

TSO Toronto Symphony
Orchestra

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Season

26

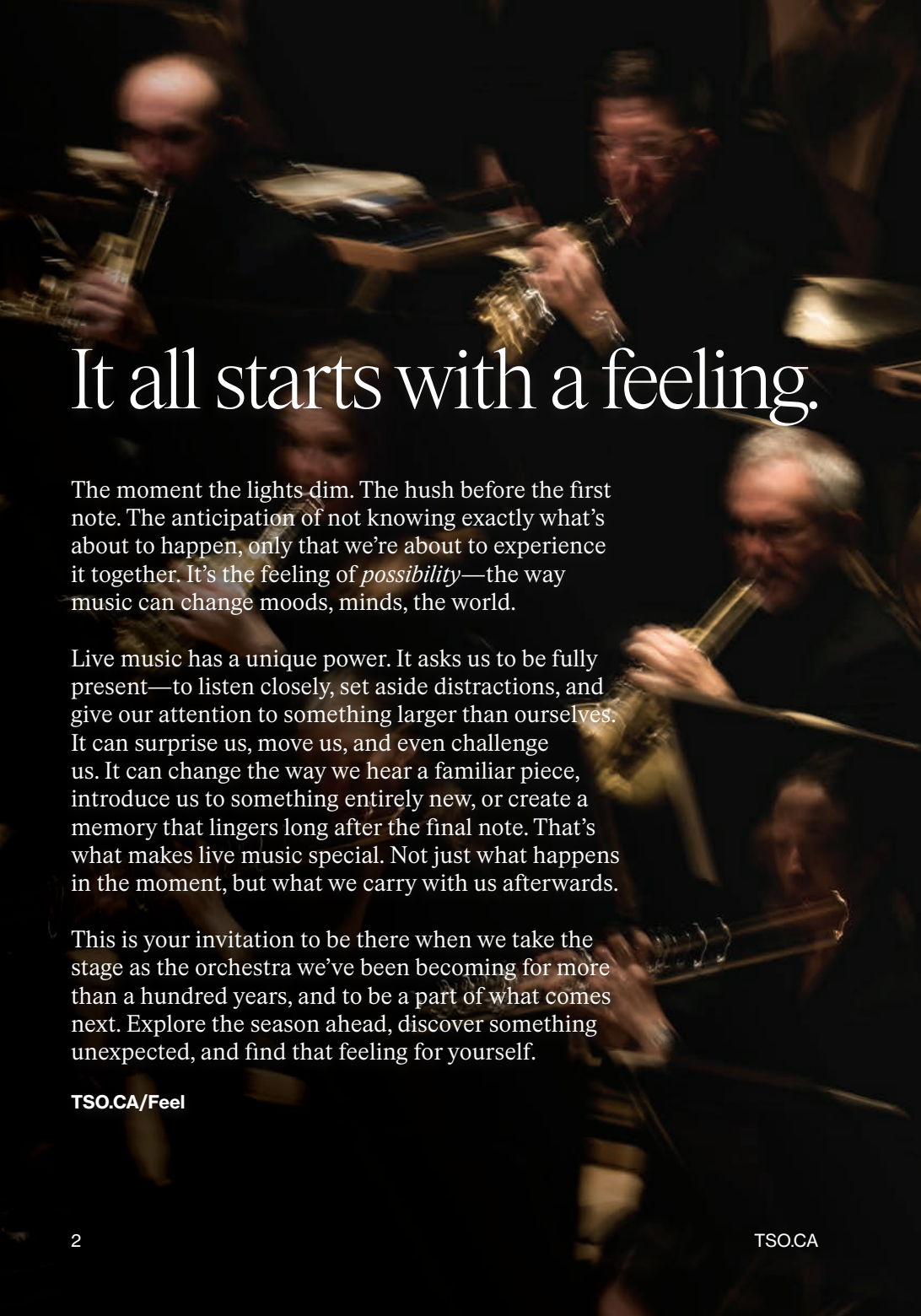
September 2026
to June 2027

27

Toronto Symphony
Orchestra

Gustavo Gimeno
Music Director

TSO.CA
416.598.3375



It all starts with a feeling.

The moment the lights dim. The hush before the first note. The anticipation of not knowing exactly what's about to happen, only that we're about to experience it together. It's the feeling of *possibility*—the way music can change moods, minds, the world.

Live music has a unique power. It asks us to be fully present—to listen closely, set aside distractions, and give our attention to something larger than ourselves. It can surprise us, move us, and even challenge us. It can change the way we hear a familiar piece, introduce us to something entirely new, or create a memory that lingers long after the final note. That's what makes live music special. Not just what happens in the moment, but what we carry with us afterwards.

This is your invitation to be there when we take the stage as the orchestra we've been becoming for more than a hundred years, and to be a part of what comes next. Explore the season ahead, discover something unexpected, and find that feeling for yourself.

TSO.CA/Feel

Shhh... It's a Secret!

The secret TSO subscribers already know?

Ticket packages are the best way to experience more music for less! Pick 5 or more concerts and save up to 20% when compared to purchasing individual tickets.

Build a season that fits your tastes across Classics, Pops, films, holiday concerts, and more, all while enjoying:

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- Complimentary coat check
- And more!

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**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

There's a singular power in coming together with thousands of others to witness extraordinary musicians bringing extraordinary music to life—and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's 2026/27 season promises just this.

For my seventh year with the TSO, we're shifting into a new gear, and this exciting evolution can be seen everywhere—from what you're holding in your hands to what you encounter in the hall. Having already established a past built on a fierce dedication to craft and community, we're now playing music that's as wonderfully diverse as this extraordinary city, from Stravinsky and *Star Wars* to Bruckner and James Bond. Within our newly renamed Classics Series alone, we present a truly broad range of enduring cornerstones and modern discoveries—culminating with Mahler's monumental Eighth, the "Symphony of a Thousand", featuring eight soloists, two choirs, and a massive orchestra.

