

2024-25 CLASSICAL SEASON

CARL ST.CLAIR'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATORY SEASON



Pacific Symphony

CARL ST. CLAIR MUSIC DIRECTOR

DON'T MISS ALL 12 INCREDIBLE CONCERTS—SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

HONORING A LEGACY OF 35 YEARS

A season of breathtaking excitement awaits as we celebrate Carl's brilliant leadership and legacy with the gifted musicians that make up your Pacific Symphony. This season holds an extraordinary significance as we celebrate the 35th anniversary and illustrious career of our esteemed Pacific Symphony Music Director, Carl St.Clair. Over the past 35 years, Carl's passion for music has inspired both the artistic community and audiences alike. His commitment to Orange County has been nothing short of awe-inspiring—creating programs that serve children, student musicians, and families throughout the region.

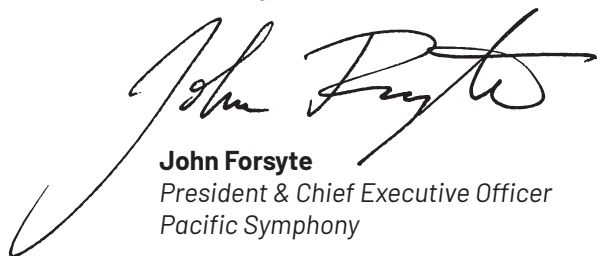
We are proud to invite you on a season-long celebration as part of Pacific Symphony's 2024-25 Hal and Jeanette Segerstrom Family Foundation Classical Series.

Picture this: a lineup of blockbuster concerts, featuring world-renowned artists like the illustrious GRAMMY® Award-winning violinist Joshua Bell, repertoire like Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*, the choral sensation *Carmina Burana*, Verdi's luminous *Requiem*, Beethoven's triumphant *Seventh Symphony*, Wagner's first thoroughly original "Ring Opera" – *Das Rheingold (The Rhine Gold)* based on Nordic mythology are all in store for you. Carl has even programmed a playful Halloween celebration complete with an audience party. As we embark on this most magnificent season, we extend our deepest gratitude to you, our cherished supporter, for being an indispensable part of Pacific Symphony's and Carl's musical odyssey.

If Pacific Symphony and Carl hold a special place in your heart, we invite you to consider commemorating this joyous occasion by subscribing for the upcoming season. Your support ensures that Pacific Symphony can continue to deliver world-class performances and transformative experiences, offering you exclusive benefits, including discounts, VIP artist access, and priority seating.

Let's raise our glasses to an extraordinary season of harmony, celebration, and our shared love for extraordinary music conducted by a true hero of the arts—our beloved Carl St.Clair.

Warm regards,



John Forsyte
President & Chief Executive Officer
Pacific Symphony





“ St.Clair took the podium in his orchestra’s sold-out Carnegie Hall debut, with *The New York Times*’ James R. Oestreich calling the group ‘a major ensemble.’ The maestro also toured China in 2018, while, back home, he remains a champion of new music. ”

—San Francisco Classical Voice



INTRODUCING OUR 2024-25 CLASSICAL

BLOCKBUSTER CONCERT SEASON

Specially curated by Music Director Carl St.Clair, this season is one not to be missed. Filled with pieces from St.Clair's incredible history and legacy, these 12 handpicked concerts are some of classical music's most inspired and beloved.

A SEASON NOT TO BE MISSED



CLAIRE HUANGCI

 **September 26-28, 2024**

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION: RACHMANINOFF & BEETHOVEN

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Claire Huangci, piano

TICHEL: *Shooting Stars*

RAVEL: *Alborada del gracioso*

RACHMANINOFF: *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*

BEETHOVEN: *Symphony No. 7*

Ticheli's musical fireworks give way to Ravel's musical portrait of Spain's sunny spirit in *Alborada del gracioso*. The work dances with vivacious high spirits from beginning to end. Rachmaninoff's 24 spectacular variations on a violin caprice by Paganini provide the perfect showcase for the dazzling technique of Claire Huangci, winner of the 2018 Geza Anda Competition. Best known is the lushly romantic 18th variation that was featured in the movie *Somewhere in Time*. Beethoven spoke of his Seventh Symphony fondly as "one of my best works."

