

47th SEASON



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE/ONLINE POSTING:

March 31, 2026

Contact: Terry Conway

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

sfperformances.org

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES ANNOUNCES 2026-2027 SEASON

SFP celebrates its 47th Season with compelling lineup of the world's finest musical artists presenting personally curated programs

Chamber, Vocal, Piano, Guitar, Great Artists & Ensembles, Beethoven Anniversary and Saturday Morning Series, plus the 12th installment of the innovative PIVOT Festival

**30 concerts and recitals
October 2, 2026 – May 7, 2027**

The 2026-27 Season features SFP debuts by:

- **Angel Blue**, soprano
- **Elisabeth Brauss**, piano
- **Raphaël Feuillâtre**, guitar
- **Tessa Lark**, violin
- **Berta Rojas**, guitar (with Paquito D'Rivera, clarinet)
- **Fazil Say**, piano
- **Alexandre Tharaud**, piano (with Jean-Guihen Queyras, cello)
- **Ziggy and Miles**, guitars

New works by:

- **Christopher Cerrone** (for Dashon Burton and the Calder Quartet, commissioned by San Francisco Performances) **West Coast Premiere**

- **Shawn Okpebholo** (for Nicholas Phan and Myra Huang)
- **Don Byron, Ted Hearne, and Angélica Negrón** (for Brooklyn Rider)

Additional Highlights:

- The return of piano virtuoso **Víkingur Ólafsson**, with a thrilling program of works by Philip Glass, Debussy, and Rameau.
- The 12th annual **PIVOT Festival**, paying tribute to composer **Philip Glass** as he turns 90, featuring some of the top interpreters of his works: pianist **Timo Andres**, countertenor **Anthony Roth Costanzo**, and **Kronos Quartet**.
- A three-part evening series by the acclaimed **Esmé Quartet** exploring Beethoven's string quartets, 200 years after his passing.
- The second year of the **Esmé Quartet** in SFP's popular Saturday Morning series after a widely praised debut. The Quartet joins the beloved **Dr. Robert Greenberg** in this unique concert-lecture series.
- A timely exploration of stories of immigration and migration in the US by tenor **Nicholas Phan**, with pianist **Myra Huang**.
- *Citizenship Notes*, in which **Brooklyn Rider** imagines the string quartet as a microcosm of democracy with new works they've commissioned from Don Byron, Ted Hearne, and Angélica Negrón.
- The return of audience favorites **Jan Lisiecki, Dreamers' Circus, Jean-Guihen Queyras** (with Alexandre Tharaud), **Paquito D'Rivera** (with Berta Rojas), and **Junction Trio**.

San Francisco, CA, March 31, 2026 — **San Francisco Performances**, the city's leading presenter of intimate concerts and solo recitals, marks its 47th season with a compelling lineup of extraordinary artists from around the world, offering unforgettable programs thoughtfully curated by the artists themselves.

President **Melanie Smith** today made public details of SFP's upcoming schedule of 30 concerts, October 2, 2026 through May 7, 2027, and a complete list of artists and series may be found below. Subscriptions go on sale to the public **April 7** at sfperformances.org, or by phone at **(415) 677-0325**.

The 2026-2027 season features SFP debuts by artists including soprano **Angel Blue**, pianist **Alexandre Tharaud**, guitarist **Berta Rojas**, pianist **Elisabeth Brauss**, violinist **Tessa Lark**, guitar-strumming brothers **Ziggy and Miles**, pianist **Fazil Say**, and guitarist **Raphaël Feuillâtre**; a West Coast premiere by **Christopher Cerrone** (for Dashon Burton and the Calder Quartet), and new works by **Shawn Okpebholo** (for Nicholas Phan and Myra Huang), **Don Byron, Ted Hearne, and Angélica Negrón** (for Brooklyn Rider).

“For more than four decades, San Francisco Performances has brought great artists and great audiences together. Our audiences love the experience of being up-close to artists, and artists tell us how much they appreciate SFP audiences, because they are given the opportunity to connect on a very direct level, performing music they're especially excited about. Sharing in live performances makes us think, feel and appreciate those around us and on stage,” said SFP President **Melanie Smith**.

“This is especially important in our challenging and stressful times,” Smith continued, “and our 47th season provides many opportunities to unite—from celebrations of great composers like Beethoven and Glass, to reflections on our shared humanity in programs exploring the American immigrant and citizenship experience with Brooklyn Rider and Nicholas Phan, to music that nourishes our spirits, performed by artists like Angel Blue, Paquito D’Rivera, Víkingur Ólafsson, and Fazil Say. Our 2026-27 season offers an exceptional variety of artists who share their personal musical journeys with us, engaging us all to be enthusiastic fellow travelers.”

