

## 2025-26 CLASSICAL SERIES

Presented by: Hal and Jeanette Segerstrom Family Foundation

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# A SEASON LIKE NO OTHER

Join us for the exhilarating debut of Artistic and Music Director Designate Alexander Shelley as he ushers in a new era of bold ideas and immersive musical experiences. This season, America 250 takes center stage with the West Coast premiere of Peter Boyer and Joe Sohm's *American Mosaic* and Gershwin's electrifying Concerto in F Major, performed by Orange County favorite Conrad Tao. Alexander's visionary programming also brings complete ballet scores to life, including Stravinsky's *Firebird* and Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe*—music that leaps off the stage in storytelling and movement. Let the power of live music ignite your imagination and connect us to the world in ways only a season this bold can.

With Alexander Shelley, Carl St.Clair, and esteemed guest conductors, this season promises an extraordinary musical adventure. **Reserve your seat today for a season of historic proportions!**

“Since my first visits to Orange County as a boy, its **natural beauty and human dynamism** have resonated with me deeply.”

— Alexander Shelley  
Artistic and Music Director Designate

## Featuring world-renowned guest artists and conductors:

### Lang Lang

The Piano Virtuoso – A Once-In-A-Lifetime Subscription Add-On!

### Trailblazing Women Conductors

Tianyi Lu, Anna Rakitina, and Valentina Peleggi

### A Harmonic Fusion

Pacific Symphony and Exquisite Voices of Pacific Choral

### A Season that Dances

Three Ballet Scores: Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloe*, Stravinsky's *Firebird*, Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*



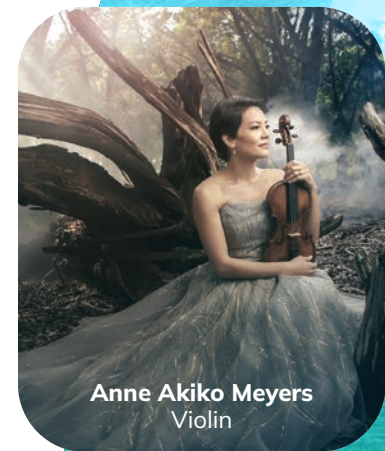
Lang Lang | Piano



Pablo Sainz-Villegas  
Guitar



Gabriela Montero  
Piano



Anne Akiko Meyers  
Violin

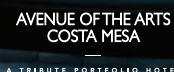




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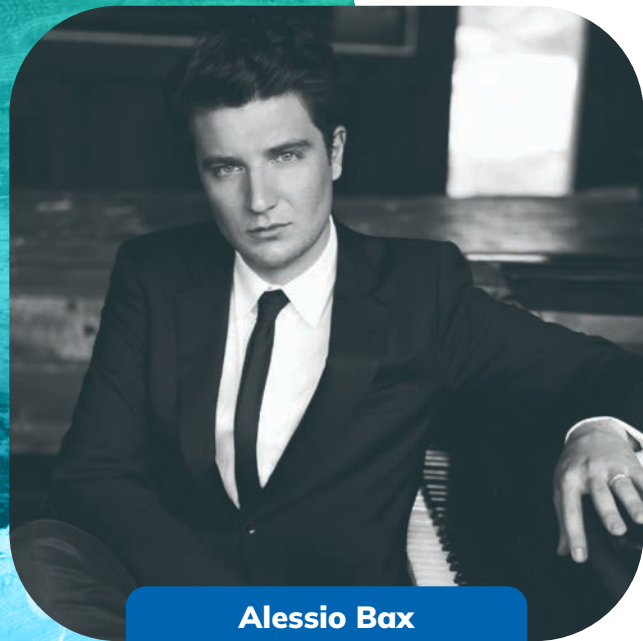
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**Scan:** Scan the QR code to the left with your mobile device.





Alessio Bax



OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION:

## RACHMANINOFF & SIBELIUS

September 18, 19 &amp; 20, 2025 | 8PM

Experience two iconic works born from struggle—Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 2, a journey of emotional rebirth, and Sibelius’ Symphony No. 1, a bold expression of national pride and defiance.