 **October 17-19, 2024**

CLASSICAL SPOOKTACULAR

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Meredith Crawford, viola

WILLIAMS: "Devil's Dance" from *Witches of Eastwick*

BUNCH: *The Devil's Box*

BERLIOZ: *Symphonie Fantastique*

Experience the shadowy allure of Halloween and surrender to the cinematic frights and delights of "Devil's Dance," written by the greatest film composer of our lifetimes. Revel in the mystical thrills of Bunch's *The Devil's Box* with virtuoso Meredith Crawford on viola, and let Berlioz's *Symphonie Fantastique* cast a spell over you with its haunting narrative and chilling melodies. A concert that promises a spine-tingling blend of musical sorcery and symphonic spectacle—it's a bewitching evening.



MEREDITH CRAWFORD



VADIM GLUZMAN

November 14-16, 2024

GLUZMAN PLAYS BRAHMS

Valentina Peleggi, conductor

Vadim Gluzman, violin

BARBER: Symphony No. 1

TCHAIKOVSKY: *Francesca da Rimini*

BRAHMS: Violin Concerto

Universally recognized among today's top performing artists, Vadim Gluzman breathes new life and passion into the Romantic era of the 19th century violin repertoire. *Musical America* raved: "He demonstrated his mastery from the start, dominating the platform with his golden tone and command of the long lyrical line. His rich, warm, and generous sound soared above the orchestra."

December 5-7, 2024

ART OF THE SPANISH GUITAR

Rune Bergmann, conductor

Mak Grgić, guitar

FUNG: *Prayer*

RODRIGO: *Fantasy for a Gentleman*

DVOŘÁK: Symphony No. 8

Described by *The New York Times* as "a gifted guitarist," two-time GRAMMY®-nominated artist Mak Grgić [GER-gich] is a star on the worldwide stage. For his Pacific Symphony debut, he performs Rodrigo's masterful *Fantasy for a Gentleman*, filled with lively, dancing melodies, and musical sunshine.



MAK GRGIĆ



DENNIS KIM

January 9-11, 2025

FOUR SEASONS & STRAUSS

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Dennis Kim, violin and leader
Tobias Melle, visuals

VIVALDI: *The Four Seasons*

STRAUSS: *An Alpine Symphony* (with jaw-dropping visuals!)

Vivaldi transports you to Italy for spring's fragrant blossoming, the tourist-roasting heat of summer, autumn's abundant harvest, and the teeth-chattering chill of winter, all with virtuosic flair. Strauss's final tone poem unfolds as a masterpiece that takes you on an auditory hike through high Alpine peaks, from sunrise to mountain-rattling thunderstorm, and finally nightfall's calm. Visuals projected on a large screen above the orchestra transform the concert into an immersive cinematic event, offering an enveloping narrative that will captivate both eyes and ears.

February 6-8, 2025

PINES OF ROME

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Jeffery Biegel, piano

BERNSTEIN: *Slava!*

HAILSTORK: Piano Concerto (world premiere)

CUONG: World Premiere

RESPIGHI: *Pines of Rome*

Celebrate the power of nature and new horizons in music: The dazzling razzmatazz of Bernstein's high-spirited musical prelude sets the stage for two contemporary works that follow: a new piano concerto by esteemed composer Adolphus Hailstork and a new and colorful orchestral work by Pacific Symphony's Composer-in-Residence, Viet Cuong. Respighi's tone poem paints in music the grandeur and history of the Eternal City, including a recording of an actual Italian nightingale singing a serene nocturne!