Whether you're discovering orchestral music for the first time or returning as a long-time listener, we invite you to be moved by the power, beauty, and wonder of this incredible season.

Gustavo Gimeno
TSO Music Director



Feel the *fire*.
Ignite the season.

Yuja Wang
piano

Performances at Roy Thomson Hall
unless otherwise indicated.

TSO.CA

Classics

Yuja Wang Plays Prokofiev

Thu, Sep 24, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sat, Sep 26, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sun, Sep 27, 2026 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Yuja Wang, piano

Linda Catlin Smith: *The Horizon* (World
Première/TSO Commission)

Debussy: *La mer*

Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 3

Yuja Wang brings her unmatched flair to Prokofiev's fiery Piano Concerto No. 3, a thrilling showcase for the keys. Debussy's *La mer* shimmers with oceanic sounds, and a World Première by Canadian composer Linda Catlin Smith rounds out our season-opening performances, bursting with energy, imagination, and impeccable style.

Classics

Petrushka & Passions of Spain

Thu, Oct 1, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sat, Oct 3, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
María Toledo, flamenco singer & piano
Eric Abramovitz, clarinet

José González Granero: *Canto y Danza*

Falla: *El amor brujo* (1925 version)

Stravinsky: *Petrushka* (1947 version)

The TSO honours the 150th anniversary of Manuel de Falla's birth with the intoxicating heat of his *El amor brujo*, featuring Spanish flamenco sensation María Toledo. Falla's folk-infused ballet is paired with an evocative portrayal of Spanish songs and dances by José González Granero, featuring Principal Clarinet Eric Abramovitz, alongside Stravinsky's kaleidoscope of carnival colour, *Petrushka*

416.598.3375

Classics

Beethoven's Fifth

Thu, Oct 8, 2026 at 7:30pm

Fri, Oct 9, 2026 at 7:30pm*

Sat, Oct 10, 2026 at 7:30pm

*Pre-concert TSO Chamber Soloists performance
featuring Angela Hewitt included with your ticket. See p. 30.

Riccardo Minasi, conductor
Angela Hewitt, piano (2026/27 TSO
Spotlight Artist)

Jörg Widmann: *Con brio*

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4

Beethoven: Symphony No. 5

Jörg Widmann's *Con brio* opens with a witty, high-spirited homage to Beethoven. Then, internationally acclaimed Canadian pianist and 2026/27 Spotlight Artist Angela Hewitt brings poetic grace to Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto, before the orchestra unleashes the composer's thunderous Fifth Symphony—with the famous first four notes that changed classical music forever.

María Toledo
flamenco singer & piano



Pops

The Music of Bond... James Bond

Wed, Oct 14, 2026 at 2:00pm

Wed, Oct 14, 2026 at 7:30pm

Thu, Oct 15, 2026 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Lena Hall, vocalist

Raise a glass (shaken, not stirred) as we open our Pops Series with a salute to six decades of 007! From Connery to Craig, hear the iconic Bond sound come alive at Roy Thomson Hall with the powerhouse vocals of Tony Award-winning Lena Hall and the full sweep of your TSO on classics like “Goldfinger”, “Skyfall”, “Diamonds Are Forever”, and “Live and Let Die”. It’s Bond music at its boldest, tailored for Toronto.

Steven Reineke
Principal Pops Conductor



Lena Hall
vocalist



Special Performances

Disney Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert Live-to-Film

Sat, Oct 17, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sun, Oct 18, 2026 at 2:00pm

Sun, Oct 18, 2026 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor

Disney Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Concert Live-to-Film features the contemporary holiday classic on the big screen in full symphonic glory with GRAMMY®-winning composer Danny Elfman's musical score performed live. Bored with the same old scare-and-scream routine, Pumpkin King Jack Skellington longs to spread the joy of Christmas, but his merry mission puts Santa in jeopardy and creates a nightmare for good little boys and girls everywhere.

Presentation licensed by Disney Concerts.
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Classics

Jan Lisiecki Plays Grieg

Thu, Oct 22, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sat, Oct 24, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sun, Oct 25, 2026 at 3:00pm

Antonello Manacorda, conductor
Jan Lisiecki, piano

Saariaho: *Ciel d'hiver*
Grieg: Piano Concerto
Brahms: Symphony No. 2

Canadian piano superstar Jan Lisiecki returns with Grieg's beloved Piano Concerto, rich in passion, lyricism, and Nordic flair. Brahms's radiant Second Symphony, with its warm pastoral glow and exhilarating finale, pairs beautifully with Saariaho's *Ciel d'hiver*, a shimmering portrait of the winter sky.

Jan Lisiecki
piano



Young People's Concerts

Symphony Spooktacular

Sun, Nov 1, 2026 at 1:30pm

Sun, Nov 1, 2026 at 4:00pm

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor

Keep the fun going on Halloween weekend with a haunted house of sound, packed with spooky symphonies, mysterious melodies, and hair-raising surprises. You'll be spellbound as the orchestra performs ghoulish grooves and bewitching beats like *Night on Bald Mountain*, *Danse macabre*, and more. Costumes are encouraged, dancing in your seat is a must, and laughter is guaranteed.



Classics / Weston Weekends

Shostakovich & Mozart

Thu, Nov 5, 2026 at 7:30pm

Sat, Nov 7, 2026 at 7:30pm*

Sun, Nov 8, 2026 at 3:00pm*

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

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Charles Richard-Hamelin, piano
Steven Woomert, trumpet

Gubaidulina: *Fairytale Poem*
Shostakovich: Concerto for Piano, Trumpet, and String Orchestra
Mozart: Symphony No. 39, K. 543

Gustavo Gimeno leads a spellbinding program, from the shadowy magic of Sofia Gubaidulina's *Fairytale Poem* to the sly humour of Shostakovich's Concerto for Piano, Trumpet, and String Orchestra, featuring pianist Charles Richard-Hamelin and TSO Principal Trumpet Steven Woomert. Mozart's Symphony No. 39 rounds out the concert with youthful brilliance, sparkle, and grace.

