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Toronto Symphony Orchestra
Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

SEPTEMBER 2025
TO JUNE 2026

TSO.CA 416.598.3375

2026

Whether you've been attending TSO concerts for years or are joining us for the very first time—welcome! We've designed our 2025/26 season with you in mind, incorporating feedback from our audiences to shape a vibrant year of music. **Here's what's new:**



EARLIER EVENING START TIMES

Every Masterworks and Pops evening concert will begin at **7:30pm**, providing you earlier access to the music you adore.



REVISED MASTERWORKS SCHEDULE

Enjoy the classics you crave later in the week with our new **Thursday-through-Sunday Masterworks** schedule, including even more Sunday matinee performances (now seven!) to meet popular demand.



REVAMPED POPS SCHEDULE

The Pops Series now features a new **Wednesday and Thursday** schedule with the same thrilling lineup of Broadway, Hollywood, and radio hits.



MORE TSO IN NORTH YORK

We're thrilled to bring even more TSO performances to George Weston Recital Hall at the Meridian Arts Centre! Join us for an **expanded Sunday series** (now five!) and a brand-new three-concert **Saturday evening series**.

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*Curated Packages only

SEWATOKWA'TSHERA'T

(The Dish With One Spoon)

The land we gather on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit River, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat Peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples.

We recognize that Toronto is within the territory governed by the Dish With One Spoon treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee, which bound them to share the territory and protect the land, and that subsequent Indigenous Nations and Peoples, and all newcomers, are invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

As we continue our second century of sharing the healing power of art, we are grateful to live and make music on this land.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY

The TSO seeks to serve broad and diverse audiences by sharing meaningful artistic experiences that can be enjoyed by everyone, and that foster social inclusion and societal well-being. Together, we can create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

Learn more at [TSO.CA/Tutti](https://www.tso.ca/tutti).

A MESSAGE FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Your Toronto Symphony Orchestra's 2025/26 season is a year of big ideas, incredible artistry, and profound connections—but what excites me most is the diversity of experiences we've crafted for you.



Stunning symphonic masterpieces—like *Carmina Burana* and Beethoven's Ninth, which bookend the season—are complemented by Pops programs brimming with energy, blockbuster films with live orchestra, and charming concerts tailor-made for young listeners. In addition, our Relaxed Performances allow members of Toronto's Neurodiverse and Disability communities to engage with our music in their own unique ways.

In short, there is something for absolutely everyone to discover and enjoy!

On top of it all, as a lifelong soccer fan, I can't help but feel the energy of this city preparing to host the World Cup next year. In the same spirit of international excellence, your TSO will feature remarkable guests from across the globe—including megastar pianist Lang Lang, sitarist Anoushka Shankar, and our brilliant Spotlight Artists, violinist Joshua Bell and pianist Bruce Liu.

Ultimately, each season comes alive through our audience, and is made possible thanks to the thoughtfulness of our donors and other supporters. The magic of live music is in the shared moment, the way it connects us to something greater. And I look forward to experiencing this extraordinary season together with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gustavo Gimeno". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Gustavo Gimeno
Music Director

It all begins here—start the season
with a **surge of sound!**

Performances at Roy Thomson
Hall unless otherwise indicated.

MASTERWORKS

CARMINA BURANA

Thu, Sep 18, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sat, Sep 20, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sun, Sep 21, 2025 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Julie Roset, soprano

Andrew Haji, tenor

Sean Michael Plumb, baritone

Toronto Mendelssohn Choir

Jean-Sébastien Vallée, TMC Artistic Director

Toronto Children's Chorus

Zimfira Poloz, TCC Artistic Director

Wynton Marsalis: Concerto for Orchestra

(Canadian Première/TSO Co-commission)

Orff: *Carmina Burana*

O Fortuna! A new season takes flight with the electrifying force of Orff's *Carmina Burana*, as chorus, soloists, and orchestra come together to deliver an unforgettable surge of drama and energy. Also featuring Wynton Marsalis's jazz-infused Concerto for Orchestra, this season-opening concert offers a thrilling fusion of classical tradition and modern innovation that will leave audiences in awe.

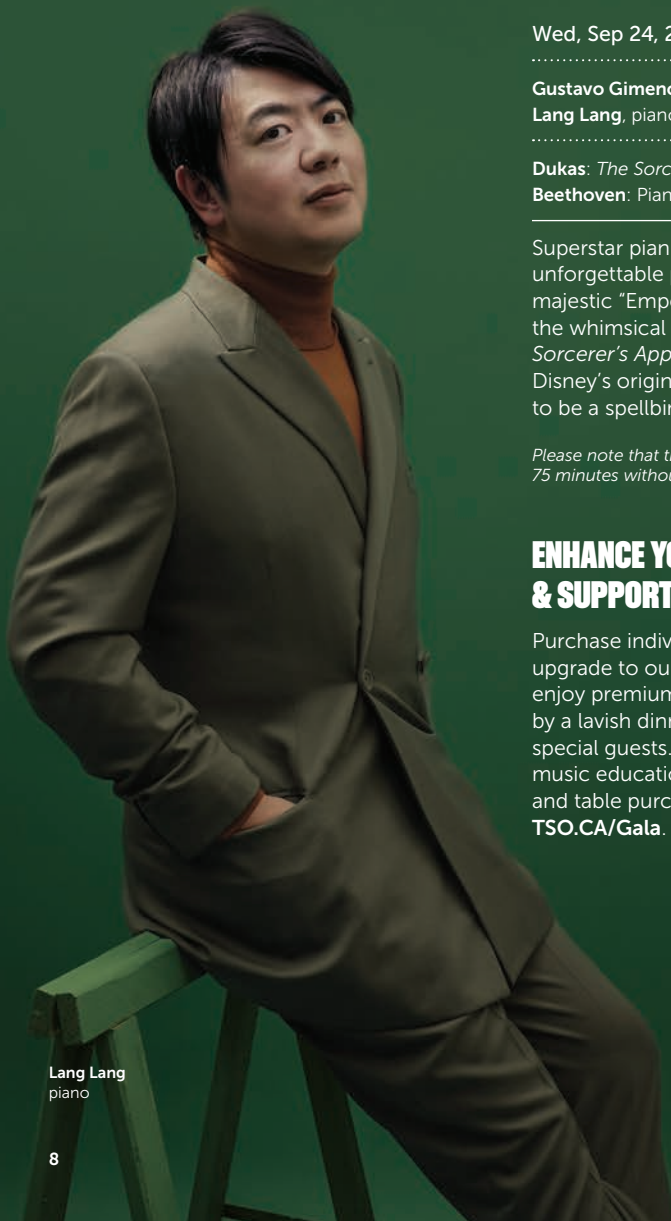
CELEBRATE
OUR SEASON
OPENING!



