



Bringing Great Artists Center Stage

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**SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES
ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 SEASON**

Yo-Yo Ma Brings Silk Road Ensemble to San Francisco for First Time

**Robert McDuffie and Venice Baroque Orchestra Perform West Coast
Premiere of Philip Glass Violin Concerto *The American Four Seasons***

**Legendary Butoh Troupe Sankai Juku Returns with West Coast
Premiere of Celebrated Work**

**Composer/Pianist Jake Heggie and Mezzo Frederica von Stade Offer
Family Matinee**

Organization Unveils Dynamic New Look for 31st Season

San Francisco, CA —San Francisco Performances today announced details of its 31st, 2010-2011 Season, featuring several premieres and artist debuts, as well as a dynamic new look for the organization. The season runs from October 8, 2010 through May 24, 2011 at venues in San Francisco, Berkeley and Oakland. Subscriptions are on sale now, single tickets go on sale Monday, August 23.

“As we enter our fourth decade, I’m very excited and happy to unveil a new visual identity for this organization: a new logo and tagline, ‘Bringing Great Artists Center Stage,’” said SFP President and Founder Ruth Felt. “Together, these new elements communicate the energy, excitement and unique experiences that San Francisco Performances brings to the city and the greater Bay Area.”

“The vitality of this new look is reflected throughout the 2010-2011 season,” she continued. “We are delighted to welcome back **Yo-Yo Ma**, who returns to our series to bring the multi-cultural **Silk Road Project** to San Francisco for the first time. Our close association with Philip Glass continues with his new violin concerto *The American Four Seasons* performed by violinist/leader **Robert McDuffie** with the **Venice Baroque Orchestra**, and a revival of **Lucinda Childs’ Dance**, an iconic 1979 work featuring the original score by Philip Glass.”

The Dance Series highlights American choreographer-led companies, most notably SFP regulars the **Paul Taylor Dance Company**. And as a Special Event, the exquisite butoh troupe **Sankai Juku** returns, performing the Bay Area premiere of *Hibiki: Resonance From Far Away* in a co-presentation with Yerba Buena Center for the Arts.

On the Piano Series, brilliant Austrian keyboardist **Till Fellner** makes his San Francisco debut with a program that includes a new work by 18-year-old composer/pianist prodigy Kit Armstrong. And for the first time, San Francisco Performances presents a piano-four-hands recital, with **Arnaldo Cohen** and **Mihaela Ursuleasa** sharing a single keyboard.

The Vocal Series brings two breathtaking sopranos, **Measha Brueggergosman** and **Kate Royal**, and a unique Americana program with tenor **Anthony Dean Griffey**, pianist **Warren Jones** and fiddler **Paul Brown** performing the West Coast premiere of Kenneth Frazelle’s *Songs in the Rear View Mirror*. Another rising-star soprano, former Adler Fellow **Elza van den Heever**, bows on the Young Masters Series.

San Francisco Performances presents the Bay Area debuts of the **Tetzlaff and Pavel Haas** Quartets on the Chamber Series, and also welcomes back the **Pacifica Quartet** performing with acclaimed young clarinetist/composer **Jörg Widmann**.

And Bay Area favorites mezzo-soprano **Frederica von Stade** and composer/pianist **Jake Heggie** add celebrity sparkle to SFP’s sophisticated Family Matinee Series.

San Francisco Performances new logo and tagline are the result of a Visual Identity and Brand Strategy Service Grant administered by the Taproot Foundation, a national organization that gives non-profits access to top-tier professionals in the community.

THE COMPLETE 2010-2011 SEASON

SPECIAL EVENTS

Violin soloist and leader **Robert McDuffie** is joined by the outstanding **Venice Baroque Orchestra** for “The Seasons Project,” which pairs Vivaldi’s iconic Baroque work *The Four Seasons* with the West Coast premiere of a new work by Philip Glass, Violin Concerto No. 2, *The American Four Seasons*. The concert will be 8 p.m. November 2 at the Herbst Theatre.

The extraordinary butoh company **Sankai Juku** returns with the West Coast premiere of *Hibiki: Resonance From Far Away*, regarded as one of the most important and memorable works by Artistic Director Ushio Amagatsu. Performances, co-presented by Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, are 8 p.m. November 11-13 and 2 p.m. November 14 at Novellus Theater at YBCA.

San Francisco Performances joins with the **Oakland East Bay Symphony**, **Michael Morgan** conductor, to bring violinist (and former SFP Jazz Artist-in-Residence) **Regina Carter** as soloist for the West Coast premiere of a new violin concerto by **Billy Childs**, co-commissioned by SFP. Performances are 8 p.m. February 25 and 2 p.m. February 27 at the Paramount Theatre in Oakland.

Celebrated cellist **Yo-Yo Ma**, who had his 1984 San Francisco recital debut with San Francisco Performances, returns with his **Silk Road Project**, a collective of accomplished performers and composers from more than 20 countries that draws on wide-ranging global repertoire. The concert is 8 p.m. April 7 at Davies Symphony Hall.

