

## The Philadelphia Orchestra Returns to Beloved Summer Homes with Diverse Performances Featuring Sensational Guest Artists

### *Bravo! Vail Music Festival (July 8–16)*

### *Mann Center for the Performing Arts (July 21–23)*

### *Saratoga Performing Arts Center (July 27–August 13)*

(Philadelphia, PA—May 24, 2022)—The Philadelphia Orchestra will return to its summer homes at the Bravo! Vail Music Festival, Mann Center for the Performing Arts, and Saratoga Performing Arts Center, July 8–August 13, 2022, with performances that reflect the Orchestra’s commitment to IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Strategies). Concerts will feature unforgettable performances of beloved classics and exciting new works—by Brahms, Beethoven, Florence Price, Carlos Simon, Stacy Garrop, Valerie Coleman, Kevin Puts, Missy Mazzoli, and Gabriela Lena Frank, among others—with an impressive range of guest artists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Angel Blue, Lara Downes, Randall Goosby, Ledisi, BalletX, Haochen Zhang, Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider, and many more.

#### **Bravo! Vail Music Festival**

The Philadelphia Orchestra will begin its 15th residency at the Bravo! Vail Music Festival, in the pastoral Rocky Mountains, with two performances led by former Principal Guest Conductor Stéphane Denève. The series will open with a performance of Carlos Simon’s *Fate Now Conquers*, a Philadelphia Orchestra commission; Sibelius’s Violin Concerto featuring Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider; and Strauss’s *Ein Heldenleben* (July 8). The following evening Denève will conduct the Philadelphia Orchestra premiere of Stacy Garrop’s *Penelope Waits*, Kirill Gerstein in Liszt’s Piano Concerto No. 2, and Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 3 (July 9). George Daugherty will lead Bugs Bunny at the Symphony, a concert perfect for the whole family, complete with more than a dozen classic Looney Tunes projected on the big screen (July 10).

Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann will lead the Orchestra in a second week of stunning concerts, including an evening of Beethoven and Schubert, featuring Haochen Zhang performing Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 1 (July 14); works by Tchaikovsky alongside Prokofiev’s Violin Concerto No. 2 with Daniel Lozakovich (July 15); and a finale performance featuring Principal Clarinet Ricardo Morales and Principal Viola Choong-Jin Chang in Bruch’s Concerto for Clarinet, Viola, and Orchestra, as well as Brahms’s Fourth Symphony (July 16).

#### **Mann Center for the Performing Arts**

The Philadelphia Orchestra will dazzle audiences at home with three concerts over one week in July at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts. Earlier this year, the Mann Center and the Orchestra announced a multi-year residency through 2027, allowing for additional opportunities to partner and plan together on artistic programming, new commissions, and community engagement and education programming.

Assistant Conductor Erina Yashima will lead the Orchestra in the fan favorite Tchaikovsky Spectacular, featuring the Symphony No. 4 and Variations on a Rococo Theme with cellist Thomas Mesa in his Philadelphia Orchestra debut. The evening will conclude with a dazzling fireworks display (July 21). Next, GRAMMY® Award-winning singer Ledisi will join the Orchestra for a Tribute to Nina Simone. Conducted by William Eddins, the performance will take the audience on an exhilarating exploration through the legendary artist's repertoire (July 22). The Mann series will conclude with a screening of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone™*, brought to life with the score performed live by The Philadelphia Orchestra as the celebrated film is shown on the Mann's 40-foot main stage screen as well as on two giant screens for fans on the Great Lawn (July 23).

### **Saratoga Performing Arts Center (SPAC)**

The Philadelphia Orchestra will conclude its summer residencies with three weeks in Saratoga Springs, New York, joined by Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin and a host of special guests for a diverse series of performances.

The first week at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center marks several Orchestra and SPAC premieres, with BalletX performing alongside the Orchestra in choreographer Tiler Peck's setting of Valerie Coleman's *Umoja, Anthem for Unity* (July 27). The next evening, the Orchestra will perform the East Coast Premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winner Kevin Puts's *Contact* for string trio and orchestra, a SPAC co-commission, featuring the ensemble Time for Three. The concert will also include the SPAC premiere of Missy Mazzoli's *Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)* and Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World") (July 28). Both concerts will be led by Assistant Conductor Erina Yashima.

Renowned violinist Joshua Bell and soprano Larisa Martinez will join the Orchestra for "Voice and the Violin," an evening of romantic arias and modern classics by Berlioz, Mascagni, Sarasate, Verdi, and Bernstein, among others, led by conductor Michael Stern (July 29).