SPECIAL

LANG LANG'S EMPEROR

A GALA CELEBRATION



Lang Lang
piano

Wed, Sep 24, 2025 at 7:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Lang Lang, piano

Dukas: *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5 "Emperor"

Superstar pianist Lang Lang returns for an unforgettable performance of Beethoven's majestic "Emperor" Concerto. Also featuring the whimsical magic of Dukas's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, made famous in Disney's original *Fantasia*, this promises to be a spellbinding evening of music.

Please note that this performance will run approximately 75 minutes without intermission.

ENHANCE YOUR EXPERIENCE & SUPPORT YOUR TSO!

Purchase individual concert tickets, or upgrade to our Gala Dinner package and enjoy premium concert seating followed by a lavish dinner with Gustavo Gimeno and special guests. Proceeds support the TSO's music education programs. For Gala ticket and table purchase information, visit TSO.CA/Gala.

TSO.CA

MASTERWORKS

BEETHOVEN'S PASTORAL



Thu, Sep 25, 2025
at 7:30pm
Sat, Sep 27, 2025 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Kelly Zimba Lukić, flute (pictured)

Mozart: Symphony No. 31 "Paris", K. 297
Ibert: Flute Concerto
Beethoven: Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"

Enjoy a tranquil nature walk with Beethoven's "Pastoral", the composer's musical ode to the countryside. Principal Flute Kelly Zimba Lukić dazzles in Ibert's Flute Concerto, revealing the unexpected power and intensity of the instrument, and Mozart's charming "Paris" Symphony fills the air with *joie de vivre*.

POPS

THE BILLY JOEL SONGBOOK

Wed, Oct 8, 2025 at 2:00pm
Wed, Oct 8, 2025 at 7:30pm
Thu, Oct 9, 2025 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Tony DeSare, vocalist & piano
Dylan Shamat, bass
Michael Klopp, drums

Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke and the debonair Tony DeSare bring the iconic music of Billy Joel to life in a power-packed performance of the singer's chart-topping hits. From the smooth swing of "New York State of Mind" to the high-energy "Uptown Girl", DeSare's voice and keyboard skills capture the spirit of the iconic Piano Man. Get ready to sing and sway to Billy Joel favourites in this can't-miss Pops Series opener.

416.598.3375

MASTERWORKS

JONATHAN CROW PLAYS MENDELSSOHN

Thu, Oct 2, 2025 at 7:30pm
Fri, Oct 3, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sat, Oct 4, 2025 at 7:30pm

Peter Oundjian, conductor
Jonathan Crow, violin

Joan Tower: Suite from Concerto for Orchestra
(Canadian Première)
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto
Elgar: Variations on an Original Theme "Enigma"

Join Conductor Emeritus Peter Oundjian and Concertmaster Jonathan Crow for a spectacular performance of Mendelssohn's melodic and tender Violin Concerto, alongside the mystery and intrigue of Elgar's "Enigma" Variations. Joan Tower's suite from her Concerto for Orchestra opens, shining a spotlight on the vivacity of the orchestra.



→
Peter Oundjian
Conductor Emeritus



Jonathan Crow
Concertmaster

WESTON WEEKENDS BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

Sat, Oct 11, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sun, Oct 12, 2025 at 3:00pm

George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Earl Lee, conductor
Jaemin Han, cello

Mozart: Overture to *The Marriage of Figaro*, K. 492
Tchaikovsky: *Variations on a Rococo Theme*
Carlos Simon: *Fate Now Conquers* (Canadian Première)
Beethoven: Symphony No. 5

Mozart's effervescent overture to *The Marriage of Figaro* provides a delightful introduction to cellist Jaemin Han, who delivers dazzling virtuosity in Tchaikovsky's *Rococo Variations*. Carlos Simon's *Fate Now Conquers*, inspired by Beethoven's reflections on destiny, sets the stage for the composer's Fifth Symphony—featuring the most iconic first four notes in classical music.

MASTERWORKS MOZART & R. STRAUSS

Thu, Oct 16, 2025 at 7:30pm
Fri, Oct 17, 2025 at 7:30pm*
Sat, Oct 18, 2025 at 7:30pm
*Pre-concert performance at 6:15pm. See page 31.

Franz Welser-Möst, conductor (pictured)
Bruce Liu, piano (2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 23, K. 488
R. Strauss/comp. Franz Welser-Möst: Suite from
Der Rosenkavalier

Renowned conductor Franz Welser-Möst, celebrated worldwide for leading the Vienna Philharmonic's iconic New Year's Concert, takes the podium for this unforgettable program. Spotlight Artist Bruce Liu brings Mozart's spirited Piano Concerto No. 23 to vibrant life, and Richard Strauss's radiant *Der Rosenkavalier*, a bittersweet tale of love and loss, warms hearts with its enchanting waltzes and tender melodies.