**Rachmaninoff:** Piano Concerto No. 2

**Sibelius:** Symphony No. 1

**Conductor**  
Ludovic Morlot

**Piano**  
Alessio Bax


Pablo Sainz-Villegas



MAGICAL MELODIES:

## SHELLEY CONDUCTS SCHEHERAZADE

October 16, 17 &amp; 18, 2025 | 8PM

October 19, 2025 | 3PM

Experience a vibrant journey through modern energy, soulful tradition, and timeless myth. Jessie Montgomery’s *Starburst* shimmers with cosmic energy, followed by Arturo Márquez’s “Mystical and Profane” concerto featuring acclaimed Spanish guitarist Pablo Sainz-Villegas. Rimsky-Korsakov’s *Scheherazade* weaves the magical tales of *One Thousand and One Nights*, with lush melodies and dazzling orchestration.

**Jessie Montgomery:** *Starburst*  
(Full Orchestra)

**Arturo Márquez:** Concerto for Guitar  
*Mystical and Profane*
**Rimsky-Korsakov:** *Scheherazade*  
**Sunday Matinee:** *Scheherazade*
**Conductor**  
Alexander Shelley  
**Guitar**  
Pablo Sainz-Villegas


Gabriela Montero



RAVEL’S MASTERWORKS:

## SHELLEY CONDUCTS CARMEN AND DAPHNIS AND CHLOE

November 20, 21 &amp; 22, 2025 | 8PM

Experience a night of rhythmic passion and orchestral storytelling. Bizet’s Suite No. 1 from *Carmen* ignites with fiery Spanish melodies and drama. Montero’s *Latin Concerto* blends vibrant Latin rhythms with lush melodies and rich, exotic textures. The evening concludes with Ravel’s *Daphnis and Chloe*, a stunning masterpiece of Greek myth, filled with lyrical beauty and sensuous dance.

**Bizet:** Suite No. 1 from *Carmen*
**Gabriela Montero:** *Latin Concerto*
**Ravel:** *Daphnis and Chloe*
**Conductor**  
Alexander Shelley  
**Piano**  
Gabriela Montero  
**Pacific Chorale**  
Robert Istad—artistic director


Alexandra Dariescu



SOUNDS OF SERENITY:

## TCHAIKOVSKY’S SWAN LAKE

December 4, 5 &amp; 6, 2025 | 8PM

Dive into a night of elegance and emotion with Cassandra Miller’s serene *Swim*, Ravel’s jazz-inflected Piano Concerto in G major featuring Alexandra Dariescu—hailed as one of the most inspiring pianists of her generation—and the timeless romance of Tchaikovsky’s *Swan Lake* conducted by Tianyi Lu.

**Cassandra Miller:** *Swim*
**Ravel:** Piano Concerto in G major

**Tchaikovsky:** Suite(s) from *Swan Lake*
**Conductor**  
Tianyi Lu  
**Piano**  
Alexandra Dariescu





Aubree Oliverson



A JOURNEY OF PASSION AND FIRE:

## SHELLEY CONDUCTS STRAVINSKY'S FIREBIRD

January 15, 16 & 17, 2026 | 8PM

January 18, 2026 | 3PM

From the exhilarating pace of John Adams' *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* to the lush romanticism of Korngold's Violin Concerto, featuring Aubree Oliverson, this concert builds in intensity. After intermission, Stravinsky's *The Firebird* comes to life with vibrant visuals, rhythmic energy, and enchanting harmonies.

**John Adams:** *Short Ride in a Fast Machine*

**Korngold:** Violin Concerto

**Stravinsky:** *The Firebird* (complete, with visuals)

**Sunday Matinee:** *The Firebird*

**Conductor**

Alexander Shelley

**Violin**

Aubree Oliverson



Yoav Levanon



## FROM MOZART TO MAHLER

February 26, 27 & 28, 2026 | 8PM

Experience the beauty and power of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23, with its soaring melodies, alongside Mahler's Symphony No. 1, a powerful journey from introspection to triumph. This concert promises a profound exploration of passion, struggle, and victory.

