

# THE COLORADO SYMPHONY

The Colorado Symphony's 2018/19 Season presents a wealth of world-class artistry performed by your critically-acclaimed orchestra, the region's only full-time professional orchestra.

## 2018-2019 Classics Series

Our Classics Series continues with the transition of integrating innovative artists with the best of symphonic work envisioned with a contemporary twist.

Colorado Symphony musicians and guest artists will wow you all season long as soloists on some of symphonic music's greatest pieces.

**BRITTEN WAR REQUIEM**

Brett Mitchell, conductor  
Amanda Majeski, soprano  
Nicholas Phan, tenor  
James Westman, baritone  
Colorado Symphony Chorus, Duain Wolfe, director  
Colorado Children's Chorale, Deborah DeSantis, artistic director

**BRITTEN War Requiem, Op. 66**

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of the November 11, 1918 Armistice that signaled the end of World War I, your Colorado Symphony presents a once-in-a-generation performance of Benjamin Britten's masterpiece, War Requiem. Commissioned to mark the opening of a new cathedral for the city of Coventry in 1962 after a bombing destroyed the previous cathedral in 1940, Britten, a lifelong pacifist and conscientious objector during World War II, created this very public expression of his beliefs about 'war and the pity of war.' In a master stroke, he included texts by the First World War poet Wilfred Owen, providing an ironic commentary on the classic Latin Requiem Mass while serving as a reminder to future generations on the wickedness of war. Joined by the Colorado Symphony Chorus, the Colorado Children's Chorale, and three vocal soloists, Brett Mitchell leads your Colorado Symphony in its first performance of this monumental undertaking since 2001.

Fri November 2 2018 7:30PM

**MENDELSSOHN DOUBLE CONCERTO FEATURING YUMI HWANG-WILLIAMS**

Kevin John Edusei, conductor  
Yumi Hwang-Williams, violin  
Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

**MENDELSSOHN Concerto for Violin and Piano in D minor SCHUBERT Symphony No. 9 in C major, D. 944 "The Great"**

A mere fourteen years old when he composed it, Mendelssohn's Double Concerto in D minor is one of his most brilliant early works. Guest conductor Kevin John Edusei directs Colorado Symphony Concertmaster Yumi Hwang-Williams and guest pianist Anne Marie McDermott in a stunning combination of unlikely forces as violin and piano dance, mimic, converse, and repeat in an electrifying performance. Schubert's majestic Symphony No. 9, known as "The Great," is a powerfully melodic work brimming with influence from Beethoven's own 9th Symphony. Breathtaking and full of life, this music is a joy to behold.

Fri February 1 2019 7:30PM

**MUSSORGSKY PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION**

Brett Mitchell, conductor  
Augustin Hadelich, violin

**IVES Symphony No. 3, "The Camp Meeting" BARBER Violin Concerto, Op. 14 MUSSORGSKY/RAVEL Pictures at an Exhibition**

Take a stroll through an art exhibit with your Colorado Symphony as we explore Mussorgsky's crowning composition as orchestrated by Ravel. Featuring musical depictions of ten paintings by his late friend, Viktor Hartmann, Mussorgsky's work highlights varied moods and is connected throughout with a brilliant 'Promenade' theme that gives the sense of an art lover sauntering from piece to piece through a museum. 2018 Musical America Instrumentalist of the Year and GRAMMY Award®-Winning violinist Augustin Hadelich returns to your Colorado Symphony, bringing his lyrical, singing style to Barber's lush and virtuosic Violin Concerto, while Ives' Symphony No. 3, "The Camp Meeting," evokes memories from the composer's childhood through music of the era.

Fri March 29 2019 7:30PM

**DANNY ELFMAN VIOLIN CONCERTO FEATURING SANDY CAMERON**

Christopher Dragon, conductor  
Sandy Cameron, violin

**HERRMANN Suite from Psycho RAVEL Mother Goose (complete ballet) DANNY ELFMAN Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, "Eleven Eleven"**

Associate conductor Christopher Dragon leads your Colorado Symphony in a weekend celebration of film score composers and those who influenced them. Herrmann's ingenious use of strings conveys a "black and white sound" on his suite from Psycho, which mirrors the black and white images of Hitchcock's haunting cinematic thriller. Ravel, who heavily influenced future generations of film composers, originally wrote Mother Goose as a piano duet but later revised and expanded the original work into an orchestrated piece. The program is capped by the legendary Danny Elfman, who composed the scores for treasured films such as Batman, The Nightmare Before Christmas, and Good Will Hunting. Brilliant soloist Sandy Cameron performs the Colorado premiere of Elfman's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, "Eleven Eleven," a piece she helped debut in 2017.