MASTERWORKS DEBUSSY & SIBELIUS

Thu, Oct 30, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 1, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sun, Nov 2, 2025 at 3:00pm

Paavo Järvi, conductor
Ksenija Sidorova, accordion

Debussy: *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*
Tõnu Kõrvits: *Dances*: Concerto for Accordion
and Orchestra (North American Première/
TSO Co-commission)
Pēteris Vasks/arr. George Morton:
The Fruit of Silence
(North American Première)
Sibelius: Symphony No. 5

The esteemed Paavo Järvi returns with the serene beauty of Debussy's *Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun*, and the grandeur of Sibelius's Symphony No. 5, inspired by the natural beauty of the composer's Finnish homeland. Accordion sensation Ksenija Sidorova adds a fresh twist to the program with Kõrvits's dynamic Concerto for Accordion and Orchestra.



→
Paavo Järvi
conductor



Ksenija Sidorova
accordion

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS TRICKS, TREATS 'N' TUNES

Sun, Oct 26, 2025 at 1:30pm
Sun, Oct 26, 2025 at 4:00pm

Relaxed Performance at 11:00am. See page 29.

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

Get ready for a silly and spooky afternoon of Halloween fun! You'll be spellbound as the orchestra performs ghoulish grooves and bewitching beats with plenty of musical tricks and treats. Be sure to come in costume and join us for a frightfully fantastic musical adventure!



Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser
Barrett Principal Education Conductor
& Community Ambassador

SPECIAL TWOSET VIOLIN

Wed, Nov 5, 2025 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
TwoSet Violin
Eddy Chen, violin
Brett Yang, violin

TwoSet Violin, classical music's favourite viral duo, comes to Toronto on another World Tour! For one night only, join Brett and Eddy for an unforgettable concert experience of jaw-dropping musical panache, side-splitting humour, and everything in between. Don't miss this chance to see internet sensation TwoSet Violin live with your TSO!



TwoSet Violin

SPECIAL

E.T. IN CONCERT

Fri, Nov 7, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 8, 2025 at 2:00pm

Christopher Dragon, conductor

Experience the magic of Steven Spielberg's *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* on the big screen with John Williams's iconic score performed live, as your TSO transports you on an unforgettable journey home.

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FILM
WITH LIVE
ORCHESTRA

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS

THE COMPOSER IS DEAD

Sun, Nov 16, 2025 at 1:30pm
Sun, Nov 16, 2025 at 4:00pm

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
& TSYO Conductor

Karen Kobayashi, flute

Calling all sneaky sleuths and would-be detectives! Who did the composer in? Was it the shifty string section, or maybe the treacherous trombones?

Every instrument in the orchestra is a suspect! With music by Nathaniel Stookey and text by Lemony Snicket, *The Composer Is Dead* is a hilarious whodunit for the whole family.



MASTERWORKS

JOSHUA BELL RETURNS

Thu, Nov 13, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 15, 2025 at 7:30pm

Dalia Stasevska, conductor

Joshua Bell, violin (2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Sibelius: *Finlandia**

de Hartmann: Violin Concerto (Canadian Première)

Dvořák: Symphony No. 7

*Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra performs side by side with the TSO.

The ever-impressive Joshua Bell, a 2025/26 Spotlight Artist, returns to the TSO stage, bringing the lush cinematic magic of Ukrainian composer Thomas de Hartmann's rediscovered Violin Concerto. The Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra joins to deliver a rousing performance of Sibelius's *Finlandia* to open, while Dvořák's stirring Symphony No. 7 provides a magnificent finale.



Joshua Bell
violin (2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

MASTERWORKS

ROMEO & JULIET

Thu, Nov 20, 2025 at 7:30pm
Fri, Nov 21, 2025 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 22, 2025 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Matthew-John Knights: *Lines, Layers, Ligaments*
(TSO Commission)

Prokofiev: Symphony No. 3

Prokofiev/comp. Gustavo Gimeno: Suite from
Romeo and Juliet

Step into the timeless tale of love and tragedy with Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, masterfully brought to life in this live-recorded performance. Matthew-John Knights's *Lines, Layers, Ligaments* explores the intricate connections between the human body and the natural world, and Prokofiev's Symphony No. 3 stirs with gripping drama and intensity.

LIVE-RECORDED
PERFORMANCE



Leonie Wall, flute; Kelly Zimba Lukić, Principal Flute;
Sarah Jeffrey, Principal Oboe; Hugo Lee, oboe

TORONTO SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

MENDELSSOHN'S REFORMATION

Sat, Nov 29, 2025 at 3:00pm

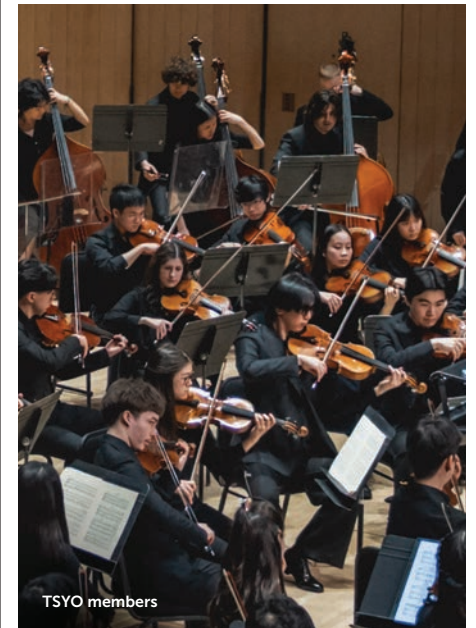
George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
& TSYO Conductor

Program to include:

Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 5 "Reformation"

Experience Mendelssohn's "Reformation" Symphony, a triumphant celebration of faith and unity. Its majestic themes, including the stirring "Dresden Amen" and powerful finale built around Martin Luther's hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God", create an unforgettable journey of resilience and hope that will leave audiences inspired.