Conductor William Eddins will lead the Orchestra through three concerts in week two, beginning with Ledisi in a Tribute to Nina Simone (August 3). The following evening will include The Philadelphia Orchestra and SPAC premieres of *A Lovesome Thing: Billy Strayhorn Suite*, co-commissioned by SPAC, and the SPAC premiere of Florence Price's Piano Concerto in One Movement, both featuring pianist (and NPR host) Lara Downes in her Orchestra and SPAC debuts (August 4). Acclaimed cellist Yo-Yo Ma will return to the SPAC stage for the first time in five years to perform the Aria from Villa-Lobos's *Bachianas brasileiras* No. 5 and Saint-Saëns's Cello Concerto No. 1 (August 5).

Audiences can also enjoy Saturday evenings at the movies with live-score performances of *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™* (July 30) and *The Princess Bride* (August 6).

Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin will join The Philadelphia Orchestra for the final week, with performances of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 and Iman Habibi's companion piece, *Jeder Baum spricht*, commissioned by the Orchestra (August 10), as well as Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica") alongside Jessica Hunt's *Climb*, another Orchestra commission, and Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1 with Randall Goosby making his Orchestra and SPAC debuts (August 11). Soprano Angel Blue will also make her SPAC debut, lending her stunning vocals to Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* and Coleman's *This Is Not a Small Voice*, a Philadelphia Orchestra commission that was given its world premiere in February 2022 (August 12). The three-week series will conclude with a triumphant performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 featuring Angel Blue, Jennifer Johnson Cano, Russell Thomas, Ryan McKinny, and the Albany Pro Musica chorus. Philadelphia Orchestra Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena

Frank's *Pachamama Meets an Ode*, an Orchestra commission that draws inspiration from Beethoven and from Frank's Peruvian culture, will be given its SPAC premiere. The evening will culminate with a fireworks display (August 13).

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## The Philadelphia Orchestra Summer Calendar (July 8–August 13, 2022)

### A Hero's Life with Denève

July 8 at 6:00 PM—Friday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**Stéphane Denève** Conductor  
**Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider** Violin

<b>Smith</b>	"The Star-Spangled Banner"
<b>Skoryk</b>	Melody, for solo violin and string orchestra
<b>Simon</b>	<i>Fate Now Conquers</i>
<b>Sibelius</b>	Violin Concerto
<b>Strauss</b>	<i>Ein Heldenleben</i>

Inspired by an entry in Beethoven's journal, *Fate Now Conquers* draws on uncertainty and turns it into inspiration. The exceptional Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider brings his "enormous presence and charisma" (*Philadelphia Inquirer*) to the impassioned and inventive Violin Concerto by Sibelius. Strauss's virtuosic tone poem is an astounding musical autobiography, depicting life, love, struggles, and fulfillment.

Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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### Rachmaninoff's Third Symphony

July 9 at 6:00 PM—Saturday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**Stéphane Denève** Conductor  
**Kirill Gerstein** Piano

<b>Garrop</b>	<i>Penelope Waits</i> —First Philadelphia Orchestra Performance
<b>Liszt</b>	Piano Concerto No. 2
<b>Rachmaninoff</b>	Symphony No. 3

This is an enthralling, voluptuous dream of a program, a musical marriage made in heaven for the famous "Philadelphia Sound." The gentle longing of *Penelope Waits* set the scene for the "serious, intelligent, and virtuosic music-making" (*The Observer*) of Kirill Gerstein in a dazzling concerto by Liszt. Finally, the program concludes with Rachmaninoff's magnificent Third Symphony, which intertwines a modern melancholy with lustrous, life-affirming Romanticism.

Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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**Warner Bros. Presents Bugs Bunny at the Symphony**

**July 10 at 7:30 PM**—Sunday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**George Daugherty** Conductor

**“Bugs Bunny at the Symphony 30”** (complete with film)

Brilliant Warner Bros. Looney Tunes like “What’s Opera, Doc?,” “Corny Concerto,” and “The Rabbit of Seville” have introduced the exhilarating experience of classical music to generations of audiences worldwide over the past 80 years. Bring the whole family to experience over a dozen of these beloved cartoons projected on the big screen, while their extraordinary original Carl Stalling and Milt Franklyn scores are played live by The Philadelphia Orchestra. (In the hilarious “Long Haired-Hare,” Bugs even masquerades as the Orchestra’s iconic Leopold Stokowski, music director from 1912 to 1941!) This new edition celebrates the 30th anniversary of this critically acclaimed production that has delighted audiences all over the world for three decades. Created and produced by George Daugherty and David Ka Lik Wong.

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Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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**Beethoven & Schubert with Stutzmann**

**July 14 at 6:00 PM**—Thursday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Haochen Zhang** Piano

**Beethoven** Piano Concerto No. 1  
**Schubert** Symphony No. 9 (“Great”)

Beethoven’s First Piano Concerto starts simply and evolves into an epic journey, especially in the hands of Haochen Zhang, “a musician of extraordinary technical and perception” (*New York Arts*). Schubert’s colossal Symphony No. 9 is an awe-inspiring revelation masterwork filled with complex melodic interplay, surprising tonal shifts, and brilliant, fearless exuberance.

Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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**Tchaikovsky’s Sixth Symphony**

**July 15 at 6:00 PM**—Friday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Daniel Lozakovich** Violin

**Tchaikovsky** Polonaise, from *Eugene Onegin*  
**Prokofiev** Violin Concerto No. 2  
**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 6 (“Pathétique”)

Pure Russian romance awaits with a bewitching Polonaise from Tchaikovsky's most popular opera, and the Bravo! Vail debut of the "exceptional" (*Le Figaro*) violinist Daniel Lozakovich in Prokofiev's enthralling Second Violin Concerto. Tchaikovsky himself conducted the premiere of his "Pathétique" Symphony just a week before his death. Sometimes described as his own personal requiem, it lives on as one of the composer's most cherished creations.

Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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### **Brahms's Fourth Conducted by Stutzmann**

**July 16 at 6:00 PM**—Saturday evening—Gerald R. Ford Amphitheater, Vail

**Nathalie Stutzmann** Conductor

**Ricardo Morales** Clarinet

**Choong-Jin Chang** Viola

**Copland** *Fanfare for the Common Man*

**Bruch** Concerto for Clarinet, Viola, and Orchestra—First Philadelphia Orchestra

Performance

**Brahms** Symphony No. 4

Bruch's gorgeous double concerto is a rare gem, and an electrifying showcase for the Orchestra's principal clarinet and viola. Hauntingly beautiful and filled with emotional nuance, the transcendent Fourth Symphony by Brahms is a fitting finale for the Fabulous Philadelphians' season at Bravo! Vail.

Tickets are available through the Box Office, by calling 877.812.5700, or by visiting [www.bravovail.org](http://www.bravovail.org).

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### **Tchaikovsky Spectacular**

**July 21 at 8:00 PM**—Thursday evening—Mann Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

**Thomas Mesa** Cello—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4

**Tchaikovsky** Rococo Variations, for cello and orchestra

The Tchaikovsky Spectacular with The Philadelphia Orchestra returns to the TD Pavilion at the Mann on Thursday, July 21! Pack a picnic and enjoy fireworks under the stars as Erina Yashima leads the Orchestra in timeless Tchaikovsky pieces: Symphony No. 4, Rococo Variations, and more, culminating in an epic display of fireworks!

Tickets are on sale now via [MannCenter.org](http://MannCenter.org), [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), 800.982.2787, and the Mann Box Office.

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### **Ledisi Sings Nina**

**July 22 at 8:00 PM**—Friday evening—Mann Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia

**William Eddins** Conductor  
**Ledisi** Vocalist—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

### **Tribute to Nina Simone**

On July 22, Ledisi, the New Orleans-born and Oakland-raised singer, pays tribute to the legendary Nina Simone with a live performance of her album *Ledisi Sings Nina*, accompanied by none other than The Philadelphia Orchestra.

*Ledisi Sings Nina* balances upbeat, big-band energy with atmospheric balladry, and an attention to historic detail that succeeds in updating the music for a modern hip-hop/R&B era. With the prowess of Ledisi's voice, the artistry of The Philadelphia Orchestra, and the messages of Simone's music, this performance is sure to speak to a generation facing the same harsh challenges and bitter struggles of the 1960s.

*Ledisi Sings Nina*, the singer's 10th album, caps more than a year of impressive achievement, including a GRAMMY® for Best Traditional R&B Performance; her first PBS TV special, *Ledisi Live: A Tribute to Nina Simone*; a role on HBO's *Between the World and Me*; the release of her album *Wild Card*; and the release of her second book, *Don't Ever Lose Your Walk: How to Embrace Your Journey*. Ledisi's path forward promises to be as varied stylistically and format-wise as ever.

Tickets are on sale now via [MannCenter.org](http://MannCenter.org), [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), 800.982.2787, and the Mann Box Office.

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### **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone™ in Concert**

**July 23 at 8:00 PM**—Saturday evening—Mann Center for the Performing Arts, Philadelphia

**Justin Freer** Conductor

**Williams** *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (complete with film)

"You're a wizard, Harry!" We're going back to the movie that started it all! The Harry Potter™ Film Concert Series returns to the Mann this summer with *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone™* in Concert, the first film in the *Harry Potter* series. On July 23, The Philadelphia Orchestra performs John Williams's unforgettable score live while the entire film plays in high-definition on a 40-foot screen.

In 2016, CineConcerts and Warner Bros. Consumer Products announced the Harry Potter Film Concert Series, a global concert tour celebrating the *Harry Potter* films. Since the world premiere of *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* in Concert in 2016, more than 2.7 million fans have enjoyed this magical experience from the Wizarding World, which is scheduled to include over 1,295 performances across more than 48 countries worldwide through 2022.