Classics

Four Last Songs

Thu, Nov 12, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 14, 2026 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Rachel Willis-Sørensen, soprano

Mahler/orch. Colin Matthews: “Nicht zu schnell” from Piano Quartet
R. Strauss: Four Last Songs
Beethoven: Symphony No. 4

Soprano Rachel Willis-Sørensen performs Richard Strauss’s *Four Last Songs*, written at the end of his life, reflecting on love, beauty, and acceptance of fate. The program opens with “Nicht zu schnell”, a tender miniature orchestrated by Colin Matthews from Mahler’s unfinished sketches, and Beethoven’s Fourth Symphony closes with a burst of vitality and joy.

Rachel Willis-Sørensen
soprano



Classics / Weston Weekends

Mendelssohn’s Scottish

Fri, Nov 20, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Nov 21, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Nov 22, 2026 at 3:00pm*

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

Renaud Capuçon, conductor & violin
(2026/27 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Sohy: *Thème varié* for Violin and Orchestra
R. Schumann: Violin Concerto
Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 3 “Scottish”

Spotlight Artist Renaud Capuçon plays and conducts a program that begins with the luminous colours of Charlotte Sohy’s rarely heard *Thème varié*, followed by Robert Schumann’s soulful, long-hidden Violin Concerto brought to life by one of today’s great violinists. Mendelssohn’s “Scottish” Symphony, inspired by the composer’s travels, crowns the concert with its restless energy and stormy drama.

Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Shostakovich Symphony No. 10

Sat, Nov 21, 2026 at 3:00pm

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

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor & TSYO Conductor

Mozart: Overture to *Don Giovanni*, K. 527
Shostakovich: Symphony No. 10

The overture to Mozart’s *Don Giovanni* opens with sparkle, wit, and a hint of something darker, before your TSYO takes on Shostakovich’s searing Tenth Symphony—music that is restless, defiant, and unafraid to confront fear head-on.

Classics

James Ehnes Plays
Tchaikovsky

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

*Pre-concert TSO Chamber Soloists performance
featuring James Ehnes included with your ticket. See p. 30.

Stéphane Denève, conductor
James Ehnes, violin
Rachel Mahon, organ

Guillaume Connesson: *Maslenitsa* (Canadian
Première)
Tchaikovsky: Violin Concerto
Saint-Saëns: Symphony No. 3 “Organ
Symphony”

Celebrating his 50th birthday, beloved Canadian violinist James Ehnes offers a gift to TSO audiences with Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto, delivered with dazzling virtuosity. Guillaume Connesson’s *Maslenitsa*, a vibrant portrait of the Russian spring festival, opens the program, and Saint-Saëns’s “Organ Symphony” brings it to a grand close, played on Roy Thomson Hall’s magnificent Gabriel Kney organ by Rachel Mahon.

Rachel Mahon
organ



James Ehnes
violin



Samara Joy
vocalist

Special Performances

Samara Joy

Wed, Dec 2, 2026 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Samara Joy, vocalist

Samara Joy joins your TSO for an unforgettable evening showcasing her singular voice and magnetic stage presence. A six-time GRAMMY® Award winner, hailed by NPR as a “classic jazz singer from a new generation,” Joy has emerged as a masterful interpreter and a worthy heir to legends such as Sarah Vaughan, Betty Carter, Abbey Lincoln, and Carmen McRae.

Co-presentation with Roy Thomson Hall

Please note: This performance is co-presented by Roy Thomson Hall (RTH) and the TSO, and tickets are on sale through the RTH Box Office. As such, TSO ticket exchanges, account credit, and gift cards do not apply. Visit roythomsonhall.com or call 416.872.4255.

'Tis the Season!

Special Performances

Elf in Concert

Thu, Dec 3, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, Dec 4, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Dec 5, 2026 at 2:00pm
Sat, Dec 5, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Dec 6, 2026 at 2:00pm



Christopher Dragon, conductor

Buddy was accidentally transported to the North Pole as a toddler, and raised among Santa's elves. This holiday season Buddy travels to New York—with your Toronto Symphony Orchestra! Experience John Debney's wonderful score as the full film plays on the big screen.

ELF and all related characters and elements © &™ New Line Productions, Inc.

Pops

TSO Holiday Pops: A Celtic Celebration

Wed, Dec 9, 2026 at 2:00pm
Wed, Dec 9, 2026 at 7:30pm
Thu, Dec 10, 2026 at 2:00pm
Thu, Dec 10, 2026 at 7:30pm

Lucas Waldin, conductor
Natalie MacMaster, fiddle
Donnell Leahy, fiddle
Modern Sound Collective
Kai Leung, MSC Artistic Director

Celebrate the season with a Celtic twist as your TSO welcomes Canadian fiddling icons Natalie MacMaster, Donnell Leahy, and the MacMaster Leahy Family. Enjoy festive favourites alongside Celtic classics, from spirited reels and jigs to beloved carols. Gather your loved ones for toe-tapping cheer, timeless holiday melodies, and a joyful singalong that will leave hearts light and spirits bright for the season ahead.

Special Performances

Messiah

Tue, Dec 15, 2026 at 7:30pm
Wed, Dec 16, 2026 at 7:30pm
Fri, Dec 18, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sat, Dec 19, 2026 at 7:30pm
Sun, Dec 20, 2026 at 3:00pm

Ivor Bolton, conductor
Louise Alder, soprano
Deepa Johnny, mezzo-soprano
Paul Appleby, tenor
Joshua Hopkins, baritone
Toronto Mendelssohn Choir
Jean-Sébastien Vallée, TMC Artistic Director

Handel: *Messiah*

Toronto's grand holiday tradition returns, filled with soaring choruses and seasonal joy. The "Hallelujah" chorus will lift the hall to its feet, and the voices of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and our radiant soloists will fill the season with warmth, wonder, and celebration.