TSYO members

'Tis the Season to SYMPHONY WITH US

MASTERWORKS

TCHAIKOVSKY'S SWAN LAKE

Thu, Nov 27, 2025 at 7:30pm*

Sat, Nov 29, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sun, Nov 30, 2025 at 3:00pm

*Pre-concert performance at 6:15pm. See page 31.

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Denis Kozhukhin, piano

New Works by NextGen Composers:

Sophie Dupuis (Nov 27 only)

Darren Xu (Nov 29 only)

Jesse Plessis (Nov 30 only)

Grieg: Piano Concerto

Tchaikovsky: Suite from *Swan Lake*

Embrace the holiday season with a program that conjures enchanting winter wonderlands. Denis Kozhukhin delivers a spellbinding interpretation of Grieg's iconic Piano Concerto, evoking Norway's majestic fjords and snow-capped peaks, while Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* suite captures the shimmering romance and drama of the cherished ballet. Plus, enjoy exciting World Premieres from our NextGen Composers.

SPECIAL

MERRY MURDOCH MYSTERIES IN CONCERT

Tue, Dec 2, 2025 at 7:30pm

Lucas Waldin, conductor

Yannick Bisson, host

Etobicoke School of the Arts Festive Voices

David Ambrose, ESA Choir Director

Celebrate the festive season...with murder. Join the hit CBC series *Murdoch Mysteries* with host Yannick Bisson and your TSO for an evening of suspense and intrigue in a holiday whodunit. Watch as scenes from an all-new episode entitled "Sugar Plum Murdoch" unfold on screen, with the TSO's live orchestral score enhancing every twist and turn. Including special guests and surprise appearances by the cast, this one-of-a-kind concert invites you to solve the season's most captivating caper—where holiday spirit meets high-stakes mystery.



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SPECIAL HOME ALONE IN CONCERT

FILM
WITH LIVE
ORCHESTRA

Thu, Dec 4, 2025 at 7:30pm

Fri, Dec 5, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sat, Dec 6, 2025 at 2:00pm

Sat, Dec 6, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sun, Dec 7, 2025 at 2:00pm

Steven Reineke, conductor

Modern Sound Collective

Kai Leung, MSC Artistic Director

The seasonal favourite *Home Alone* returns with John Williams's delightful score performed live to picture by your TSO. Macaulay Culkin stars as an inventive eight-year-old, accidentally left by himself over Christmas, who repeatedly outsmarts a couple of bungling thieves to protect the family home—hilarious and heartwarming fun for the whole family!

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POPS

TSO HOLIDAY POPS

Wed, Dec 10, 2025 at 2:00pm

Wed, Dec 10, 2025 at 7:30pm

Thu, Dec 11, 2025 at 2:00pm

Thu, Dec 11, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sarah Hicks, conductor

Mikaela Bennett, soprano (pictured)

VIVA Singers Toronto

Carol Ratzlaff, VIVA Founding Artistic Director



Jingle all the way with your TSO! This year's festive spectacular is led by guest conductor Sarah Hicks, joined by the radiant Mikaela Bennett, who lends her soaring vocals to timeless classics and traditional favourites. From sparkling melodies to rousing choruses and a carol singalong, this joyful concert is the perfect way to share the spirit of the season with family and friends.

SPECIAL

MESSIAH

Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 7:30pm

Wed, Dec 17, 2025 at 7:30pm

Fri, Dec 19, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sat, Dec 20, 2025 at 7:30pm

Sun, Dec 21, 2025 at 3:00pm

Michael Francis, conductor

Lauren Snouffer, soprano

Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano

Anthony León, tenor

Gerald Finley, bass-baritone

Toronto Mendelssohn Choir

Jean-Sébastien Vallée,

TMC Artistic Director



Handel: *Messiah*

Toronto's grand holiday tradition! The trumpet shall sound and the heavenly voices of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and our magnificent soloists will transport you to a resplendent place of peace and beauty—an inspiring night of music to celebrate the season.

MASTERWORKS

VIVALDI'S THE FOUR SEASONS

Thu, Jan 8, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Fri, Jan 9, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Sat, Jan 10, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Sun, Jan 11, 2026 at 3:00pm*

*Jan 11 at George Weston Recital Hall,
 Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Jonathan Crow, leader & violin
Sarah Jeffrey, oboe
Heidi Elise Bearcroft, harp
Rémi Pelletier, viola

Bach: Concerto for Violin and Oboe, BWV 1060R
Telemann: Viola Concerto
Handel: Harp Concerto, Op. 4, No. 6
Vivaldi: *The Four Seasons*

Experience the power and grace of Vivaldi's famous and familiar *The Four Seasons* as played and led by Concertmaster Jonathan Crow, joined by principal musicians Sarah Jeffrey (oboe), Heidi Elise Bearcroft (harp), and Rémi Pelletier (viola) who shine in solo turns from the Baroque repertoire.



Heidi Elise Bearcroft
Principal Harp

MASTERWORKS

THE FIREBIRD

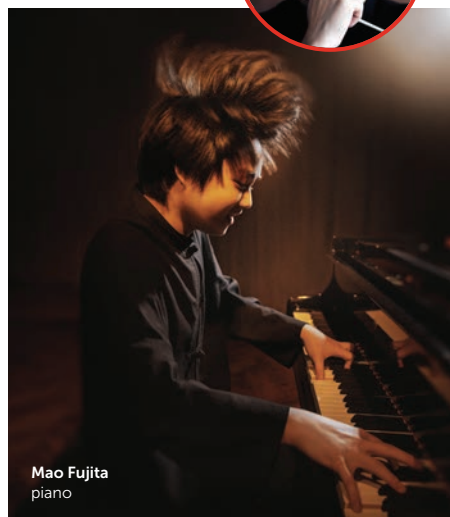
Thu, Jan 15, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Sat, Jan 17, 2026 at 7:30pm*
 *Pre-concert performance at 6:15pm. See page 31.