JEFFERY BIEGEL



PACIFIC CHORALE

February 27 – March 1, 2025

CARMINA BURANA & BACH

Carl St.Clair, conductor

Pacific Chorale

Robert Istad, artistic director

Southern California

Children's Choir

Lori Loftus, founding director

Benjamin Pasternack, piano

Vocal soloists to be announced

MORTEN LAURIDSEN: *O Magnum Mysterium*

BACH: Keyboard Concerto in D minor, BWV 1052

ORFF: *Carmina Burana*

Immerse yourself in the raw, visceral power of the human voice. The opening evocative work for solo voices contrasts the intricate weavings of Bach's masterful blending of complexity and beauty. The GRAMMY® Award-winning Pacific Chorale takes centerstage for *Carmina Burana*, the most frequently performed choral work of the 21st century. This popular work (celebrating "Springtime," "In the Tavern," and "The Court of Love") has been featured regularly in pop culture: from video games and reality television to flash mobs and Disney!

March 20-22, 2025

KOH PLAYS MENDELSSOHN

Paolo Bortolameolli, conductor

Jennifer Koh, violin

MENDELSSOHN: Scherzo from *Midsummer Night's Dream*

MENDELSSOHN: Violin Concerto

SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 10

Do not miss this opportunity to witness the synergy of GRAMMY® Award-winning Jennifer Koh's artistry paired with the young Chilean-Italian conductor Paolo Bortolameolli's animated direction, a combination that promises to bring a fresh and vibrant spirit to the concert hall. Prepare for a night where classical music not only entertains but also inspires and challenges the status quo.



JENNIFER KOH



DAS RHEINGOLD

April 10, 12 & 15, 2025

CURSE OF THE RING

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Brian Staufenberg, stage director
Cast to be announced

WAGNER: *Das Rheingold*

Gods, Rhine mermaids, and dwarves ... oh my! Step into the mythical work of Wagner's first opera in the iconic Ring Cycle whose story influenced Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* and whose music inspired John Williams' iconic soundtrack to *Star Wars*. Under the masterful baton of Carl St.Clair—a tried-and-true Wagnerian who conducted the entire 15-hour Ring Cycle from memory in Weimar!—Pacific Symphony invites you to experience the raw power and gripping narrative of this mythic prologue, where the stakes are as high as the heavens and as deep as the Rhine itself.

May 1-3, 2025

BEETHOVEN'S EMPEROR

Eduardo Strausser, conductor
George Li, piano

BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"