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES 2026-2027 SEASON BY SERIES

All performances at Herbst Theatre unless otherwise noted
401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

THE SHENSON PIANO SERIES

Jan Lisiecki

Thursday, November 12, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: *World of Dance*: dance-inspired works by **MARTINŮ**, **DE FALLA**, **SZYMANOWSKI**, **SCHUBERT**, and **BARTÓK**

Elisabeth Brauss

Friday, January 22, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: MOZART: Sonata No. 11 A-Major KV 331; **BARTÓK:** Bagatelles Nos. 2-7 + 10; **DEBUSSY:** *Pour le Piano*; **BRAHMS:** Eight Piano Pieces Op. 76, Nos. 1-5; **R. SCHUMANN:** *Carnaval*, Op. 9

Víkingur Ólafsson

Friday February 26, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: GLASS: Opening (from *Glassworks*), Etude No 15; **DEBUSSY:** *Ondine* (Prelude No 8 from Book II), *Serenade for the Doll* (from *Children’s Corner*), and *Jardins Sous la Pluie* (from *Estampes*) ; **RAMEAU:** Selections from Suite No 3 in D Major: *Les tendres plaints*, *Les tourbillons*, *La Joyeuse*, *Les cyclopes*; selections from Suite No 2 in E Minor: *Le Rappel des Oiseaux*, *Rigaudons I, II & Double*, *Musette en Rondeaux*, *Tambourin*

Fazil Say

Friday May 7, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 8 in C Minor, Op. 13 “Pathétique”; Sonata No. 23 in F Minor, Op. 57 “Appassionata”; **SAY:** original compositions

THE GREAT ARTISTS AND ENSEMBLES SERIES

Geneva Lewis | Violin

Joshua Mhoon | Piano

Friday, October 2, 2026 | 7pm

PROGRAM: MOZART: Violin Sonata in G Major, K. 379; **SILVESTROV:** Two pieces for Violin and Piano; **WEINBERG:** Sonata #5 for Violin and Piano; **WEBERN:** Four Pieces for Violin and Piano; **STRAUSS:** Violin Sonata in E-flat Major, Op. 1

This concert is part of a special gala evening to celebrate and support San Francisco Performances’ award-winning music education programs. The Gala includes a pre-concert cocktail reception (6pm), a concert (7pm), and a post-concert-dinner.

Jean-Guihen Queyras | Cello

Alexandre Tharaud | Piano

Thursday, October 29, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: POULENC: *Suite Française*; **BRAHMS:** Cello Sonata, Op. 38 No. 1; **BERG:** *Vier Stücke*, Op. 5; **SCHUBERT:** Adagio from Sonata for Arpeggione, D.821; **BRITTEN:** Dialogo and Presto, from Sonata Op. 65; **BACH:** Allegro from Sonata in D Major, BWV1028; **MARAIS:** Prélude from Suite in D Minor (Suites Pour Viole, book II); **DEBUSSY:** *La Plus que Lente* (arr. Roques); **FAURÉ:** *Sicilienne*, Op. 78 and *Papillon*, Op. 77; **BRAHMS** (arr. Queyras/Tharaud): *Hungarian Dances* Nos. 1, 7, 5

Jonathan Swensen | Cello

Juho Pohjonen | Piano

Tuesday, April 6, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: Works by **CHOPIN, POULENC, FAURÉ, PÄRT, LUTOSLAWSKI,** and others

Tessa Lark | Violin

Thursday, April 22, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: Stradgrass—Works for Solo Violin: TELEMANN: Fantasia #5 in A Major; **BACH:** Partita No. 1 in B Minor, BWV 1002; **YSAÏE:** Sonata in G Major, Op. 27, No. 5; **MILSTEIN:** *Paganiniana*; **ORIGLIANO:** *STOMP*; **TRADITIONAL:** *Sally Goodin*

CHAMBER SERIES

Brooklyn Rider

Thursday October 8, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: Citizenship Notes: HAYDN: String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 20 No. 5; **ANGÉLICA NEGRÓN:** *Our Children Speak English and Spanish*; **DON BYRON:** String Quartet No. 3; **TED HEARNE:** *We Are Working Tirelessly For A Ceasefire*; **BOB DYLAN,** arr. Colin Jacobsen: *The Times They Are A-Changin'*

Junction Trio

Saturday, February 6, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: ANDREW NORMAN: New work; **RAVEL:** Piano Trio; **SCHUMANN:** Piano Trio No. 1