Eva Ollikainen, conductor
Mao Fujita, piano

Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1
Arvo Pärt: Symphony No. 1 "Polyphonic"
Stravinsky: Suite from *The Firebird* (1919 revision)

Eva Ollikainen and acclaimed pianist Mao Fujita bring the full range of emotion to Brahms's stormy Piano Concerto No. 1, followed by Stravinsky's *The Firebird*, a spellbinding work that bursts with vivid orchestral colours, transporting listeners to a fantastical realm of daring heroes, enchanted princesses, and otherworldly magic.

→
Eva Ollikainen
 conductor



Mao Fujita
piano

MASTERWORKS

BRUCE LIU PLAYS RACHMANINOFF 2

Thu, Jan 22, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Fri, Jan 23, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Bruce Liu, piano (2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Kelly-Marie Murphy: *Curiosity, Genius, and the Search for Petula Clark* (TSO Commission)

Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 2
Prokofiev: Symphony No. 5

Spotlight Artist Bruce Liu takes centre stage once again with Rachmaninoff's iconic Piano Concerto No. 2, whose second movement inspired a power ballad famously covered by Celine Dion. Kelly-Marie Murphy's whimsical opening work combines elements of humour, introspection, and a nod to the "Downtown" singer's era of catchy pop music, and Prokofiev's Fifth rounds out the program with its resplendent beauty.



Bruce Liu
piano (2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

MASTERWORKS

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ORCHESTRA'S EROICA

Sat, Feb 7, 2026 at 7:30pm

Alexander Shelley, conductor
Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano

Morlock: *My Name Is Amanda Todd*
 (NACO Commission)

Saint-Saëns: Piano Concerto No. 5 "Egyptian"
Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 "Eroica"

Led by the vibrant Alexander Shelley, our visiting friends from the National Arts Centre Orchestra promise an unforgettable evening. Experience the brilliance of Jean-Yves Thibaudet in Saint-Saëns's sparkling "Egyptian" Concerto, paired with Beethoven's groundbreaking "Eroica" Symphony, a stirring testament to resilience and the human spirit.

SPECIAL

THE PRINCESS BRIDE IN CONCERT

Fri, Feb 13, 2026 at 7:30pm
 Sat, Feb 14, 2026 at 2:00pm
 Sat, Feb 14, 2026 at 7:30pm

Nicholas Buc, conductor

The beloved classic *The Princess Bride*—a timeless story of love, adventure, and humour—unfolds on the big screen while Mark Knopfler's whimsical score is performed live. Bring your special someone(s) for Valentine's weekend!

The Princess Bride Ltd.
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FILM
 WITH LIVE
 ORCHESTRA

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MASTERWORKS

MAHLER'S NINTH

Thu, Feb 19, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Feb 22, 2026 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Mahler: Symphony No. 9

Mahler's Ninth Symphony is a breathtaking exploration of life, love, and loss. Music Director Gustavo Gimeno guides your TSO through this monumental masterpiece, offering an unforgettable experience of profound emotion and transcendent artistry.



➔ **Nicholas Hartman & Gabriel Radford**
horns

TORONTO SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

DEATH & TRANSFIGURATION

Sat, Feb 21, 2026 at 3:00pm

George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
& TSYO Conductor

Program to include:

R. Strauss: *Death and Transfiguration*

Delve into Richard Strauss's *Death and Transfiguration*, a deeply moving piece that portrays life's final moments and the promise of transcendence. Through evocative melodies and full-bodied orchestration, Strauss invites listeners on a profound journey from struggle to eternal peace.

POPS

REVOLUTION: THE MUSIC OF THE BEATLES—A SYMPHONIC EXPERIENCE

Wed, Mar 4, 2026 at 2:00pm
Wed, Mar 4, 2026 at 7:30pm
Thu, Mar 5, 2026 at 7:30pm

Jeff Tyzik, conductor
Rick Brantley, vocalist
Paul Loren, vocalist
Colin Smith, vocalist

Relive the revolutionary music of the Fab Four with GRAMMY® Award winner Jeff Tyzik's new arrangements, transcribed directly from the original master recordings at Abbey Road. Accompanied by hundreds of rare and unseen photos from the archives of The Beatles' official fan magazine *The Beatles Book*, *REVOLUTION: The Music of The Beatles—A Symphonic Experience* will take you on a magical mystery tour with top hits like "Ticket to Ride", "Penny Lane", "All You Need Is Love", "Here Comes the Sun", and "Hey Jude".



All music and imagery under exclusive license from Sony Music Publishing, Harrisongs Ltd, & The Beatles Book Photo Library to Schirmer Theatrical, LLC. This show is not endorsed by or connected to Apple Corps or The Beatles.

SPECIAL

YEAR OF THE HORSE: A LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Sat, Feb 28, 2026 at 7:30pm

Carolyn Kuan, conductor

Mark Rowswell "Dashan" 大山, narrator & host

Wu Man, pipa

Ryan Huang, piano (Lang Lang International Music Foundation Young Scholar)

Yang Yang Dance Studio

Ring in the Year of the Horse with a joyous celebration of music and tradition that's fun for the whole family! Comedian Dashan, conductor Carolyn Kuan, and renowned pipa virtuoso Wu Man join your Toronto Symphony Orchestra for an unforgettable evening filled with vibrant works that capture the spirit of renewal and prosperity for the Lunar New Year. Plus, 14-year-old Toronto pianist Ryan Huang—a Lang Lang International Music Foundation Young Scholar—will perform the first movement from Grieg's instantly recognizable Piano Concerto. Arrive early for our Asian artisan market, lion dancers, and more!