**Mozart:** Piano Concerto No. 23

**Mahler:** Symphony No. 1

**Conductor**

Eduardo Strausser

**Piano**

Yoav Levanon



Carl St.Clair



MUSICAL HEROES:

## ST.CLAIR CONDUCTS BEETHOVEN AND DON QUIXOTE

February 5, 6 & 7, 2026 | 8PM

Join Pacific Symphony and Music Director Laureate Carl St.Clair for an unforgettable night featuring Beethoven's Lyrical Violin Concerto with Paul Huang and Strauss' *Don Quixote*, brought to life by Principal Cello Warren Hagerty in a heroic performance of Cervantes' legendary knight.

**Beethoven:** Violin Concerto

**Strauss:** *Don Quixote*

**Conductor**

Carl St.Clair

**Violin**

Paul Huang

**Cello**

Warren Hagerty



Anne Akiko Meyers



## ST.CLAIR CONDUCTS WILLIAMS, DAUGHERTY, AND BRAHMS

March 26, 27 & 28, 2026 | 8PM

March 29, 2026 | 3PM

Soar through an exhilarating evening of music that captures the thrill of flight and the spark of innovation. Experience the thrill of soaring melodies in John Williams' "Flying Scene" from *E.T.*, the electrifying fusion of jazz and orchestral power in Michael Daugherty's *Blue Electra*, and the emotional grandeur of Brahms' Symphony No. 4. This concert lifts you to new heights of musical discovery.

**John Williams:** "Flying Scene"

from *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*

**Michael Daugherty:** *Blue Electra*

**Brahms:** Symphony No. 4

**Sunday Matinee:** Brahms: Symphony No. 4

**Conductor**

Carl St.Clair

**Violin**

Anne Akiko Meyers



SUBSCRIBE TODAY

KEY:



Full Classics - 12 Concerts



Romantic Nights Series - 6 Concerts



Classical Escapes Series - 6 Concerts



Sunday Matinee - 4 Concerts

PACIFICSYMPHONY.ORG | 9





LOVE AND DESTINY:

## PUCCINI'S TURANDOT

April 16, 18 & 21, 2026 | 8PM

**Conductor**  
Carl St.Clair

**Pacific Chorale**  
Robert Istad—artistic director

Step into the mythical world of *Turandot*, where love and destiny collide. From the iconic aria “Nessun Dorma” to the dramatic clash of heart and duty, Puccini’s lush melodies and grand orchestration bring this epic tale of sacrifice, love, and defiance to life. This unforgettable journey will leave you captivated by one of opera’s most powerful stories.

**Puccini:** *Turandot*



Conrad Tao



## ALEXANDER SHELLEY CONDUCTS AMERICA AT 250

May 28, 29 & 30, 2026 | 8PM

**Conductor**  
Alexander Shelley

**Piano**  
Conrad Tao

Join Artistic and Music Director Designate Alexander Shelley and pianist Conrad Tao for a bold celebration of the 250th anniversary of the United States. Experience Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F alongside the West Coast premiere of Peter Boyer and Joe Sohm’s *American Mosaic*, a powerful reflection of America’s diverse and dynamic spirit. This concert honors our nation’s past, present, and future—an unforgettable tribute to 250 years of cultural innovation.

**Gershwin:** Piano Concerto in F

**Peter Boyer and Joe Sohm:** *American Mosaic* (West Coast Premiere)



Avi Avital



INSPIRED BY FATE:

## MOZART, SAY, AND TCHAIKOVSKY

May 7, 8 & 9, 2026 | 8PM

**Conductor**  
Anna Rakitina

**Mandolin**  
Avi Avital

Join conductor Anna Rakitina and mandolin virtuoso Avi Avital for an unforgettable evening of musical brilliance. Avital’s groundbreaking artistry sets the stage for Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5, a powerful journey from fate’s darkness to triumphant victory. With sweeping melodies and dramatic contrasts, this masterpiece will leave you moved and inspired.