PIANO SERIES

Following his monumental, two-year survey of the Beethoven piano sonatas, **András Schiff** digs deeper into the 19th century with a program celebrating Romantic giants Mendelssohn and Schumann (October 16). **Arnaldo Cohen** and **Mihaela Ursuleasa** share the keyboard for a rare piano-four-hands recital of works by Mozart, Schubert, Barber, Ravel and Dvořák (November 11). Renowned Austrian pianist **Till Fellner** has his San Francisco debut (February 2), with a program that includes a new work by 18-year-old composer/pianist Kit Armstrong. Completing this powerful series is the return of **Dubravka Tomsic** (April 9), performing Chopin and Beethoven. All concerts begin 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre.

The Shenson Piano Series is made possible by Fred M. Levin and Nancy Livingston, The Shenson Foundation.

CHAMBER SERIES

One of the world's premiere ensembles, the **Takács Quartet**, appears with San Francisco Performances for the first time (October 9), bringing works by Haydn, Bartók and Beethoven. The **Pacifica Quartet** (known for its performances of the complete Elliott Carter Quartets) performs composer/clarinetist **Jörg Widmann's** Quartet No. 2, *Choral Quartet*, and is joined by the clarinetist for Brahms' *Quintet in B minor* (March 8). The risk-taking young **Pavel Haas Quartet** performs a work by its namesake composer, Quartet No. 2, Op. 7 "From the Monkey Mountains," as well as Schulhoff and Debussy (April 3). Violinist Christian Tetzlaff's eponymous **Tetzlaff Quartet** has its San Francisco debut (April 16), bringing works by Haydn, Mendelssohn and Schoenberg. All concerts begin at 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre, except for Pavel Haas, which begins at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY MORNING SERIES

The San Francisco Saturday Morning Series with Artists-in-Residence the **Alexander String Quartet** and music historian **Robert Greenberg** has been an SFP centerpiece since 1994. These popular programs continue with a focus on the string quartets of Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály at 10 a.m. January 15, February 19, March 12 and May 14 at the Herbst Theatre.

In Berkeley, at St. John's Presbyterian Church, the Alexander and Greenberg repeat their celebration of Dvořák in three programs, including a performance of the composer's Piano Quintet (with guest Roger Woodward) at 10 a.m. December 4, 11 and 18.

The Saturday Morning Series is the result of a unique three-way partnership between San Francisco Performances, San Francisco State University and the May T. Morrison Chamber Music Center.

VIRTUOSI SERIES

British violinist **Daniel Hope** and pianist **Jeffrey Kahane** begin the series on February 10 with a program of Brahms, Messiaen, Schulhoff and Franck. Violinist **Hilary Hahn** performs Beethoven, Ives, Bach, Antheil and "Variations on a Theme by Corelli," accompanied by **Valentina Lisitsa** (February 19), and daring violinist **Leila Josefowicz** performs Brahms, Shostakovich, Stravinsky, Schubert and Erkki Sven Tuur's *Conversio*, accompanied by **John Novacek** (March 24). Double-bassist **Edgar Meyer** closes the series with a solo program of Bach, Bottesini and his own compositions (May 14). All concerts are 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre.

DANCE SERIES

New York-based **Stephen Petronio Company** returns with the West Coast premiere of *I Drink the Air Before Me*, with music by acclaimed classical, pop/rock and film composer Nico Muhly, who did the soundtrack for the Oscar-nominated movie *The Reader* (March 4-5, 8 p.m.).

After a year's hiatus, the **Paul Taylor Dance Company** returns with three programs that include the West Coast premiere of the critically acclaimed *Brief Encounters*, as well as a new work and early favorites such as *Orbs 1 & 2* (March 30-April 2, 8 p.m.; April 3, 2 p.m.).

Choreographer **Lucinda Childs**, composer **Philip Glass** and groundbreaking visual artist **Sol LeWitt** offer a unique chance to view a revival and original simultaneously with *Dance*. As in the 1979 minimalist masterpiece, Childs' current company performs the work live, with LeWitt's film of the original dancers projected behind them — all masterfully edited to Glass' iconic soundtrack (April 28-30, 8 p.m.).

Doug Varone and Dancers close the series with the West Coast premiere of *Chapters From a Broken Novel*, co-commissioned by San Francisco Performances, with music by David Van Tiegham, known for his collaborations with performance artist Laurie

Anderson (May 21, 8 p.m. and May 22, 2 p.m.).

All dance events are at Novellus Theater at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. *The Dance Series* is sponsored by James C. Hormel and Michael P. Nguyen.