Fri May 17 2019 7:30PM

**BRUCH****PERFORMED BY PINCHAS ZUKERMAN**

Jaime Martín, conductor  
Pinchas Zukerman, violin

**RAVEL Le tombeau de Couperin BRUCH Violin Concerto No. 1 in G minor, Op. 26 SIBELIUS Symphony No. 5 in E-flat major, Op. 82**

A true master of our time, violinist Pinchas Zukerman teams with guest conductor Jaime Martín to invigorate Bruch's renowned concerto. Zukerman lends his virtuosity, prodigious technique, and unwavering artistic standards to a work that teems with lyrical beauty and emotional sincerity. Ravel's *Le tombeau de Couperin* pays a light-hearted homage to loved ones lost, while Sibelius' Symphony No. 5 builds to a majestic and fitting conclusion to an unforgettable performance.

Fri November 16 2018 7:30PM

**A CLASSICAL ROMANCE**

Brett Mitchell, conductor  
Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano

**HERRMANN "Scène d'Amour" from Vertigo****LIEBERSON Neruda Songs****DIAMOND Music for Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet BERNSTEIN Symphonic Dances from West Side Story**

Just in time for Valentine's Day, your Colorado Symphony offers a uniquely American look at the themes of love across multiple decades. Herrmann's "Scene d'amour" from Hitchcock's *Vertigo* provides a passionate backing for one of cinema's most powerful portrayals of romantic longing, while mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor lends her exquisite voice to Lieberson's *Neruda Songs*, a collection of five sonnets written by Pablo Neruda tracing the arc of love's evolution. Diamond's *Romeo and Juliet* offers a musical interpretation on Shakespeare's seminal romantic work while Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances from West Side Story* provides an updated 20th-century look at the classic *Romeo and Juliet* story. You won't want to miss our special Valentine's Day performance on February 14.

Thu February 14 2019 7:30 PM

**BRAHMS SYMPHONY NO. 4**

Brett Mitchell, conductor  
Peter Cooper, oboe

**VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis KEVIN PUTS Oboe Concerto BRAHMS Symphony No. 4 in E minor, Op. 98**

Brett Mitchell's inaugural Brahms performance with your Colorado Symphony features a musician favorite, Symphony No. 4. With autumnal coloring and heroic character, Brahms' last symphony is a work erupting with passionate intensity. In contrast, Colorado Symphony Principal Oboist Peter Cooper brings his warm, singing sound to the Colorado premiere of Kevin Puts' new Oboe Concerto, while Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*, a lush, expansive work for strings, opens this must-see performance.

Sat April 13 2019 7:30PM

**CARMINA BURANA CONDUCTED BY BRETT MITCHELL**

Brett Mitchell, conductor  
Mary Wilson, soprano  
Christopher Pfund, tenor  
Elliot Madore, baritone  
Colorado Symphony Chorus, Duain Wolfe, director  
Colorado Children's Chorale, Deborah DeSantis, Artistic Director

**ADAM SCHOENBERG American Symphony ORFF Carmina Burana**

Brett Mitchell and your Colorado Symphony close out the season with Carl Orff's powerhouse *Carmina Burana*, a symphonic exploration of love, lust, and the perils of earthly pleasures. Featuring the Colorado Symphony Chorus, Colorado Children's Chorale, and a cast of soloists, *Carmina Burana* is a true spectacle and one of the most well-known pieces of the 20th century, combining powerful rhythms and robust vocals in a dynamic conclusion to an unforgettable season. Adam Schoenberg's *American Symphony* begins the program with a piece reminiscent of Copland and Bernstein as it reflects the hope of America's potential.

Friday May 24 2019 7:30 PM

**ALL BEETHOVEN**

Hans Graf, conductor

Inon Barnatan, piano

**BEETHOVEN Overture to Egmont, Op. 84****BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor, Op. 37****BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6 in F major, Op. 68, "Pastoral"**

This season's annual weekend of all-Beethoven performances highlights works of the world's most revered and recognized composer: Ludwig van Beethoven. GRAMMY Award®-Winner Hans Graf takes the podium as your Colorado Symphony performs Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, "Pastoral," which brims with color and texture as it transports listeners on a stroll through the Viennese countryside. Overture to *Egmont*, shows Beethoven at his most urgent and forceful in a piece full of power and fire. Inon Barnatan joins the ensemble as featured soloist on Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 3 for a weekend showcasing the works of a symphonic legend.