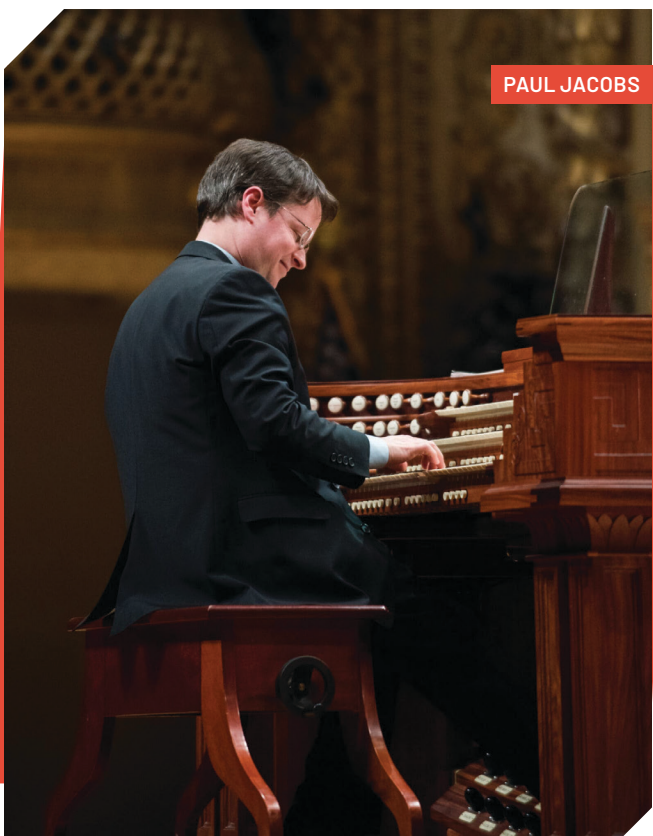
MAHLER: Symphony No. 1

Brazilian conductor Eduardo Strausser has gained a reputation for his intelligent programming and powerful style on the podium. *Daily Revolution* described him as "a real force of nature. His conducting is imbued with charisma, stage presence, and good chemistry with the orchestra." He conducts with "smooth sovereignty... with brilliant accuracy" (*Neue Musikzeitung*), which will illuminate the brilliant Romantic concerto of Beethoven performed by Li.



GEORGE LI

PAUL JACOBS



May 15-17, 2025

CATHEDRALS OF SOUND

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Paul Jacobs, organ
Norbertine Fathers of St. Michael's Abbey

TRADITIONAL: Gregorian Chant

BACH: Sinfonia in D Major

GUILMANT: Symphony No. 1

BRUCKNER: Symphony No. 7

Experience a spiritual odyssey beginning with the timeless serenity of Gregorian chant, transporting you to the vaulted arches of ancient abbeys. The journey continues with Bach's Sinfonia, where melodic lines weave a complex yet harmonious tapestry, reminiscent of stained-glass patterns cast in sunlight. The sonic architecture ascends with Paul Jacobs on the organ, presenting a piece that showcases the grandeur and dynamic capabilities of the king of instruments. The evening culminates with a work that combines Bruckner's devout faith with his rich symphonic voice, creating towering soundscapes that promise to resonate within the soul.

June 5-7, 2025

VERDI'S REQUIEM

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Pacific Chorale
Robert Istad, artistic director
Vocal soloists to be announced

VERDI: *Messa da Requiem*

Verdi's monumental work has been described as an "opera in ecclesiastical dress" due to its theatrical power and dramatic force that is as compelling and intense as any of his operas. *The Requiem* is rich with emotional contrasts and unforgettable arias, like the "Libera me" for soprano, that showcases Verdi's lyrical genius. With its soaring choral lines, striking orchestral forces, and the visceral impact of the "Dies irae" and the ethereal beauty of the "Sanctus," this Verdi masterpiece transcends the traditional liturgical settings. It is a celebration of human emotions in the face of mortality.



PACIFIC CHORALE

KEY: ■ 35th Anniversary Series - 12 Concerts ■ Romantic Nights Series - 6 Concerts ■ Classical Escapes Series - 6 Concerts

2024-25 SPECIAL EVENTS

December 8, 2024, 3 PM

HANDEL'S GLORIOUS MESSIAH

Christopher Warren-Green, conductor
Pacific Chorale
Robert Istad, artistic director
Vocal soloists to be announced

A timeless masterwork that transcends three centuries of fads and fashions, Handel's *Glorious Messiah* is an event of joy, reflection, and renewal. Thrill to the blazing trumpets, thundering timpani, and the electrifying, uplifting "Hallelujah" chorus!



February 1, 2025, 8 PM

LUNAR NEW YEAR

Carl St.Clair, conductor

Join us for Pacific Symphony's annual festivities honoring Lunar New Year! Celebrating the Year of the Snake, this performance is sure to sell out once again as audiences from across our communities come together to feast on a colorful presentation of Eastern and Western music and dance.

March 29, 2025, 8 PM

NOWRUZ: IRANIAN NEW YEAR

Carl St.Clair, conductor

A concert that unites cultures through the power of music. Celebrate Nowruz, the Iranian New Year, with Pacific Symphony! A traditional festival that marks the beginning of spring, Nowruz is a time to celebrate the rebirth of nature and wash away the past.