VOCAL SERIES

Vibrant Canadian soprano **Measha Brueggergosman** brings the intimate program *Night and Dreams*, from her CD of the same name, with songs by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann, Chopin and R. Strauss, with pianist **Justus Zeyen** (November 10). Tenor **Anthony Dean Griffey**, pianist **Warren Jones** and fiddler **Paul Brown** perform an Americana-themed program that includes the West Coast premiere of Kenneth Frazelle's *Songs in the Rear View Mirror* (January 28). Baritone **Christopher Maltman** returns with accompanist **Malcolm Martineau**, performing works by Fauré, Schumann, Hahn, Schubert and Mahler (March 18). And British soprano **Kate Royal** closes the series (May 24) with *The Truth About Love*, songs by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Fauré, Debussy, Bridge and Britten. All recitals are 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre.

YOUNG MASTERS SERIES

Former Adler Fellow and Merola alum, soprano **Elza van den Heever**, brings a program of Handel arias plus works by Schumann, Fauré, Strauss, Copland and Afrikaans songs by S. Le Roux Marais, accompanied by **John Parr** (December 5). Rising pianist **Jenny Lin**'s program pairs selections from Bach's *The Well-Tempered Clavier* and Shostakovich's *24 Preludes and Fugues, Op. 87* (February 27), and cellist **Julie Albers** will perform Beethoven, De Falla and Rachmaninoff, accompanied by **Adam Neiman** (March 20). All concerts are 2 p.m. at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Concert Hall.

JAZZ SERIES

San Francisco's favorite jazz vocalist **Paula West** returns with the **George Mesterhazy Quartet** to open the season, performing a program bound for Feinstein's in New York's Regency Hotel (October 8). **The Bad Plus**, led by pianist **Ethan Iverson**, comes back for a second concert following its rocking 2009 SFP debut (December 4), followed by the genre-bending **Turtle Island String Quartet** (celebrating its 25th anniversary) accompanied by mandolin player **Mike Marshall** and jazz pianist **Cyrus Chestnut** (December 10). All concerts begin 8 p.m. at the Herbst Theatre.

GUITAR SERIES

Classical guitar giant **John Williams** performs a purist's dream program: works by Villa-Lobos, Brouwer, Bebe and Barrios, as well as his own compositions (October 17). The **Los Angeles Guitar Quartet** brings its singular sound (January 15), and **Duo Melis** —

guitarists Susana Prieto and Alexis Muzurakis — returns (March 19), as does master guitarist **David Russell** (April 22). All concerts are at the Herbst Theatre at 8 p.m., except for Williams, which starts at 7 p.m.

The Guitar Series is presented in Association with Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts.

FAMILY MATINEE SERIES

Family Matinees last about an hour, and artists make a point of interacting with young audience members. Featured this year are: **Turtle Island String Quartet** (11 a.m. December 11, Herbst Theatre); **Stephen Petronio Company** (2 p.m. March 5, Novellus Theater, YBCA); **Paul Taylor Dance Company** (2 p.m. April 2, Novellus Theater, YBCA); soprano **Frederica von Stade** and composer/pianist **Jake Heggie** (2 p.m. May 1, Herbst Theatre); **Edgar Meyer**, double bass (11 a.m. May 15, Koret Auditorium at the de Young Museum).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS

- **Resident Artists:** This fall, jazz pianist **Vijay Iyer** will succeed vocalist Luciana Souza as SFP Jazz Artist-in-Residence, while resident artists the **Alexander String Quartet**, music historian **Robert Greenberg** and guitarists **Peter** and **Zoltán Katona** continue to anchor school and community programs.
- **Concerts with Conversation:** SFP's long-running "Concerts with Conversation" series offers five mainstage artists in freewheeling conversation and music at the Mission District's Community Music Center. These performances, which are free and open to the public, have featured such talents as pianist Richard Goode, cellist Alisa Weilerstein and jazz pianist/composer Fred Hersch.
- **Salon Series:** Local artists are featured in the low-cost Salon Series. Concerts begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Hotel Rex in downtown San Francisco. Details TBA.

TICKET INFORMATION

Subscription series for San Francisco Performances' 2010-2011 Season are on sale now. Subscribers receive benefits, including savings on single-ticket prices, priority seating, free ticket exchange privileges, e-mail concert reminders, and invitations to two free concerts. To subscribe, call San Francisco Performances at (415) 392-2545 or visit www.sfperformances.org.

Single-event tickets go on sale Monday, August 23 and can also be purchased by calling or visiting the web site. (Subscribers will have priority seating.) Note: Make-Your-Own

Series subscriptions and single tickets that can be added to subscriptions at a discount are available by phone, mail and/or fax order only, not online.

To request a brochure, call San Francisco Performances at (415) 398-6449, or e-mail info@sfperformances.org.

ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO PERFORMANCES

Founded in 1979 by Artistic Director Ruth Felt, San Francisco Performances is the city's pre-eminent presenter of world-renowned and emerging artists in chamber music, vocal and instrumental recitals, jazz and contemporary dance. Through innovative programming, SFP brings audiences and artists together in unique ways, with more than 100 premieres and San Francisco debuts to its credit, including pianist Thomas Adès, cellist Yo-Yo Ma and violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter; and dance companies Batsheva from Israel and Compañía Nacional de Danza from Spain.

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