**Mozart:** Overture to *The Abduction from the Seraglio*

**Fazil Say:** Mandolin Concerto (U.S. Premiere)

**Tchaikovsky:** Symphony No. 5



Zlatomir Fung



ECHOES OF ROMANCE:

## ROSSINI, BOCCHERINI, MASCAGNI & RACHMANINOFF

June 11, 12 & 13, 2026 | 8PM

June 14, 2026 | 3PM

**Conductor**  
Valentina Peleggi

**Cello**  
Zlatomir Fung

End the season with a breathtaking blend of iconic energy, lyrical grace, and emotional depth. Rossini’s *William Tell* Overture sets the stage, followed by Mascagni’s tender Intermezzo and Boccherini’s virtuosic Cello Concerto. The evening culminates with the sweeping grandeur of Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 2, the perfect climax to a remarkable season of classical music.

**Rossini:** Overture to *William Tell*

**Boccherini:** Cello Concerto in Bb Major (Grützmacher)

**Mascagni:** Intermezzo from *Cavalleria Rusticana*

**Rachmaninoff:** Symphony No. 2

**Sunday Matinee:** Rachmaninoff:  
Symphony No. 2

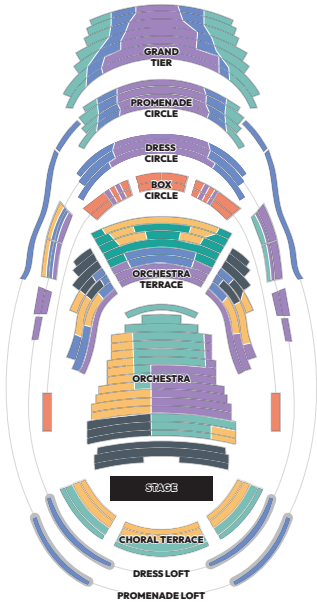


**KEY:** ■ Full Classics - 12 Concerts ■ Romantic Nights Series - 6 Concerts ■ Classical Escapes Series - 6 Concerts ■ Sunday Matinee - 4 Concerts

SUBSCRIBER PRICING

	Full Classics 12 12 Concerts Save up to 25%	Romantic Nights/ Classical Escapes 6 Concerts Save up to 18%	Choose Your Own 6 Concerts Save up to 18%	Choose Your Own 4 Concerts Save up to 12%	Handel's Messiah 1 Concert	Holiday Organ Spectacular 1 Concert
Box Circle	2,142*	1,128*	1,128*	805*	180	76
Price Level 1	1,272	672	672	479	112	64
Price Level 2	945	516	516	370	92	52
Price Level 3	786	414	414	295	72	44
Price Level 4	495	270	270	194	44	36
Price Level 5	309	162	162	116	28	24

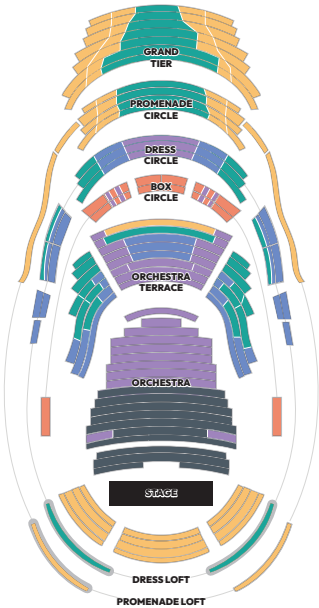
\*Additional Box Circle Club membership required. Please call (714) 876-2396 for more information.



LUNAR NEW YEAR AND LANG LANG SEATING & PRICING

	Lunar New Year	Lang Lang
Box Circle	174	204
Price Level Premium	102	156
Price Level 1	86	140
Price Level 2	78	116
Price Level 3	62	92
Price Level 4	46	56

Pricing reflects 20% subscriber discount.



2025-26 SUNDAY MATINEES

SCHEHERAZADE:  
ONE THOUSAND AND  
ONE NIGHTS

Conductor  
Alexander Shelley

October 19, 2025 | 3PM

Experience a vibrant journey through timeless myth. Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade weaves the magical tales of *One Thousand and One Nights*, with lush melodies and dazzling orchestration.