Isidore Quartet

Thursday, February 18, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: MOZART: Quartet in D, K 575; **CHILDS:** String Quartet #4 (composed for Isidore Quartet); **BEETHOVEN:** String Quartet in E-Minor, Op. 59, No. 2

Jerusalem Quartet

Thursday, April 8, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: HAYDN: Quartet in D-Major, Op. 76, No. 5; **PROKOFIEV:** Quartet No. 2, Op. 92; **BRAHMS:** Quartet in C-Minor, Op. 51, No. 1

PIVOT Festival - Philip Glass @ 90

January 27 - January 29, 2027

Timo Andres | Piano

Anthony Roth Costanzo | Countertenor

Kronos Quartet

Music of our time takes center stage as SF Performances' PIVOT Festival celebrates living creators and performers and their work that has defined an era and redefined styles and genres.

This season, for our 12th installment of PIVOT, we honor and celebrate **Philip Glass** as he turns 90, exploring his work and legacy in three programs featuring world class artists who are renowned interpreters of Glass' work.

PIVOT Festival Program 1:

Timo Andres | Piano

Wednesday, January 27, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: **ANN SOUTHAM:** *Glass Houses* no 11; **GLASS:** Etude No. 6; Etude No 13; Etude No 14; Etude No 17; **JELLY ROLL MORTON:** *Freakish*; **ANDRES:** *Moving Etudes*; **SAMUEL CARL ADAMS:** *Impromptus II* (after Schubert); **SCHUBERT:** *Impromptu Op. 90 No. 3 in G flat Major*

For the opening night of PIVOT, **Timo Andres** creates a reflective musical dialogue in which works by composers present and past that mirror and are mirrored by a selection of Philip Glass' virtuosic, tour-de-force *Etudes* come together in a delightfully smart program.

PIVOT Festival Program 2:

Anthony Roth Costanzo | Countertenor

Timo Andres | Piano

Thursday, January 28, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: **GLASS:** Songs

Night two of PIVOT sees the return of **Anthony Roth Costanzo** to SF Performances after his impressive 2024 recital debut. He is among the leading interpreters of Philip Glass' vocal music, having taken the opera world by storm in the title role of *Akhmaten* at the Met. He pairs up with pianist **Timo Andres** for this exploration of songs by Philip Glass.

PIVOT Festival Program 3:

Kronos Quartet

Friday, January 29, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: **GLASS:** Quartets

The final night of PIVOT features the multiple Grammy©-winning **Kronos Quartet**, acclaimed longtime champions of Philip Glass' chamber music. They have served as a muse and vehicle for Philip Glass, inspiring premieres of new works and definitive performances and recordings.

SATURDAY MORNING SERIES

Esmé Quartet

Dr. Robert Greenberg, Host and Lecturer

Four Saturdays at 10am:

October 24, 2026; November 7, 2026, December 12, 2026, and February 6, 2027

PROGRAMS: To be announced

The **Esmé Quartet** has enjoyed a tremendously successful debut as San Francisco Performances Artists-in-Residence, bringing exciting new energy to the popular Saturday morning series with music historian **Dr. Robert Greenberg**.

Saturday Mornings combine full performances of works complemented by fun, factual commentary.

BEETHOVEN ANNIVERSARY SERIES with the Esmé Quartet

Two hundred years after Ludwig Van Beethoven's passing (1770-1827), San Francisco Performances' Artists-in-Residence the **Esmé Quartet** embarks on the first of a two-part survey of his complete Quartets.

Beethoven's String Quartets span the majority of his lifetime and work. Hearing them complete gives insight into his evolution and process as a composer, from early years to the end of his life, and eloquently demonstrates his significance as an icon of classical music.

Part II of the series will be presented during the 2027-2028 Season.

Program 1: Friday, March 26, 2027 | 7:30pm*

BEETHOVEN: Op.18 No.1; Op.59 No.1; Op.135

Program 2: Friday, April 23, 2027 | 7:30pm

BEETHOVEN: Op.18 No.3; Op.59 No.2; Op.127

Program 3: Thursday, May 6, 2027 | 7:30pm

BEETHOVEN: Op.18 No.4; Op.74 "Harp"; Op.131

*The March 26th performance will feature a pre-concert lecture by **Dr. Robert Greenberg**, Music Historian-in-Residence, at 6:30pm

ART OF SONG SERIES

Nicholas Phan | Tenor

Myra Huang | Piano

Thursday, October 22, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: *Fellow Citizens*: Songs by **IRVING BERLIN, FRANZ SCHUBERT, RUTH CRAWFORD SEEGER** and others, including a new work by **SHAWN OKPEBHOLO**

