



Toronto
Symphony
Orchestra



Why Sci-Fi?

Concert Fact Sheet



**Daniel
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Conductor

A message from the conductor

We've all been inspired by the music of science fiction! Whenever there is a story to be told that features space, aliens, technology, and adventure, you can be sure that the soundtrack will be out of this world. But how do the composers do it? How do they match the sounds to the story?

In this concert we'll journey through the world of science fiction, visiting some of our favourite science fiction stories, experiencing the music that made them what they are today, and learning all about what goes into making music that matches the excitement of science fiction!

Daniel

Concert facts

When You Visit

Entering Roy Thomson Hall:

- All patrons will enter through the Simcoe Street doors.
- The lobby opens 60 minutes before the concert begins.
- For more detailed information and to help prepare for your visit, please see our venue guide.

Concessions & Coat Check:

- There are concessions in the lobby—you can buy snacks and drinks there!
- Roy Thomson Hall is now a cash-free venue that only accepts debit and credit cards, including major contactless and mobile payment methods, for a safe and speedy check out.
- If you have a reusable water bottle, you can fill it on-site in the lobby at one of the water fountains.
- There is a coat check at the hall. It opens when the lobby opens. It costs \$2 per item to use the coat check. You should bring a debit or credit card if you plan to use the coat check.

Washrooms:

- The washrooms are located toward the front of the building and are behind the large mirrored wall where you first entered. There are family and accessible washrooms on the Main Floor beside the elevator.
- An usher can direct you if you need assistance finding the washrooms.

Resource Tables:

- The musicians are playing live and acoustic (not amplified); however, an orchestra can be loud. We will have a limited supply of sound-dampening headphones on-site to lend to you for free, but we recommend you bring your own if you have a pair at home.

Entering the Auditorium:

- The auditorium will open 60 minutes before the concert begins, at the same time that the lobby opens. This will give you plenty of time to find your seat.
- The ushers will help you to find your seat.
- The Main Floor of the auditorium will be open for this concert.

During the Concert:

- Lights over the audience will remain at approximately 50% brightness during the performance.
- The conductor will speak to the audience during the program.
- The concert begins at 11:00am and will be approximately one hour in length.
- You will be able to move around the auditorium and lobby during the concert.
- If you like, you can move to the back three rows of the Main Floor to get a different view, or for the sounds to be a little softer. If you need it to be even quieter, you can enjoy the concert from the lobby or from the tunnels—there is a screen in each tunnel where you can view the concert.
- If you need to use the Quiet Room, you can ask an usher to show you where it is.

Concert facts

Things You Will Need to Pay for:

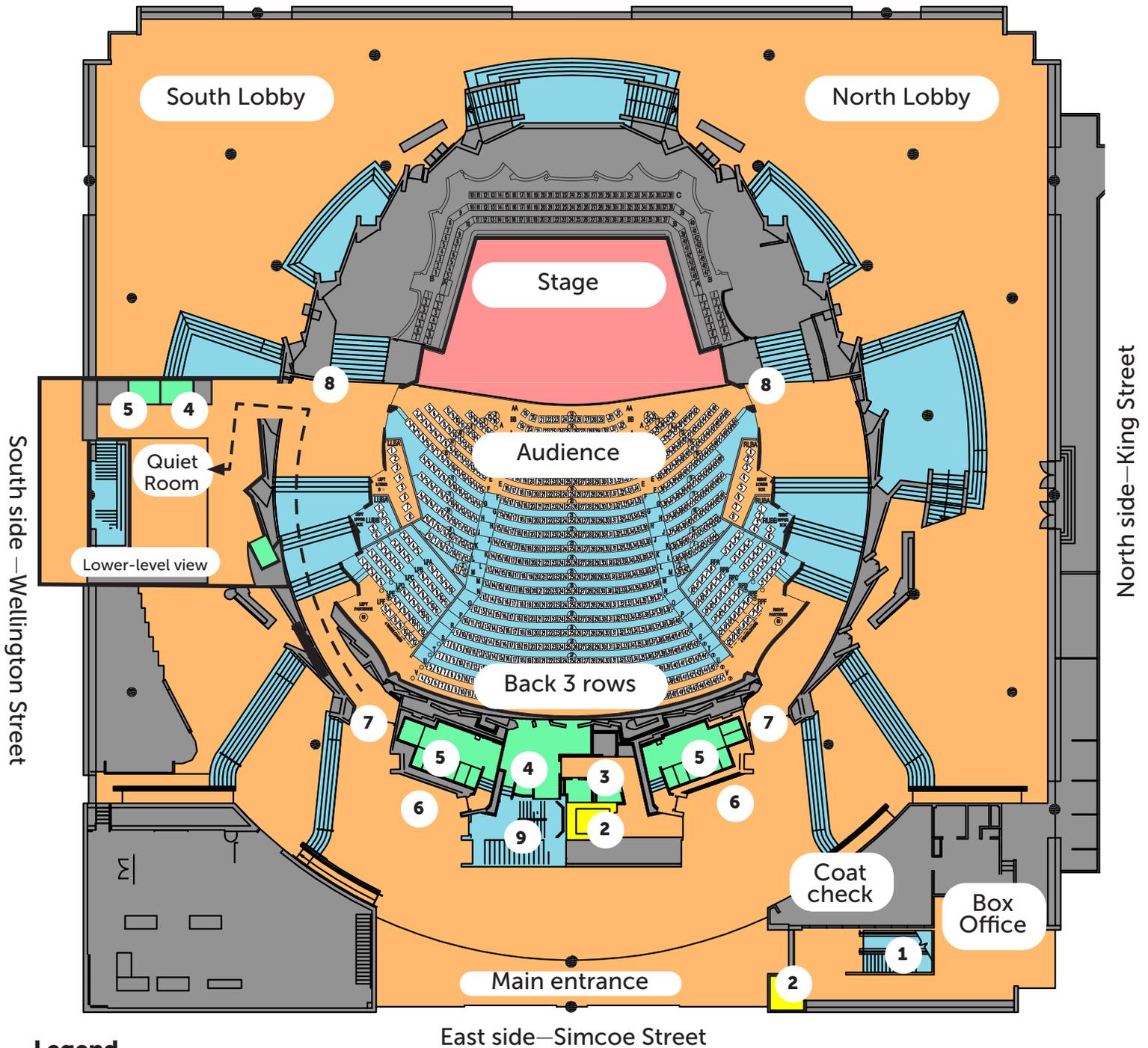
- Parking underneath Roy Thomson Hall, coat check, and concession snacks or drinks. If you do not need these services, you are not required to pay. Parking underneath Roy Thomson Hall costs \$8 per hour, or any part thereof, or \$15 for the day (weekend daily flat rate).

Fun Facts

Did you know:

- The Toronto Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1922. The first concert performed by the Orchestra was in April 1923 at Massey Hall. Today's concert is at Roy Thomson Hall.
- Roy Thomson Hall was designed by architect Arthur Erickson and opened in 1982.
- The hall is mostly concrete, steel, and glass. If you look up, you will see that the ceiling and some of the walls are glass. The glass pieces in the ceiling and roof are all different sizes—can you find two that are similar or look the same?
- The lobby is square, but the auditorium is round, which means that parts of the lobby are larger than others. Have you seen a circle inside a square before?

Main Floor Map



Legend

1. Subway PATH
2. Elevators
3. Accessible washrooms
4. Men's washrooms
5. Women's washrooms
6. Sensory stations
7. Doors to the hall
8. TV screens
9. Stairs to access washrooms in between floors

To access the Quiet Room, please use the south tunnel.

Repertoire Notes

1. Various/arr. Custer: "Star Trek Through the Years" [9 minutes]

Music... what you came here to hear. These are the themes of the *Star Trek* TV shows. Its opening notes: two woodwinds and two percussionists play mysteriously. Brass instruments soon join them, to seek out new sounds, and boldly go into the first theme:

Theme from *Star Trek*

- The original TV theme has a cheerful melody, layered over a bright latin beat.
- As it ends, the orchestra will slow down and get quieter. A solo horn will play. The full orchestra will return, going from *piano* to *forte* in a *crescendo* that leads into the next theme.

Theme from *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*

- The theme from this 1993 TV show is majestic, featuring a lot of heroic-sounding brass instruments.
- As it ends, the brass instruments will play by themselves. The orchestra will join them one last time, and then the music will get slower and quieter again, in preparation for the next piece.

Star Trek-The Inner Light

- You'll know this piece has started when the woodwinds become the focus. The music is taken from a much-loved episode of *Star Trek* that includes Captain Jean-Luc Picard playing the flute!
- The melody is nostalgic, sentimental, and tender. It will conclude quietly, going all the way down to *pianissimo*.

Theme from *Star Trek Generations*

- This theme opens with bright musical phrases that repeat over and over, while other instruments build on top of it.
- The piece sounds progressively bigger, louder, and more impressive. It will slow down and get quieter before the next theme begins.