➔ **Carolyn Kuan**, conductor
Mark Rowswell "Dashan" 大山,
narrator & host



Nicholas Sharma
RBC Resident Conductor &
TSYO Conductor

WESTON WEEKENDS

DVOŘÁK SYMPHONY NO. 7

Sat, Mar 7, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Mar 8, 2026 at 3:00pm

George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
& TSYO Conductor

Kevin Chen, piano

Vivian Fung: *Parade*

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 17, K. 453

Dvořák: Symphony No. 7

Canadian composer Vivian Fung's bold and vibrant *Parade* and Kevin Chen's take on Mozart's elegant Piano Concerto No. 17, filled with wit, sparkling interplay, and serene beauty, complement Dvořák's Symphony No. 7—a fiery, dramatic, and powerful masterpiece regarded as one of his greatest.

MASTERWORKS

DVOŘÁK'S CELLO

Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, Mar 13, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Mar 14, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Pablo Ferrández, cello

Dvořák: *Othello* Overture
Francisco Coll: *Lilith* (North American Première/
TSO Co-commission)
Dvořák: Cello Concerto

Acclaimed Spanish cellist Pablo Ferrández performs Dvořák's soul-stirring Cello Concerto, a fan favourite that complements the composer's brooding and passionate *Othello* Overture. The program also features the North American Première of Francisco Coll's *Lilith*, inspired by the fiery, rebellious spirit of the mythological female figure.



Pablo Ferrández
cello

MASTERWORKS

JOSHUA BELL PLAYS BRUCH + BEETHOVEN

Thu, Mar 26, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Mar 28, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Mar 29, 2026 at 3:00pm

Joshua Bell, conductor & violin
(2025/26 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Beethoven: Overture to *Egmont*
Bruch: Violin Concerto No. 1
Price/orch. Gray: *Adoration*
Beethoven: Symphony No. 7

Experience a performance of pure delight as Spotlight Artist Joshua Bell plays and leads Bruch's First Violin Concerto—a masterwork of sweeping romanticism—and conducts favourites by Florence Price and Beethoven, including the composer's exhilarating Symphony No. 7.

MASTERWORKS

BOLÉRO

Thu, Apr 2, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Apr 4, 2026 at 7:30pm

Fabien Gabel, conductor
Francesco Piemontesi, piano

Samy Moussa: *Nocturne*
Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 27, K. 595
Marx: *Symphonic Night Music* (Canadian Première)
Ravel: *Boléro*

Feel the pulse of Ravel's hypnotic *Boléro*, alongside the graceful beauty of Mozart's final piano concerto, and two works that conjure starry skies—Marx's lush *Symphonic Night Music* and Canadian composer Samy Moussa's atmospheric *Nocturne*.



Steven Reineke
Principal Pops Conductor

POPS

SYMPHONICALLY SPIELBERG: THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 2:00pm
Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 7:30pm
Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor

Embark on a cinematic adventure through the iconic films of Steven Spielberg, brought to life by the unforgettable scores of John Williams. Relive Hollywood's most magical moments as your TSO performs GRAMMY®- and Academy Award®-winning music from *Jurassic Park*, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jaws*, *Schindler's List*, *Indiana Jones*, and more. Perfect for the whole family, this concert captures the drama, wonder, and excitement that define the legendary Spielberg-Williams collaboration.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS

SHE HOLDS UP THE STARS

(World Première/TSO Commission)

Sun, Apr 19, 2026 at 1:30pm
Sun, Apr 19, 2026 at 4:00pm

Trevor Wilson, conductor
Red Sky Performance

The TSO is thrilled to present a newly commissioned work inspired by Sandra Laronde's award-winning novel, *She Holds Up the Stars*. This groundbreaking production blends life-sized puppets, movement, storytelling, theatre, visual design, and Eliot Britton's orchestral score. The story follows a young Indigenous girl who returns to live on the rez and unexpectedly bonds with a wild horse, broken by a rancher and his son. As tensions rise around her, she begins to navigate a world of cruelty and beauty, discovering an inner strength that reshapes her connection to land, home, and heart.



MASTERWORKS

TCHAIKOVSKY'S FIFTH

Thu, Apr 23, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sat, Apr 25, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sun, Apr 26, 2026 at 3:00pm*

*Pre-concert performance at 1:45pm. See page 31.

Hannu Lintu, conductor

Elina Vähälä, violin

Liam Ritz, RBC Affiliate Composer:

New Work (World Première/TSO Commission)

Shostakovich: Violin Concerto No. 2

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5

Embark on a thrilling musical journey with the drama of Tchaikovsky's magnificent Fifth Symphony, the gripping intensity of Shostakovich's Second Violin Concerto with the brilliant Elina Vähälä, and an exciting World Première by RBC Affiliate Composer Liam Ritz.



Elina Vähälä
violin

TORONTO SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA RACHMANINOFF SYMPHONY NO. 2

Sat, Apr 25, 2026 at 3:00pm

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
& TSYO Conductor

Program to include:

Rachmaninoff: Symphony No. 2

Be immersed in the sweeping romance of Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2. With its themes of love and longing, this symphony envelops its listeners in lush harmonies and soaring melodies, offering a powerful and passionate musical escape.