Angel Blue | Soprano

Bryan Wagorn | Piano

Friday, December 11, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: Classical art songs, American Spirituals, and favorites from the Great American Song Book

Dashon Burton | Bass-Baritone

Calder Quartet

Saturday, April 3, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: **CHRISTOPHER CERRONE:** New Work (West Coast Premiere); Quintet; **ADÈS:** *Arcadiana*; **BARBER:** *Dover Beach*; **JOHN TAVENER:** *Prayer of the Heart*; **JESSE MONTGOMERY:** *Loisaida, my love*; **CAROLINE SHAW:** *By and By*; **THOMAS OBOE LEE:** Excerpts from *Hancock Shaker Village*

GUITAR SERIES

Berta Rojas | Guitar

Paquito D’Rivera | Clarinet

Saturday, October 24, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: To be announced

Raphaël Feuillâtre

Saturday, November 7, 2026 | 7:30pm

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church

PROGRAM: Works by **TÁRREGA**, **ALBÉNIZ**, **SOLÉS**, **CASTELNUOVO-TEDESCO**, **SCARLATTI**, **BARRIOS**, **LAURO**, **BROUWER**, **SERGIO ASSAD**, **VILLA-LOBOS**, **PIAZZOLA**, and **ROLAND DYENS**

Volterra Project Trio

Saturday, November 14, 2026 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: **GRANADOS:** *Valses Poeticos*; **GRIEG:** Dances from *Peer Gynt*; **SAINT-SAËNS:** *Danse Macabre*; **BERNSTEIN:** Scenes from *West Side Story*; **LUCA ISOLANI:** *Note fuori Campo, Omaggio a Nino Rota*

Ziggy and Miles

Saturday, January 23, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: To be announced

Dreamers’ Circus

Wednesday, April 7, 2027 | 7:30pm

PROGRAM: To be announced from the stage

SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES 2026-2027 SEASON BY DATE

All performances at Herbst Theatre unless otherwise noted

401 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco

OCTOBER 2026

2 Gala Event and Concert: Geneva Lewis, violin and Joshua Mhoon, piano

8 Brooklyn Rider

22 Nicholas Phan, tenor and Myra Huang, piano

24 (10am) Esmé Quartet & Dr. Robert Greenberg Music Historian-in-Residence

24 (7:30pm) Berta Rojas, guitar and Paquito D'Rivera, clarinet

29 Jean-Guihen Queyras, cello and Alexandre Tharaud, piano

NOVEMBER 2026

7 (10am) Esmé Quartet and Dr. Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence

7 (7:30pm) Raphaël Feuillâtre, guitar (at St Mark's Lutheran Church)

12 Jan Lisiecki

14 Volterra Project Trio

DECEMBER 2026

11 Angel Blue*, soprano and Bryan Wagorn, piano

12 Esmé Quartet and Dr. Robert Greenberg, Music Historian-in-Residence

JANUARY 2027

22 Elisabeth Brauss, piano

23 Ziggy and Miles, guitars

27 PIVOT Festival Program 1: Timo Andres, piano

28 PIVOT Festival Program 2: Anthony Roth Costanzo, countertenor and Timo Andres, piano

29 PIVOT Festival Program 3: Kronos Quartet

FEBRUARY 2027

6 (10am) Esmé Quartet & Dr. Robert Greenberg Music Historian-in-Residence

6 (7:30pm) Junction Trio

18 Isidore Quartet

26 Víkingur Ólafsson, piano

MARCH 2027

26 Esmé Quartet - Beethoven Anniversary Program 1

APRIL 2027

3 Dashon Burton, bass-baritone and Calder Quartet
6 Jonathan Swensen, cello and Juho Pohjonen, piano
7 Dreamers' Circus
8 Jerusalem Quartet
22 Tessa Lark, violin
23 Esmé Quartet - Beethoven Anniversary Program 2

MAY 2027

6 Esmé Quartet - Beethoven Anniversary Program 3
7 Fazil Say, piano

Ticket Information

Subscriptions on sale April 7, 2026

Subscribers receive benefits, including savings on single ticket prices, priority seating, free ticket exchange privileges, and invitations to a gift concert. Subscribers may choose from our fixed series, or create their own packages. Call the San Francisco Performances ticket office at **(415) 677-0325** or visit sfperformances.org. **Single event tickets go on sale August 25, 2026.**

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 2026-27 season,
please contact Terry Conway at terry@sfperformances.org or [click here](#)**

#