Classics / Weston Weekends

Rhapsody in Blue

Fri, Jan 8, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jan 9, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sun, Jan 10, 2027 at 3:00pm*

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

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor
Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, piano

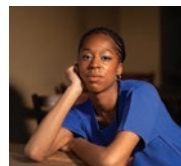
Berlioz: *King Lear Overture*
Gershwin: *Rhapsody in Blue*
Andrew James Clark: New Work (World Première/Art of Healing Program Commission in Partnership with CAMH)
Bizet: *Symphony in C*

Happy *blue* year! Kick off 2027 with Gershwin's jazz-infused *Rhapsody in Blue*, performed by rising star Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, the first of our incredible Kanneh-Mason siblings to perform this season. Berlioz's Shakespearean drama and Bizet's youthful *joie de vivre* bookend this program, which also features a moving World Première by Canadian composer Andrew James Clark, created in collaboration with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).

[TSO.CA/Art-of-Healing](https://www.tso.ca/art-of-healing)

camh
mental health is health

Jeneba Kanneh-Mason
piano



Isata Kanneh-Mason
piano



Classics

Tchaikovsky's Fourth

Thu, Jan 14, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jan 16, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sun, Jan 17, 2027 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Javier Perianes, piano

Sibelius: "The Swan of Tuonela" from *Lemminkäinen Suite*
Jimmy López: *Ephemerae*, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra
Tchaikovsky: *Symphony No. 4*

Spanish pianist Javier Perianes performs Jimmy López's *Ephemerae*, a perfume-inspired piano concerto where musical ideas drift in and out like an elusive scent. Sibelius's "The Swan of Tuonela" paints a hushed river journey through the underworld with a haunting English horn solo, and Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 4* brings the program to a climax with its raw emotion.

Classics

Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3

Thu, Jan 21, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jan 23, 2027 at 7:30pm

Tabita Berglund, conductor
Isata Kanneh-Mason, piano

Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 3
Shostakovich: *Symphony No. 5*

Following her acclaimed 2024 TSO début, Isata Kanneh-Mason returns to conquer the Everest of the piano repertoire, Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto, a towering showcase of fearless virtuosity. Then, guest conductor Tabita Berglund leads Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5*, which begins in shadow and ends in a blazing, bring-you-to-your-feet finale.

Special Performances

Star Wars: A New Hope in Concert

Thu, Jan 28, 2027 at 7:30pm
Fri, Jan 29, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Jan 30, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sun, Jan 31, 2027 at 2:00pm

Sarah Hicks, conductor

Star Wars: A New Hope in Concert features a screening of the complete film with composer John Williams's Oscar®-winning score performed live. Since the release of this first *Star Wars* movie 50 years ago, the *Star Wars* saga has had a seismic impact on both cinema and culture, inspiring audiences around the world with its mythic storytelling, captivating characters, groundbreaking special effects, and iconic musical score.

Presentation licensed by DISNEY CONCERTS in association with 20th Century Fox, Lucasfilm and Warner/Chappell Music.

Classics

Beethoven's Eroica

Thu, Feb 4, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Feb 6, 2027 at 7:30pm

Andrew Manze, conductor
Jonathan Crow, violin

Jennifer Higdon: *blue cathedral*
Walton: Violin Concerto
Beethoven: Symphony No. 3 "Eroica"

Concertmaster Jonathan Crow brings his signature fire to Walton's Violin Concerto, a lesser-known but much-revered gem of the repertoire. Jennifer Higdon's shimmering *blue cathedral* is an intimate memorial for her brother, its gentle bells creating a calm, reflective hush. Finally, Beethoven's heroic symphony, "Eroica", bursts with themes of hope and triumph.

Andrew Manze
conductor



Jonathan Crow
Concertmaster



Young People's Concerts

Sounds of Lunar New Year

Sun, Feb 7, 2027 at 11:00am*
Sun, Feb 7, 2027 at 1:30pm
Sun, Feb 7, 2027 at 4:00pm

*Relaxed Performance. See p. 31.

Monica Chen, conductor

Leap into the Year of the Goat with a Lunar New Year celebration for everyone! Experience the excitement of lanterns, lion dances, and festive melodies, including a retelling of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* reimagined with Asian instruments. Kids will discover how music brings people together across cultures to welcome luck, joy, and new beginnings in this "greatest of all time" concert!



Monica Chen
conductor



Special Performances

Year of the Goat: A Lunar New Year Celebration

Sat, Feb 13, 2027 at 7:00pm

Francesco Lecce-Chong, conductor
Mark Rowswell "Dashan" 大山, narrator & host
Sophia Liu, piano
Hongmei Yu 于红梅, erhu

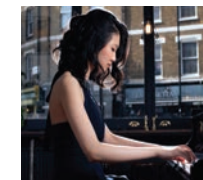
Welcome the Year of the Goat with a joyful celebration of music and tradition. Comedian Dashan, guest conductor Francesco Lecce-Chong, Canadian-Chinese pianist Sophia Liu, erhu virtuoso Hongmei Yu, and other special guests join your Toronto Symphony Orchestra for an unforgettable evening of vibrant works that capture the spirit of the goat's creativity, harmony, and renewal. Arrive early for our Asian artisan market, lion dancers, and more!

Enhance your evening with a pre-concert dinner reception at Shangri-La Hotel Toronto. Proceeds support the TSO's impactful music-education and community-engagement programs. [TSO.CA/LNYDinner](https://www.tso.ca/LNYDinner)

Presenting Concert Sponsor



Sophia Liu
piano



Mark Rowswell "Dashan"
narrator & host



50th
Anniversary!



