and Three Essays; Second Essay (Echo); PAUL WIANCKO: Benkei's Standing Death; "Part I: The Thousandth Encounter"; RADIOHEAD (arr. Nathan Schram): 2+2=5; RAVEL: String Quartet: Allegro moderato—très doux; BEETHOVEN: String Quartet in C-sharp Minor, Op.

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Composer and multi-faceted performer **Caroline Shaw** became the youngest recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Music at age 30. She is widely acclaimed for highly polished and inventive works that move among roles, genres, and mediums, imagining a world that has not been heard before but has always existed. She and the **Attacca Quartet** explore a wide-ranging program that includes some of her own works.

Attacca Quartet: Amy Schroeder and Domenic Salerni, violins; Nathan Schram, viola; Andrew Yee, cello

Danish String Quartet

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | 7:30pm

Herbst Theatre | \$85/\$75/\$65

PROGRAM: STRAVINSKY (arr. DSQ): *Suite Italienne*; **SCHNITTKE:** String Quartet No. 2; Arrangements of traditional Nordic music by the Danish String Quartet

The Grammy®-nominated **Danish String Quartet** continue to assert their preeminence among the world's finest string quartets. Widely celebrated for their artistry and vitality and renowned for the palpable joy they exude in music-making, the Danish String Quartet has become one of today's most in-demand classical quartets.

Danish String Quartet: Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen and Frederik Øland, violins; Asbjørn Nørgaard, viola; Fredrik Schøyen Sjölin, cello

Ébène Quartet

Thursday, April 16, 2026 | 7:30pm

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

PROGRAM: BEETHOVEN: String Quartet Op. 18, No. 2; DEBUSSY: String Quartet Op. 10; BRAHMS: String

Quartet Op. 51, No. 2

Energy and exhilaration are words that are often used to describe performances by the **Ébène Quartet**. In the past two decades the quartet has set standards by making familiar repertoire accessible in new ways, and by constantly seeking ways to connect with audiences.

Ébène Quartet: Pierre Colombet and Gabriel Le Magadure, violins; Marie Chilemme, viola; Yuya Okamoto, cello

Claire Chase | Flute Saturday, April 18, 2026 Herbst Theatre | \$70/\$60/\$50

PROGRAM: CHASE: Density 2036

This is the San Francisco Performances debut recital for highly praised flutist **Claire Chase**, who strives to reimagine music for solo flute. *Density 2036* is her ambitious and far-reaching 24-year project to create a new body of flute repertory leading up to the 100th anniversary of composer Edgard Varese's seminal 1936 flute solo, *Density 21.5*.

MAY 2026

The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain Friday, May 1, 2026

Herbst Theatre | \$100/\$85/\$70

PROGRAM: To be announced from the stage

A mad musical dash careening through genius arrangements of classics, pop songs, and a surprising mix of musical genres and styles, a concert by **The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain** defies description. This strumming, singing cadre of seriously trained musical artists play seriously—and seriously play—with music and their audiences with the happy result of a good time had by all.

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 lyer 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 high-resolution images of the artists in our 2025-2026 season, please visit our Media Page or contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org.

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