EXCLUSIVE SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS

Purchase a subscription and enjoy a collection of special benefits and savings, including:



FREE EXCHANGES & EASY REPLACEMENTS When your schedule changes, so can your tickets. Exchange into any 2024-25 Pacific Symphony subscription concert for free! *(Subject to availability.)*



THE BEST SEATS There's no other way to say it: Because subscription seats are assigned before tickets are made available to the general public, **season-ticket holders always get the best seats.**



ARTIST ACCESS Receive special subscriber only invites to artist and conductor meet-ups, pre and post-concert.



BIG SAVINGS Your subscription tickets include built-in discounts that total as much as \$63 compared with the cost of purchasing each ticket separately.



SAVE 20% ON EXTRA TICKETS As a season ticket holder, you can save 20 percent on additional concert tickets you purchase throughout the year, including sell-out concerts like Handel's Glorious *Messiah*, Lunar New Year, and Nowruz: Iranian New Year.



DISCOUNTS TO YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANTS Enjoy discounts and special offers at local restaurants like Leatherby's Café Rouge, Mastro's Steakhouse, and George's Café with your own Pacific Symphony rewards card.



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HONORING CARL'S
HISTORIC TENURE

A 35TH ANNIVERSARY GIFT TO CARL WITH LOVE

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Celebrate Carl St.Clair's remarkable 35-year legacy as Music Director of Pacific Symphony. Honor his extraordinary contributions to Orange County, Pacific Symphony, our community, and the classical music world with a gift to the **Carl St.Clair Tribute Fund**.

There will be an opportunity to support **arts-X-press**. This initiative, created to celebrate the memory of Cole Carsan St.Clair, provides 100 middle school students from Orange County with a five-day residential summer program at Concordia University. **Arts-X-press** fosters a life-long connection to the arts, respect for individuality, and appreciation for diverse heritage through workshops, excursions and activities, instrumental music, dance, vocal music, theater, and visual arts.

We will also be establishing a permanent **St.Clair Tribute Fund**. This fund will be dedicated to perpetuating Carl's vision to support musician excellence, innovative programmatic projects, and the annual opera production. This fund will ensure that Pacific Symphony continues to thrive, honoring Carl's impact on the institution and the broader musical community.



TRANSFORMING ORANGE COUNTY THROUGH MUSIC



HONORING A LEGACY

CarolAnn Tassios is a long-time subscriber, donor, volunteer for the Pacific Symphony, and member of the **Marcy Mulville Legacy Society**. The **Mulville Society** recognizes and honors donors that have pledged to support Pacific Symphony in their long-term financial plans. Gifts to the **Mulville Society** can help to ensure your legacy and that musical experiences will be supported for generations to come.

To discuss ways to make a gift through your will, trust, IRA, life insurance policy, or donor advised fund, contact Nikki Palley at npalley@pacificsymphony.org or (562) 260-5752.

MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT & SHOW FOR YOUR PACIFIC SYMPHONY

Your support and gift to Pacific Symphony's **Annual Fund** will provide world-class musical performances and transformative experiences for people of all ages and abilities, ignite passion, and nurture a lifelong appreciation for music, significantly enriching our Orange County community.

DONOR BENEFITS

Pacific Symphony is grateful for your support and extends our gratitude by offering a variety of exclusive benefits all year round:

PRELUDE CIRCLE

Up to \$99

BENEFITS:

Donor E-Newsletter
Invitations to Pacific Symphony Education Events
Invitations to Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles Concerts

SUPPORTERS' CIRCLE

\$100-\$299

BENEFITS:

Everything in previous circle
Pre-Sale Ticket Ordering Access
Symphony Rewards Card with discounts and special offers at selected restaurants
Invitations to Dress Rehearsals
Name listing once a year in concert program

MUSICIANS' CIRCLE

\$300-\$499

BENEFITS:

Everything in previous circles
Donor backstage tours of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

PRINCIPALS' CIRCLE

\$500-\$999

BENEFITS:

Everything in previous circles
Name listing in all concert programs
Invitation to Pacific Symphony's Opening Night Celebration

CONCERTMASTERS' CIRCLE

\$1000-\$2499

BENEFITS:

Everything in previous circles
Invitation to Pacific Symphony's Annual Gala
Invitations to donor lounge on the Box Circle level of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

GOVERNING MEMBERS

\$2500+

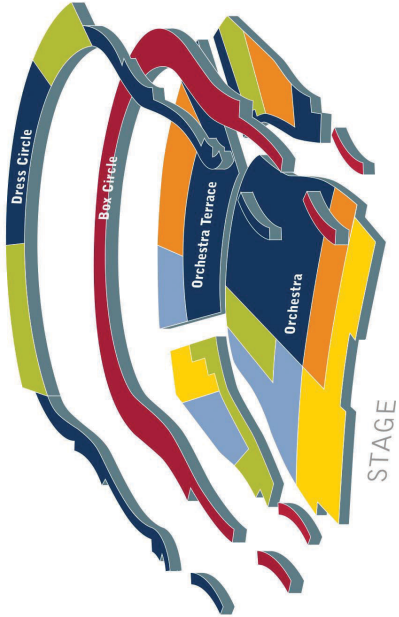
BENEFITS:

Everything in previous circles
Invitations to meet Pacific Symphony musicians at a Pre-Concert Reception
Unlimited access to donor lounge on the Box Circle level of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall
Free parking for four concerts per season

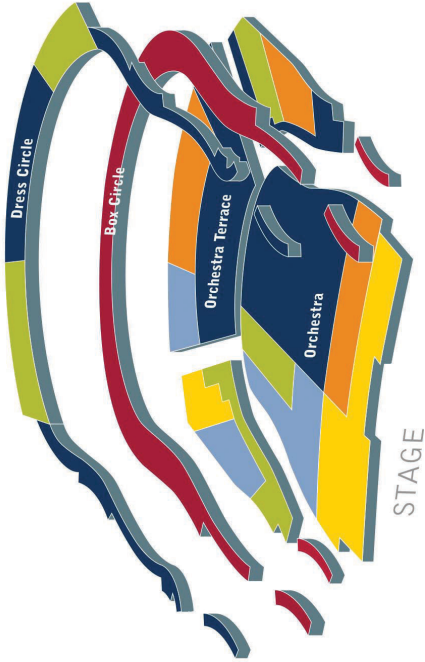
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EASY WAYS TO GIVE TODAY **ONLINE** PacificSymphony.org **BY PHONE** (714) 876-2345

CLASSICAL



HANDEL'S GLORIOUS MESSIAH



Handel's Glorious
Messiah

BOX CIRCLE	225
PRICE LEVEL 1	136
PRICE LEVEL 2	105
PRICE LEVEL 3	88
PRICE LEVEL 4	52
PRICE LEVEL 5	27

Subscribers save 20% on these prices.

*Add Nowruz to your subscription package now. Prices will go up in August.

35th Anniversary Series
(12 Concerts)

Romantic Nights/
Classical Escapes
(6 Concerts)

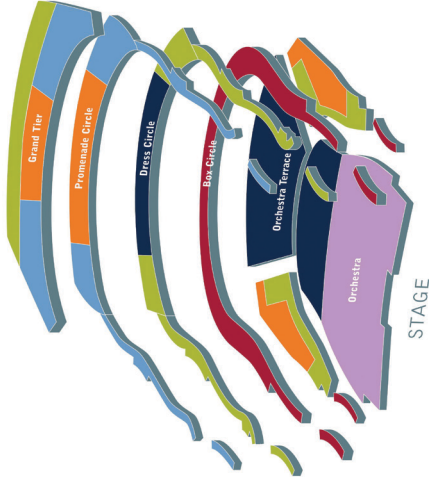
Choose Your Own
(6 Concerts)

Choose Your Own
(4 Concerts)

BOX CIRCLE	2,112*	1,350*	1,260*	828*
PRICE LEVEL 1	1,260	684	720	504
PRICE LEVEL 2	900	498	528	360
PRICE LEVEL 3	792	444	468	308
PRICE LEVEL 4	468	258	270	184
PRICE LEVEL 5	324	162	162	108

*Additional Box Circle Club membership required. Please call (714) 876-2361 for more information.