Brahms's Second

Sat, Feb 13, 2027 at 3:00pm

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

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor &
TSYO Conductor

Salma Khakimov, violin (2025/26 TSYO
Concerto Competition Winner)

Kelly-Marie Murphy: *Dark Nights, Bright Stars*,
Vast Universe

Khachaturian: Violin Concerto – Mvt. I

Brahms: Symphony No. 2

Salma Khakimov, winner of the 2025/26 TSYO Concerto Competition, takes the spotlight with the first movement of Khachaturian's electrifying Violin Concerto—fiery and full of edge. Kelly-Marie Murphy's *Dark Nights, Bright Stars, Vast Universe* opens the program with striking orchestral colour and energy, and Brahms's Second Symphony closes with warmth, melody, and a sense of ease that draws listeners in.

Nicholas Sharma
RBC Resident Conductor &
TSYO Conductor



Ray Chen Returns

Thu, Feb 18, 2027 at 7:30pm*

Fri, Feb 19, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Feb 20, 2027 at 7:30pm

*Pre-concert TSO Chamber Soloists performance
featuring the TSO percussion section included with your
ticket. See p. 30.

David Robertson, conductor
Ray Chen, violin

Sibelius: Violin Concerto
John Adams: *Harmonielehre*

Violinist Ray Chen, a favourite of TSO audiences, returns with Sibelius's sweeping Violin Concerto—icy, bold, and unforgettable. Then, in a week celebrating the 80th birthday of John Adams, one of today's foremost composers, the orchestra takes on his *Harmonielehre*—inspired by a vivid dream, its three movements surge from shock and ache to pure exhilaration.

Ray Chen
violin



The Greatest Love of All: A Whitney Houston Tribute

Wed, Feb 24, 2027 at 2:00pm

Wed, Feb 24, 2027 at 7:30pm

Thu, Feb 25, 2027 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Aisha Jackson, vocalist
Avery Wilson, vocalist
University of Toronto
Faculty of Music Gospel Choir
Dr. Darren Hamilton, Artistic Director

Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke, Broadway's Aisha Jackson, and Avery Wilson, known for his standout turn on NBC's *The Voice*, join forces for an uplifting symphonic salute to the one and only Whitney Houston, featuring classics like "I Will Always Love You", "I Wanna Dance with Somebody", "How Will I Know", and more. Honouring Whitney's gospel roots, the University of Toronto Faculty of Music Gospel Choir adds roof-raising choral power to this unforgettable celebration of the voice of a generation.

Avery Wilson
vocalist



Aisha Jackson
vocalist



Dvořák's Sixth

Sat, Feb 27, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, Feb 28, 2027 at 3:00pm

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

Nuno Coelho, conductor
Luka Coetzee, cello

Ana Sokolović: *Ringelspiel* (*Merry-Go-Round*)
Saint-Saëns: Cello Concerto No. 1
Dvořák: Symphony No. 6

Canadian Luka Coetzee brings youthful fire to Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto No. 1, a work of bold lyricism and dazzling invention. Ana Sokolović's *Ringelspiel* whirls with playful motion, like a musical carousel suddenly set spinning, and Dvořák's Symphony No. 6 closes the program with lilting dance rhythms and a jubilant finale.

Luka Coetzee
cello



Classics

Scheherazade

Thu, Mar 4, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Mar 6, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, Mar 7, 2027 at 3:00pm

Maxim Emelyanychev, conductor & piano

Jay Capperault: *The Origin of Colour* (North American Première)

Mozart: Piano Concerto No. 20, K. 466

Rimsky-Korsakov: *Scheherazade*

Dynamic conductor-pianist Maxim Emelyanychev leads from both podium and keyboard, beginning with the vibrant chaos of Jay Capperault's *The Origin of Colour* and Mozart's stormy Piano Concerto No. 20. The program culminates in Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, a symphonic suite inspired by the epic tale *One Thousand and One Nights*, its beguiling violin "storyteller" unfurling tales of danger and desire.

Maxim Emelyanychev
conductor & piano



Classics

Symphonic Cinema

Thu, Mar 11, 2027 at 7:30pm

Fri, Mar 12, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Mar 13, 2027 at 7:30pm*

*Pre-concert TSO Chamber Soloists performance featuring Renaud Capuçon alongside members of the TSYO included with your ticket. See p. 30.

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Renaud Capuçon, violin (2026/27 TSO Spotlight Artist)

Gershwin: *An American in Paris*

Vladimir Cosma: "Le Concerto de Berlin" from *La Septième Cible*

Delerue/orch. Cyrille Lehn: "Camille" from *Le Mépris*

Vladimir Cosma: *Le Grand Blond avec une chaussure noire*

Rota: Suite from *The Godfather*

Andrea & Ennio Morricone: Love Theme from *Cinema Paradiso*

John Williams: Main Theme from *Schindler's List*

Lesley Barber: Theme from *Mansfield Park*

Horner/orch. Cyrille Lehn: *Legends of the Fall*

John Williams: Flying Theme from *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*

Movie music magic fills the concert hall as Spotlight Artist Renaud Capuçon and the orchestra perform unforgettable themes from *An American in Paris* and *The Godfather* alongside favourites from *Cinema Paradiso*, *Schindler's List*, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, and more—scores whose colour, complexity, and craftsmanship stand shoulder to shoulder with the greatest orchestral works of all time.

Renaud Capuçon
violin (2026/27 TSO Spotlight Artist)



Classics

Beethoven Symphonies Nos. 1 & 2

Thu, Mar 25, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Mar 27, 2027 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Heidi Elise Bearcroft, harp

Joseph Johnson, cello

Beethoven: Symphony No. 1

Emilie LeBel: Cello Concerto (World Première/TSO Commission)

Kevin Lau: Harp Concerto (World Première/TSO Commission)

Beethoven: Symphony No. 2

A symphonic doubleheader! In a week marking the 200th anniversary of Beethoven's death and concluding the TSO's two-year Beethoven symphony cycle, we pair the composer's First and Second Symphonies in all their brilliance and charm. Between them, TSO principals Joseph Johnson (cello) and Heidi Elise Bearcroft (harp) shine in World Premières by Canadian composer Kevin Lau and TSO Composer Advisor Emilie LeBel.