Theme from *Star Trek: Voyager*

- You'll know this theme has started when you hear woodwinds and percussion playing a steady pulsing rhythm that sounds like a metronome. The music is lush and peaceful.

Star Trek-The Motion Picture:

- The final theme is noticeably faster, and majestic. It features thrilling musical passages played by the brass, woodwinds, and strings, all while being punctuated by the percussion.

2. Jessie Montgomery: *Starburst* [3 minutes]

- This dramatic piece begins suddenly with rising notes on the string instruments, and the dynamics going from *pianissimo* to *fortissimo*.
- We then hear a steady repeating pattern of high-pitched eighth notes. This pattern alternates periodically with rapid lively passages.
- In the calmer moments of the piece, we hear string instruments plucked by fingers, otherwise known as *pizzicato*.

Repertoire notes

3. John Williams: Flying Theme from *E.T. (The Extra-Terrestrial)* [4 minutes]

- This whimsical piece is playful and positive, and begins with a rapid tempo.
- The music really takes off when the triumphant melody is first played on the strings. That melody is then repeated, soaring higher and higher in pitch, not unlike the hero of the story!
- The music ends with a few big *crescendos*, including cymbal crashes and brass instruments.

4. Debussy/orch. H. Mouton: *Clair de lune* [5 minutes]

- This gentle and softly played music has a beautiful, calming, heartwarming melody.

5. Horner/arr. Moss: Selections from *Apollo 13* [4 minutes]

- This lyrical and majestic piece begins with a couple short rhythmic phrases played by the percussion.
- A solemn trumpet solo begins, reminiscent of *The Last Post* on Remembrance Day.
- The rest of the orchestra comes in to support the trumpet, working together to create a richer texture and taking turns to play the melody. The mood is positive and uplifting.
- There are moments where the orchestra *crescendos* with cymbal crashes. The piece builds towards a loud ending.

6. John Williams/arr. Brubaker: "Duel of the Fates" from *Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace* [4 minutes]

- This piece starts with the well-known *Star Wars* title theme, which begins with a loud cymbal crash, and a lot of brass.
- After the music slows down, you'll hear brass instruments play a few long notes as if they are sounding the alarm that trouble is coming.
- The music picks up speed, and sounds more and more epic.

7. Horner: *Aliens - Suite No. 1 - Main Title & Ripley's Rescue* [6 minutes]

Main Title

- This spooky music begins with high-pitched squealing sounds played on the string instruments. In complete contrast, we hear a threatening low-pitched note. Tension builds until we hear a loud *crescendo* in the percussion section.
- After a moment of quiet, the strings begin playing an eerily beautiful melody that alternates between sounding sad and sounding scared.
- We hear brass play a musical phrase that echoes multiple times, making us feel like we are in a huge empty space.
- The music slowly rises and continues to create tension through the contrast of high notes and low notes. The percussion section sounds like a heartbeat.

Repertoire notes

Ripley's Rescue

- This intense music has the stressful energy of an emergency alarm. We hear constantly clanging percussion instruments.
- The brass instruments play a heroic-sounding motif, but the tempo increases as if that hero were running out of time. Relentlessly repeated musical phrases give the sense of danger and of being chased.

8. Jonathan Ring:

Fanfare for Greta

[3 minutes]

- This inspiring and optimistic piece begins sparingly, with one solo brass voice.
- Soon after the melody is established, other brass instruments pick it up, and they all play in unison.
- The music gets louder and louder, as more instruments join forces.

9. John Williams/arr. Custer:

Selections from Jurassic Park

[7.5 minutes]

- The music begins mysteriously, with a series of *crescendos* and *decrescendos* on the string instruments.
- The orchestra goes quiet, and a solo horn begins to play, soon joined by other woodwinds. The mood becomes majestic as the whole orchestra begins to slowly play the *Jurassic Park* theme.
- We transition into a calmer part of the music, with the whole orchestra playing tenderly.
- The tempo increases a little, and then we have a moment where the solo piano plays the melody we heard at the

beginning. It is joined by a percussionist on the bells, then by the woodwinds, and finally by the brass instruments.

- In the final segment, the tempo gets even faster. We hear the triumphant *Jurassic Park* melody played with the full power of the orchestra. The piece builds towards a loud and dramatic ending.



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Have a Question?

Call: 416.598.3375
(Mon–Fri, 9:30am–5:00pm)

Email: contactus@TSO.CA

For more information:
[TSO.CA/Relaxed](https://www.tso.ca/Relaxed)