Naomi Hunter & Kevin Hayward
TSYO trumpets

MASTERWORKS

RACHMANINOFF PIANO CONCERTO NO. 3

Thu, Apr 30, 2026 at 7:30pm

Fri, May 1, 2026 at 7:30pm

Elim Chan, conductor

Lukáš Vondráček, piano

Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 3

Cris Derksen: New Work (World Première/Art of Healing
Program Commission in Partnership with CAMH)

Shostakovich: Symphony No. 9

Elim Chan leads Rachmaninoff's ever-popular Piano Concerto No. 3, performed by the incomparable Lukáš Vondráček. The program continues with a moving World Première by Indigenous composer Cris Derksen, created in collaboration with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), and concludes with Shostakovich's playful and witty Ninth Symphony.



Elim Chan
conductor

camh
mental health **is** health

TSO.CA/Art-of-Healing

POPS

SHE'S GOT SOUL

Wed, May 6, 2026 at 2:00pm

Wed, May 6, 2026 at 7:30pm

Thu, May 7, 2026 at 7:30pm

Lucas Waldin, conductor

Capathia Jenkins, lead vocalist

Sydney Harper, supporting vocalist

Rajdulari, supporting vocalist

Randy Chalmers, supporting vocalist

The sensational Capathia Jenkins returns with *She's Got Soul*, a powerhouse tribute to R&B and soul's greatest hits. Featuring classics by Whitney Houston, Gladys Knight, Chaka Khan, Adele, and more, this electrifying concert will have you humming along to iconic songs like "I Will Always Love You", "Midnight Train to Georgia", "Rolling in the Deep", and other favourites.



Capathia Jenkins
lead vocalist

WESTON WEEKENDS SPRING JOURNEYS

Sat, May 9, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, May 10, 2026 at 3:00pm

George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Stephanie Childress, conductor
Daniel Okulitch, bass-baritone

Britten: *Simple Symphony*
Vaughan Williams: *Songs of Travel*
R. Schumann: Symphony No. 1 "Spring"

The enduring charm of Britten's *Simple Symphony*, a delightful showcase of youthful energy and playful spirit, complements Canadian bass-baritone Daniel Okulitch, who brings Vaughan Williams's stirring *Songs of Travel* to life, each movement brimming with wanderlust. The program concludes with Schumann's "Spring" Symphony, a joyous celebration of renewal and awakening, capturing the season's freshness and vitality.



TSO members

MASTERWORKS EPIC WAGNER—LEGENDS & LORE

Thu, May 14, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, May 16, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Abel Selaocoe, cello

Jessie Montgomery: Cello Concerto
(North American Première/TSO Co-commission)
Wagner: Overture to *The Flying Dutchman*
Wagner: Suite from *Götterdämmerung*

South African cellist Abel Selaocoe is a force of nature—celebrated for breaking boundaries and captivating audiences around the globe. He brings his unique artistry to the North American Première of Jessie Montgomery's powerful new Cello Concerto. The evening then soars into mythic realms with the haunting legend of *The Flying Dutchman* and the sweeping grandeur of *Götterdämmerung*—a tale of betrayal, love, sacrifice, and the twilight of the gods.



Abel Selaocoe
cello

MASTERWORKS SHANKAR'S SITAR

Thu, May 21, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, May 23, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Anoushka Shankar, sitar

Philip Glass: "Meetings Along the Edge" from
Passages (Canadian Première)
Beethoven: Symphony No. 8
R. Shankar: Sitar Concerto No. 2 "Raga-Mala"

Experience the coming together of Eastern and Western traditions as Anoushka Shankar makes her TSO début, performing her father Ravi Shankar's captivating Sitar Concerto No. 2. The program also features Beethoven's lively and playful Symphony No. 8, along with a selection from *Passages*, the groundbreaking collaboration between Philip Glass and Ravi Shankar, blending the vibrancy of Western and Indian classical music.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS LET'S DANCE!

Sun, May 24, 2026 at 1:30pm
Sun, May 24, 2026 at 4:00pm

Relaxed Performance at 11:00am. See page 29.

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

From ballet to bhangra and even breakdancing, this high-energy, interactive concert will have everyone dancing in their seats! Your TSO pairs with a phenomenal cast of dancers in a thrilling display of artistry, rhythm, and athleticism. Every beat will get your toes tapping and your spirits soaring. Bring the whole family and get ready to boogie along with the music!



SPECIAL

HISAISHI RETURNS

BOOK EARLY
FOR BEST
SEATS!

Joe Hisaishi
conductor



Thu, May 28, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, May 29, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, May 30, 2026 at 7:30pm

Joe Hisaishi, conductor

Joe Hisaishi makes his triumphant return with the Canadian Première of his brand-new Concerto for Orchestra, co-commissioned by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. This legendary composer, who is best known for his epic concert works as well as enchanting film scores—including *Kiki's Delivery Service*, *Castle in the Sky*, and *The Boy and the Heron*—takes to the podium to conduct his own compositions.

MASTERWORKS

MARÍA DUEÑAS PLAYS KORNGOLD

Thu, Jun 4, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, Jun 5, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jun 6, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Jun 7, 2026 at 3:00pm*

*Pre-concert performance at 1:45pm. See page 31.

†Jun 7 at George Weston Recital Hall,
Meridian Arts Centre (North York)

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
María Dueñas, violin

Herrmann: Suite from *Psycho*
Korngold: Violin Concerto
Bekah Simms: New Work (World Première/
TSO Commission)
Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4 "Italian"

Thrills abound in this cinematically inspired program, with Herrmann's *Psycho* suite setting the stage for María Dueñas's electrifying performance of Korngold's Violin Concerto, infused with the lush, film-score atmosphere of the composer's work in 1930s Hollywood. Mendelssohn's vibrant "Italian" Symphony brings the performance to a joyful conclusion—*che bellissimo!*



María Dueñas
violin

MASTERWORKS

BEETHOVEN'S NINTH

Thu, Jun 11, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, Jun 12, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jun 13, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Jun 14, 2026 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Ambur Braid, soprano
Ema Nikolovska, mezzo-soprano
Saimir Pirgu, tenor
Jongmin Park, bass
Toronto Mendelssohn Choir
Jean-Sébastien Vallée,
TMC Artistic Director

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9 "Choral"

Freude! Music Director Gustavo Gimeno brings the Masterworks Series to its close with Beethoven's triumphant Ninth Symphony. Joined by the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and a stellar cast of soloists, this finale delivers the ultimate "Ode to Joy," bringing us all together in jubilant celebration.