Gustavo Gimeno
Music Director



Pops

Sci-Fi Throwdown

Wed, Mar 31, 2027 at 2:00pm

Wed, Mar 31, 2027 at 7:30pm

Thu, Apr 1, 2027 at 7:30pm

Fri, Apr 2, 2027 at 7:30pm

Enrico Lopez-Yañez, conductor

Cassandra Pinataro, vocalist

Phasers set to fun! Your TSO blasts off with the greatest sci-fi music ever written—from *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, *The Fifth Element*, *Alien*, and more. Iconic themes go head-to-head as we pit franchise against franchise for the ultimate sci-fi music winner. Epic melodies, cosmic thrills, and a little friendly fandom rivalry, perfectly orchestrated.

Young People's Concerts

Dan Brown's Wild Symphony

Sun, Apr 4, 2027 at 1:30pm

Sun, Apr 4, 2027 at 4:00pm

Nicholas Sharma,
RBC Resident Conductor

Bestselling *The Da Vinci Code* author Dan Brown swaps secret messages for animal antics in this musical menagerie. Each creature, from buzzing bees to stampeding elephants, comes to life through the instruments of the orchestra. Families will see, hear, and feel every roar, flutter, and leap in this unforgettable musical adventure for all ages.



Classics

Beethoven's Violin

Thu, Apr 8, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Apr 10, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sun, Apr 11, 2027 at 3:00pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Isabelle Faust, violin

New Works by NextGen Composers:

Jesse Plessis (Apr 8 only)
Matthias McIntire (Apr 10 only)
Yike Zhang (Apr 11 only)

Beethoven: Violin Concerto
Sibelius: Symphony No. 2

Renowned violinist Isabelle Faust brings her elegant touch to Beethoven's Violin Concerto, one of the repertoire's most cherished works. Sibelius's Symphony No. 2 adds Nordic fire, and premières by NextGen Composers introduce a new voice at each performance.

Isabelle Faust
violin



Classics

Mozart & Bruckner

Thu, Apr 15, 2027 at 7:30pm
Sat, Apr 17, 2027 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Angela Hewitt, piano (2026/27 TSO Spotlight Artist)
Carter Johnson, piano

Mozart: Concerto for Two Pianos, K. 365/316a
Bruckner: Symphony No. 7

Spotlight Artist Angela Hewitt returns to perform Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos with rising Canadian star Carter Johnson. Bruckner's Seventh Symphony, arguably his most beloved, completes the program with an adagio in tribute to Wagner, and a finale that climbs to awe-inspiring heights.

Carter Johnson
piano



Angela Hewitt
piano (2026/27 TSO
Spotlight Artist)



Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Gershwin's An American in Paris

Sat, Apr 17, 2027 at 3:00pm

Nicholas Sharma, RBC Resident Conductor & TSYO Conductor

Wagner: Overture to *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*
Holmès: *Andromède*
L. Boulanger: *D'un soir triste*
Gershwin: *An American in Paris*

The overture to Wagner's *Meistersinger* opens with exuberant energy, setting the stage for a musical legacy that resonated strongly in France. Augusta Holmès's *Andromède* embraces that influence with sweeping, dramatic intensity, while Lili Boulanger's *D'un soir triste* offers a more inward, distinctly French response—subtle, sombre, and deeply felt. Finally, George Gershwin's *An American in Paris* provides a brilliant portrait of the city, alive with jazz and vibrant orchestral colour.

Special Performances

Murdoch Mysteries in Concert: Celebrating 20 Years

Sat, Apr 24, 2027 at 2:00pm
Sat, Apr 24, 2027 at 7:30pm

Lucas Waldin, conductor
Yannick Bisson, host

Raise a glass to 20 years of mystery, intrigue, and unmistakable Canadian charm as CBC's hit series *Murdoch Mysteries* celebrates its landmark 20th season with a special live concert featuring host Yannick Bisson and your TSO. Revisit the world of Detective Murdoch through music drawn from across the series, brought to life onstage with special guests and surprise moments that celebrate two decades of whodunits.

Classics

Wagner & R. Strauss

Thu, Apr 29, 2027 at 7:30pm
Fri, Apr 30, 2027 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor
Wu Fei, guzheng
Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Wagner: Overture to *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg**

Tan Dun: Zheng Concerto

R. Strauss: *Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life)*

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

The TSO joins forces with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra for a side-by-side performance of the majestic prelude to Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*, a celebration of art and tradition. Richard Strauss's epic *Ein Heldenleben* crowns the program, tracing a heroic journey of struggle and triumph, and special guest Wu Fei performs Tan Dun's dazzling concerto for the Chinese zither, the guzheng.



Young People's Concerts

Symphonic Singapalooza

Sun, May 2, 2027 at 11:00am*

Sun, May 2, 2027 at 1:30pm

Sun, May 2, 2027 at 4:00pm

*Relaxed Performance. See p. 31.

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

Join us for fun-filled music with your Toronto Symphony Orchestra and special guests as we embrace the power of song from all over the world. From pop hits to folk favourites, the TSO cranks up the volume while you belt it out. Clap, dance, and sing your heart out—it's the one concert where "shhh" isn't in the vocabulary!



Special Performances

Ocean in Concert

Sat, May 8, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, May 9, 2027 at 2:00pm

Steven Reineke, conductor

Presented in collaboration with World Wildlife Fund Canada, *Ocean in Concert* takes viewers on a breathtaking journey, revealing that nowhere is more vital to our survival—or more full of life and wonder—than the oceans. Featuring narrator David Attenborough and Academy Award®- and BAFTA®-winning composer Steven Price with your Toronto Symphony Orchestra performing the score live in synchronization with the stunning imagery on screen.

Presented in partnership with
World Wildlife Fund Canada



Classics

Pictures at an Exhibition

Thu, May 13, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, May 15, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, May 16, 2027 at 3:00pm*

*Pre-concert TSO Chamber Soloists performance featuring Steven Banks included with your ticket. See p. 30.