Fri November 30 2018 7:30PM

**DVORÁK SYMPHONY NO. 9**

Brett Mitchell, conductor

Damon Gupton, narrator

**COPLAND Lincoln Portrait****JOSEPH SCHWANTNER New Morning for the World (Daybreak of Freedom)****DVORÁK Symphony No. 9 in E minor, Op. 95, "From the New World"**

View the American experiment through the prism of three prominent composers as they reflect their observations of who we were during the Civil War, who we were during the civil rights movement, and who we've always strived to be in a trio of thematically tied works. Noted Actor Damon Gupton, known for his roles in *Criminal Minds*, *Deadline*, and *La La Land*, brings the words of Abraham Lincoln in *Lincoln Portrait* and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in *New Morning for the World (Daybreak of Freedom)* to life as Copland and Schwantner incorporate narrative passages and a broad lyrical scoring that sounds unmistakably American. In his renowned *Symphony No. 9*, popularly known as the "New World Symphony," Dvorák incorporates influences of Native American musical rhythms, African-American spirituals, and the wide-open spaces he encountered on a trip through America's heartland in the early 1890s in a work of beauty and relevance.

Fri January 18 2019 7:30PM

**TCHAIKOVSKY SYMPHONY NO. 6**

Peter Oundjian, conductor

Stephen Hough, piano

**JOAN TOWER Made in America****SAINT-SAËNS Piano Concerto No. 5 in F major, Op. 103, "Egyptian"****TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 6 in B minor, Op. 74, "Pathétique"**

In the Russian context, *Pathétique* suggests 'impassioned suffering,' an eerily suitable description for the psychological drama Tchaikovsky's final symphony depicts. His death only nine days after the world premiere gives added weight to a defining work of the Romantic period. Returning guest conductor Peter Oundjian joins masterful pianist Stephen Hough, who brings his inspired styling to Saint-Saëns exotic "Egyptian" Piano Concerto No. 5, while the familiar tune to "America the Beautiful" resurfaces throughout Joan Tower's GRAMMY Award®-Winning *Made in America*.

Fri March 15 2019 7:30PM

**TCHAIKOVSKY 1812 OVERTURE & PROKOFIEV ALEXANDER NEVSKY**

Rossen Milanov, conductor

Avery Amereau, mezzo-soprano

Colorado Symphony Chorus, Duain Wolfe, director

**PROKOFIEV Alexander Nevsky****RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Russian Easter Overture****BORODIN "Polovtsian Dances" from Prince Igor****TCHAIKOVSKY 1812, Overture solonelle, Op. 49**

Fire the cannons! Toll the bells! Tchaikovsky's explosive 1812 Overture punctuates a performance featuring the music of prominent Russian composers, including Borodin's "Polovtsian Dances," Rimsky-Korsakoff's Russian Easter Overture, and Prokofiev's *Alexander Nevsky*. The Colorado Symphony Chorus will shine in this Russian choral spectacular under the direction of guest conductor Rossen Milanov.

Fri April 26 2019 7:30PM

**BERLIOZ SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE**

Brett Mitchell, conductor

Conrad Tao, piano

**MISSY MAZZOLI Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)****RAVEL Piano Concerto in G major****BERLIOZ Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14**

Brett Mitchell conducts your Colorado Symphony in a contrasting program of works both old and new. Berlioz's bombastic, boisterous *Symphonie fantastique* is one of the first to tell a complete story through pure orchestral music as he details his own personal pursuit of Harriet Smithson, the Shakespearean actress who later became his wife. Using a recurrent melodic theme to tie the five movements together, Berlioz foreshadows the Wagnerian Leitmotif in a programmatic work that shows the range of human emotions. Featured soloist Conrad Tao performs Ravel's *Piano Concerto*, a colorful Gershwin-inspired work with American spirit and jazz flavors while Missy Mazzoli's *Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)* contains elements of Ravel's impressionistic nature as it presents music in the shape of a solar system as a collection of rococo loops twist around each other within a larger orbit.

Fri May 10 2019 7:30PM

Naomi Tari  
Lab 014  
Friday 12:30