Gustavo Gimeno
Music Director

POPS

SPOTLIGHT ON BROADWAY: JEREMY JORDAN

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 2:00pm
Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 7:30pm
Thu, Jun 18, 2026 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Jeremy Jordan, vocalist

Broadway's leading man, GRAMMY® and Tony Award nominee Jeremy Jordan (*Floyd Collins*, *Newsies*, *The Last Five Years*, *The Great Gatsby*), joins Steven Reineke and your TSO for a thrilling Pops Series closer. From hilarious patter songs to soaring ballads, Jeremy's vocals shine in this performance filled with your favourite show-stopping hits.



Jeremy Jordan
vocalist

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*Some restrictions apply.

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Our Relaxed Performances are designed for the Neurodiverse and Disability communities, and those who enjoy a more casual concert setting. Feel free to move, vocalize, and experience the TSO *your way* in a relaxed environment, created for comfort and inclusivity. Learn more at **TSO.CA/Relaxed**.

Performances at Roy Thomson Hall.



TRICKS, TREATS 'N' TUNES

Sun, Oct 26, 2025 at 11:00am

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

Get ready for a silly and spooky afternoon of Halloween fun! You'll be spellbound as the orchestra performs ghoulish grooves and bewitching beats with plenty of musical tricks and treats.

Be sure to come in costume and join us for a frightfully fantastic musical adventure!



LET'S DANCE!

Sun, May 24, 2026 at 11:00am

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

From ballet to bhangra and even breakdancing, this high-energy, interactive concert will have everyone dancing in their seats! Your TSO pairs with a phenomenal cast of dancers in a thrilling display of artistry, rhythm, and athleticism. Every beat will get your toes tapping and your spirits soaring. Bring the whole family and get ready to boogie along with the music!

MENDELSSOHN'S ITALIAN SYMPHONY

Sat, Jun 6, 2026 at 11:00am

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
María Dueñas, violin

Bekah Simms: New Work*
(World Première/TSO Commission)

Korngold: Violin Concerto – Mvt. I

Mendelssohn: Selections from Symphony No. 4 "Italian"

*This project is supported by the Athenaeum Awards at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Mendelssohn's sparkling "Italian" Symphony takes listeners on a journey through the picturesque landscapes and lively streets of Italy. Under the baton of Gustavo Gimeno, this Relaxed Masterworks program also features the World Première of a vibrant new work by Bekah Simms, and a few other surprises and delights.



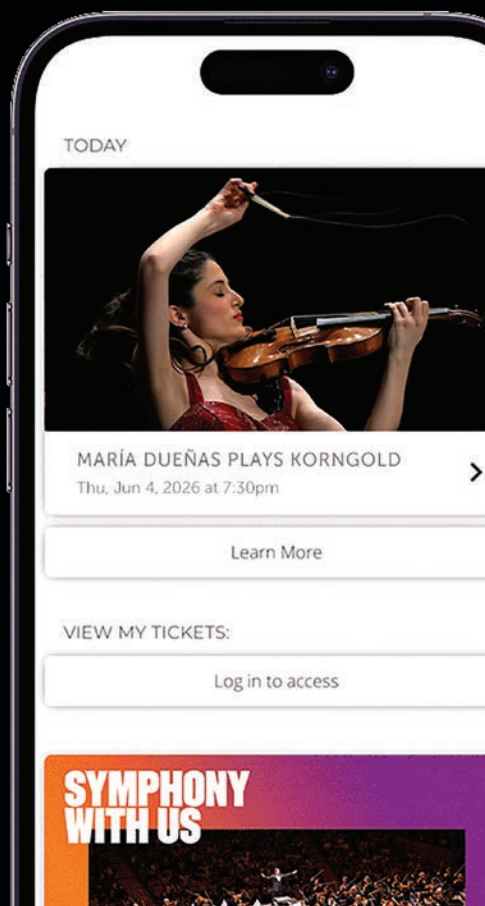
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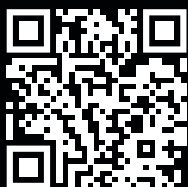
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Fri, Oct 17, 2025 at 6:15pm
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**EACH PERFORMANCE IS
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Thu, Nov 27, 2025 at 6:15pm
Prior to *Tchaikovsky's Swan Lake*



**DOORS OPEN 30 MINUTES
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Sat, Jan 17, 2026 at 6:15pm
Prior to *The Firebird*

Sun, Apr 26, 2026 at 1:45pm
Prior to *Tchaikovsky's Fifth*

Sun, Jun 7, 2026 at 1:45pm
(George Weston Recital Hall)
Prior to *María Dueñas Plays Korngold*

For more information,
including artists and repertoire,
visit **TSO.CA/ChamberSoloists**.

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Email: contactus@TSO.CA

Call TSO Patron Services: 416.598.3375,
Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 5:00pm



PLAN YOUR VISIT

Visit [TSO.CA/PlanYourVisit](https://www.tso.ca/PlanYourVisit) for detailed seating maps of Roy Thomson Hall and George Weston Recital Hall (Meridian Arts Centre, North York), parking information, restaurant recommendations, directions, frequently asked questions, and ticketing information.

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Gustavo Gimeno
Music Director

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Music Director

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Composer Advisor

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