LUNAR NEW YEAR AND NOWRUZ



Lunar New Year

Nowruz: Iranian
New Year*

BOX CIRCLE	208	275
PRICE LEVEL P	118	199
PRICE LEVEL 1	98	155
PRICE LEVEL 2	78	110
PRICE LEVEL 3	58	85
PRICE LEVEL 4	38	65



ONE NIGHT ONLY—GRAMMY® AWARD-WINNING VIOLINIST, JOSHUA BELL TAKES THE STAGE WITH CARL ST. CLAIR

Mark your calendars for
Thursday, February 13th, 2025
at 8 p.m., hosted at the Renée
and Henry Segerstrom Concert
Hall. Tickets will sell fast, and
with limited availability ranging
from \$49 to \$199, **securing
your seat is essential.**

THIS SPECIAL EVENT IS ANTICIPATED TO SELL OUT QUICKLY, SO DON'T DELAY.

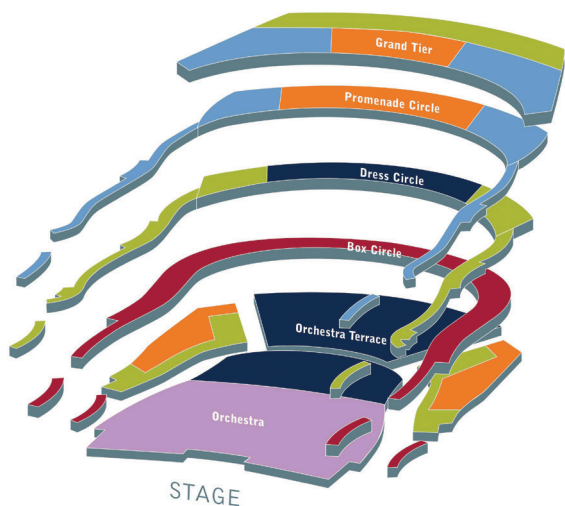
Subscribe today and you become eligible for an exclusive 20% discount on tickets. For more information or to secure your tickets, call **(714) 755-5799** or visit **PacificSymphony.org**. Seize this opportunity to be part of a musical spectacle that promises an extraordinary evening of virtuosity and artistic brilliance.

Pacific Symphony's 2024-25 season reaches unparalleled heights with an exclusive evening featuring the virtuoso of the violin, GRAMMY® Award-Winner Joshua Bell. Immerse yourself in the extraordinary talent of this classical music superstar as he graces the stage alongside the renowned Pacific Symphony, conducted by Music Director Carl St. Clair in his 35th Anniversary season.

Prepare for an unforgettable one-night-only event showcasing the breathtaking beauty of the violin.

Hailed by the *Boston Herald* as "the greatest American violinist active today," Joshua Bell, joined by his wife, renowned vocalist Larisa Martinez, promises an unparalleled performance that is not to be missed, setting a dynamic tone for Pacific Symphony's upcoming season.

Don't miss this chance to experience the magic of Bell's unparalleled artistry, a rare fusion of technical brilliance and emotional depth that has captivated both critics and audiences alike.



Joshua Bell

BOX CIRCLE	225
PRICE LEVEL P	175
PRICE LEVEL 1	145
PRICE LEVEL 2	115
PRICE LEVEL 3	85
PRICE LEVEL 4	55

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