Peter Oundjian, conductor

Steven Banks, saxophone

Liam Ritz, RBC Affiliate Composer: New Work (World Première/TSO Commission)

Joan Tower: *Love Returns* for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra (Canadian Première/TSO Co-commission)

Mussorgsky/orch. Ravel: *Pictures at an Exhibition*

Conductor Emeritus Peter Oundjian leads a program that spotlights new voices and musical portraits, beginning with a World Première by RBC Affiliate Composer Liam Ritz. Spectacular saxophonist Steven Banks then brings to life Joan Tower's lyrical *Love Returns*, a soulful new concerto reflecting on how love resurfaces through struggle and renewal, before the orchestra invites listeners on Mussorgsky's vivid walk through an art gallery in *Pictures at an Exhibition*.



Special Performances

Yo-Yo Ma Returns

Fri, May 14, 2027 at 7:30pm

Peter Oundjian, conductor

Yo-Yo Ma, cello

Gary Kulesha: *Torque* (TSO Commission)

Rachmaninoff: *Symphonic Dances*

Shostakovich: Cello Concerto No. 1

Yo-Yo Ma returns for an unforgettable evening of music with your Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Led by Conductor Emeritus Peter Oundjian, the program opens with the rhythmic drive of Gary Kulesha's *Torque* and the electrifying energy of Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances* before turning to the emotional depth and intensity of Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1. A singular artist with a rare ability to connect with audiences, Ma brings both virtuosity and humanity to every note in a performance sure to resonate long after the final chord.

Yo-Yo Ma
cello

Joe Hisaishi
conductor

Special Performances Hisaishi's Piano

Thu, May 20, 2027 at 7:30pm

Fri, May 21, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, May 22, 2027 at 7:30pm

Joe Hisaishi, conductor

Alice Sara Ott, piano

Joe Hisaishi: Piano Concerto (Canadian
Première/TSO Co-commission)

Beloved composer Joe Hisaishi, whose music ranges from sweeping concert works to iconic and award-winning film scores, leads the TSO in a concert of his own celebrated music, including a new piano concerto co-commissioned by the TSO, written for and premiered by the remarkable Alice Sara Ott.



Alice Sara Ott
piano

Pops

Swing Is the Thing

Wed, May 26, 2027 at 2:00pm

Wed, May 26, 2027 at 7:30pm

Thu, May 27, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sarah Hicks, conductor

Crystal Monee Hall, vocalist

Dave Bennett, clarinet, piano & vocalist

Chandrae Roettig, dancer/choreographer

Stephen Sayer, dancer/choreographer

Karine Hermes, dancer

Hunter Krikac, dancer

Be transported to the vibrant 1940s and 1950s, when big bands ruled and the dance floor never stopped. *Swing Is the Thing* brings that vintage energy roaring back, with four champion swing dancers, the sensational vocals of Crystal Monee Hall, and timeless hits from legends like Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Bill Haley & His Comets, and Jerry Lee Lewis. It's old-school cool made fresh and new in a high-voltage performance of rhythm and dance.

Stephen Sayer & Karine Hermes

dancers



Classics

Tchaikovsky's Pathétique with the National Arts Centre Orchestra

Fri, May 28, 2027 at 7:30pm

John Storgårds, conductor

Hilary Hahn, violin

Barbara Assiginaak: *Innenohr / Blinji'ii*

Tawgaang (Inner Ear / Inside Ear) (TSO

Co-commission)

Søren Nils Eichberg: Violin Concerto (NACO
Commission)

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 "Pathétique"

Arvo Pärt: *Swansong*

New National Arts Centre Orchestra Music Director John Storgårds joins superstar violinist Hilary Hahn, who brings radiance to Søren Nils Eichberg's Violin Concerto, framed by Barbara Assiginaak's and Arvo Pärt's atmospheric meditations. Tchaikovsky's heart-wrenching "Pathétique", a reflection of the composer's own inner turmoil, anchors the evening with sweeping emotion.

John Storgårds
conductor



Hilary Hahn
violin



Weston Weekends

Beethoven & Brahms

Sat, May 29, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, May 30, 2027 at 3:00pm

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

Bar Avni, conductor

Ryan Wang, piano

Bonis: “Salome” from *Three Legendary Women*

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 3

Brahms: Symphony No. 2

Mel Bonis’s “Salome” paints a vivid portrait drawn from myth and legend, leading into Beethoven’s dramatic Piano Concerto No. 3, performed by rising Canadian pianist Ryan Wang, a Lang Lang International Music Foundation Young Scholar. Brahms’s Symphony No. 2 brings the afternoon to a magnificent finish, washed in pastoral beauty and radiant calm.

Bar Avni
conductor



Classics

Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 2

Thu, Jun 3, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Jun 5, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sun, Jun 6, 2027 at 3:00pm

Xian Zhang, conductor

Pablo Sainz-Villegas, guitar

Jessie Montgomery: *Hymn for Everyone*

Rodrigo: *Concierto de Aranjuez* for Guitar and Orchestra

Rachmaninoff: Symphony No. 2

Xian Zhang leads a program that glows from first note to last, beginning with Jessie Montgomery’s *Hymn for Everyone*, which opens like a warm embrace. Spanish guitar virtuoso Pablo Sainz-Villegas brings the sun-soaked passion of Rodrigo’s *Concierto de Aranjuez*, its timeless “Adagio” aching with beauty, and Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2 overflows with charming themes and melodies—the kind that leave listeners humming.