THE FIREBIRD

Conductor  
Alexander Shelley

January 18, 2026 | 3PM

Stravinsky's *The Firebird* comes to life with vibrant visuals, rhythmic energy, and enchanting harmonies.

BRAHMS: SYMPHONY NO. 4

March 29, 2026 | 3PM

Soar though an exhilarating afternoon of music—this concert lifts you to new heights of musical discovery.

RACHMANINOFF: SYMPHONY NO. 2

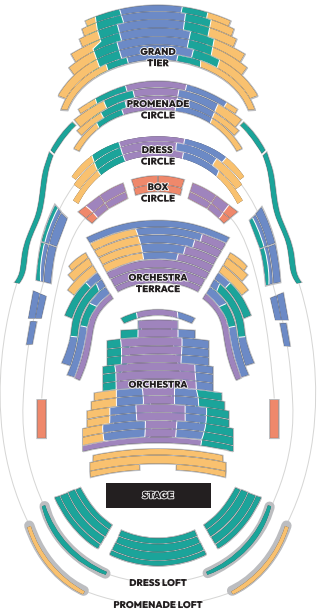
June 14, 2026 | 3PM

Experience the sweeping grandeur of Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2, the perfect climax to a remarkable season of classical music.

Sunday afternoon concerts provide an intimate behind-the-scenes exploration of the classics. Enjoy the music alongside insightful commentary by the conductor. Concerts are 90 minutes long, leaving plenty of time for a pre-show brunch or post-show shopping at South Coast Plaza!

SUNDAY MATINEE  
SUBSCRIBER PRICING

Box Circle	428
Price Level 1	296
Price Level 2	204
Price Level 3	136
Price Level 4	92





## SPECIAL EVENTS

# LANG LANG PLAYS BEETHOVEN

**Conductor**  
Carl St.Clair  
**Piano**  
Lang Lang

March 23, 2026, 8PM

A legend by the age of 20. “Technical fireworks,” raves the *San Francisco Examiner*, “interpretive passion.” Experience the breathtaking virtuosity of Lang Lang—live in one very special concert with Pacific Symphony, featuring Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3. The evening opens with the dramatic intensity of Beethoven’s *Egmont* Overture and concludes with Dvořák’s Ninth Symphony, “From the New World,” a sweeping musical journey that evokes the spirit of America.

**Beethoven:** *Egmont* Overture

**Beethoven:** Piano Concerto No. 3

**Dvořák:** Symphony No. 9, “From the New World”



## HANDEL’S GLORIOUS MESSIAH

December 7, 2025, 3PM

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

**Conductor**  
Robert Istad  
**Pacific Chorale**  
Robert Istad—artistic director



## LUNAR NEW YEAR

February 21, 2026, 8PM

Join us for Pacific Symphony’s annual festivities honoring Lunar New Year! Celebrating the Year of the Horse, 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.

**Conductor**  
Carl St.Clair



# HELP BRING THE LEGENDARY TO LIFE

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.

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Invitation to Open Rehearsal

Name listing once a year in  
concert program

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and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

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**BENEFITS:**

Everything in Musicians' Circle

Name listing in all concert programs

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Everything in Principals' Circle

One invitation to donor lounge on the  
Box Circle level of the Renée and Henry  
Segerstrom Concert Hall

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Everything in Concertmasters' Circle

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musicians at a Pre-Concert Reception

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Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall

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Access to Education Events



# TRANSFORMING ORANGE COUNTY THROUGH MUSIC

Pacific Symphony enriches lives across Orange County and beyond through exceptional music, education, and community programs. **Our mission is made possible by the generosity of donors like you.**

Your support helps provide access to world-class music and vital educational initiatives. Here's how your gift makes an impact:

249

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51,379

served through educational and  
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137

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**John Forsyte**

President & CEO | Pacific Symphony

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BY CHANGING BREEZES.”

— CLAUDE DEBUSSY, COMPOSER



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