Xian Zhang
conductor



Pablo Sainz-Villegas
guitar



Classics

Sheku Kanneh-Mason Returns

Thu, Jun 10, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Jun 12, 2027 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Sheku Kanneh-Mason, cello

Webern: “In zarter Bewegung” from Five Movements

Schubert: Symphony No. 8, D. 759
“Unfinished”

Elgar: Cello Concerto

Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, who shot to international fame after performing at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, returns to the TSO stage for an encore performance of Elgar’s Cello Concerto following his standout turn in 2023. Schubert’s “Unfinished” Symphony offers a poignant meditation on beauty left incomplete, while Webern’s “In zarter Bewegung” is a whispered miniature for strings, unfolding in tiny pulses and glimmers of sound.

Sheku Kanneh-Mason
cello



Classics

Mahler’s Eighth

Thu, Jun 17, 2027 at 7:30pm

Sat, Jun 19, 2027 at 7:30pm

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Elisabeth Teige, soprano

Sarah Wegener, soprano

Sarah Dufresne, soprano

Karen Cargill, alto

Marie-Nicole Lemieux, alto

Andreas Schager, tenor

Joshua Hopkins, baritone

David Steffens, bass

Toronto Mendelssohn Choir

Jean-Sébastien Vallée, TMC Artistic
Director

Toronto Children’s Chorus

Zimfira Poloz, TCC Artistic Director

Mahler: Symphony No. 8

Be part of history at these performances, which will be recorded live for future release. Gustavo Gimeno leads the combined forces of soloists, choirs, and orchestra in Mahler’s monumental Symphony No. 8, the “Symphony of a Thousand”. A fitting series finale, this work surrounds audiences with sound on a scale unlike any other in classical music.

This concert is generously supported by Myrna Lo.

Performances
recorded live



Pops

Spotlight on Broadway: Cheyenne Jackson

Wed, Jun 23, 2027 at 2:00pm
Wed, Jun 23, 2027 at 7:30pm
Thu, Jun 24, 2027 at 7:30pm

Steven Reineke, conductor
Cheyenne Jackson, vocalist

Broadway sensation (*All Shook Up*, *Xanadu*, *Into the Woods*, *Oh, Mary!*), and GRAMMY® and Emmy nominee Cheyenne Jackson, known to TV audiences as Danny Baker on the hit NBC show *30 Rock*, brings his soaring vocals and debonair flair to a program of showstopping musical-theatre classics. From velvety croons and swoon-worthy ballads to bring-the-house-down 11 o'clock numbers, Cheyenne lights up the TSO stage with the best of Broadway and beyond.

Cheyenne Jackson
vocalist



Special Performances

TSO x K-pop: SM CLASSICS LIVE

Tue, Jun 29, 2027 at 7:30pm
Wed, Jun 30, 2027 at 7:30pm

Yuwon Kim, conductor
Wendy from Red Velvet, vocalist

Experience the global phenomenon of K-pop reimagined through the power and scale of your TSO! In collaboration with SM Entertainment's classical and jazz label, SM Classics, and featuring the one and only K-pop artist Wendy from Red Velvet, this electrifying concert blends the energy of contemporary Korean pop music with sweeping orchestral arrangements, celebrating some of the genre's biggest hits and most iconic sounds in a bold new way. Whether you're a lifelong fan or discovering K-pop for the first time, this unforgettable evening promises a vibrant fusion of pop culture and symphonic spectacle.

Wendy from Red Velvet
vocalist



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The TSO Chamber Soloists

Elevate your Classics concert experience at Roy Thomson Hall by arriving early to enjoy intimate performances by The TSO Chamber Soloists, carefully curated by Concertmaster Jonathan Crow.

- General admission access is included with your TSO concert ticket.
- Each performance is approximately 30 minutes.
- Doors open 30 minutes prior to the chamber music performance.

For more information, including full concert listings, visit [TSO.CA/ChamberSoloists](https://www.tso.ca/ChamberSoloists).

Fri, Oct 9, 2026 at 6:15pm, prior to Beethoven's Fifth
Featuring 2026/27 Spotlight Artist Angela Hewitt

Sun, Nov 29, 2026 at 1:45pm, prior to James Ehnes Plays Tchaikovsky
Featuring special guest James Ehnes

Thu, Feb 18, 2027 at 6:15pm, prior to Ray Chen Returns
Featuring the TSO percussion section

Sat, Mar 13, 2027 at 6:15pm, prior to Symphonic Cinema
Featuring 2026/27 Spotlight Artist Renaud Capuçon playing alongside members of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Sun, May 16, 2027 at 1:45pm, prior to Pictures at an Exhibition
Featuring special guest Steven Banks



Relaxed Performances

Our Relaxed Performances are designed for the Neurodiverse and Disability communities, as well as 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](https://www.tso.ca/Relaxed).

Performances at Roy Thomson Hall.

Mozart & Beethoven

Sat, Nov 14, 2026 at 11:00am

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor

Mozart: Selections from Symphony No. 39, K. 543
Beethoven: Selections from Symphony No. 4

Settle in for a relaxed musical journey as the TSO shares highlights from two classics—the bright, energetic melodies of Mozart's Symphony No. 39 and the warm, lyrical charm of Beethoven's Symphony No. 4. Perfect for classical music fans and curious listeners of all ages.



Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser
Barrett Principal Education Conductor & Community Ambassador



Sounds of Lunar New Year

Sun, Feb 7, 2027 at 11:00am

Monica Chen, conductor

Leap into the Year of the Goat with a Lunar New Year celebration for everyone! Experience the excitement of festive melodies, including Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* reimagined with Asian instruments. Kids will discover how music brings people together across cultures to welcome luck, joy, and new beginnings in this "greatest of all time" concert.



Symphonic Singalooza

Sun, May 2, 2027 at 11:00am

Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser, conductor

Join us for a fun-filled morning of music with your Toronto Symphony Orchestra and special guests as we embrace the power of song from all over the world. From pop hits to folk favourites, the TSO cranks up the volume while you belt it out. Clap, dance, and sing your heart out!



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Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 5:00pm

Plan Your Visit

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Photo by Allan Cabral



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Emilie LeBel
Composer Advisor

Liam Ritz
RBC Affiliate Composer

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