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Tickets are on sale now via [MannCenter.org](http://MannCenter.org), [Ticketmaster.com](http://Ticketmaster.com), 800.982.2787, and the Mann Box Office.

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## **Festive Fireworks**

**July 27 at 7:30 PM**—Wednesday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

**BalletX**—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

**Christine Cox** Artistic Director

<b>Shostakovich</b>	Festive Overture
<b>Coleman</b>	<i>Umoja, Anthem for Unity</i>
<b>Tchaikovsky</b>	Symphony No. 4

Opening Night of The Philadelphia Orchestra's residency will kick-off with Shostakovich's Festive Overture.

Highlighting the program will be the Orchestra and SPAC debuts of BalletX, premiering a new work choreographed by New York City Ballet's Tiler Peck. The piece will be performed with the Orchestra to Valerie Coleman's *Umoja, Anthem for Unity*, which draws from Afro-Cuban, jazz, and classical genres.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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## **New Worlds**

**July 28 at 7:30 PM**—Thursday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Erina Yashima** Conductor

**Time for Three**

<b>Mazzoli</b>	<i>Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)</i>
<b>Puts</b>	<i>Contact</i> , for string trio and orchestra—First Philadelphia Orchestra Performance
<b>Dvořák</b>	Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World")

Highlighting the program on Thursday, July 28, is the East Coast premiere of *Contact* by Pulitzer Prize-winner Kevin Puts featuring Time for Three. The new work was co-commissioned by SPAC and draws inspiration from Time for Three's extraordinary energy and spontaneity as a boundary-breaking ensemble. The work was originally planned as part of SPAC's 2020 season.

Also featured is the SPAC premiere of Missy Mazzoli's *Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)*, which, in the composer's words is "a piece that churns and roils, that inches close to the listener only to leap away at breakneck speed" and Dvořák's "New World" Symphony, one of the most beloved works in the repertoire with its lush melodies and majestic conclusion.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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## **Voice and the Violin**

**July 29 at 7:30 PM**—Friday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Michael Stern** Conductor

**Joshua Bell** Violin

**Larisa Martinez** Soprano—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

<b>Berlioz</b>	Overture to <i>Beatrice and Benedict</i>
<b>Mendelssohn</b>	“Ah, ritorna, età dell’oro,” from <i>Infelice</i>
<b>Dvořák</b>	“Songs My Mother Taught Me”
<b>Delibes</b>	“Les Filles de Cadix”
<b>Mascagni</b>	Intermezzo from <i>Cavalleria rusticana</i>
<b>Sarasate</b>	“Habanera,” from <i>Carmen Fantasy</i> , for violin and orchestra
<b>Verdi</b>	Overture to <i>Nabucco</i>
<b>Hérold</b>	“Jours de mon enfance,” from <i>Le Pré aux clercs</i> —FIRST PHILADELPHIA
ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE	
<b>Chopin</b>	Nocturne in E-flat major, Op. 9, No. 2—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA
PERFORMANCE	
<b>Smetana</b>	Dances from <i>The Bartered Bride</i>
<b>Bernstein</b>	Medley from <i>West Side Story</i>

Tonight, violinist Joshua Bell and soprano Larisa Martinez come together with The Philadelphia Orchestra to present “Voice and the Violin,” an evening of beloved romantic arias and modern classics.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™ in Concert**

**July 30 at 7:30 PM**—Saturday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Justin Freer** Conductor

**Albany Pro Musica**

**José Daniel Flores-Carabello** Artistic Director

**Williams** *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (complete with film)

The third installment of the popular series, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban™*, will be screened alongside the Orchestra performing, live to picture, every note.

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Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Ledisi Sings Nina**

**August 3 at 7:30 PM**—Wednesday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**William Eddins** Conductor  
**Ledisi** Vocalist

### **Tribute to Nina Simone**

Following her recent PBS special *Ledisi Live: A Tribute to Nina Simone*, 2021 GRAMMY® winner and 14-time GRAMMY®-nominated powerhouse vocalist Ledisi will capture the spirit of singer, pianist, and activist Nina Simone in this special program. Performing alongside The Philadelphia Orchestra, Ledisi will take on the legendary musician's emotionally searing and socially conscious songs.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Lara Downes Plays Price**

**August 4 at 7:30 PM**—Thursday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**William Eddins** Conductor

**Lara Downes** Piano—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

**Strayhorn/arr. Walden** *A Lovesome Thing: Billy Strayhorn Suite*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA  
PERFORMANCE

**Price** Piano Concerto in One Movement

**Brahms** Symphony No. 2

Making her Orchestra and SPAC debuts on this program is American pianist Lara Downes, a trailblazer on stage and off and an acclaimed NPR host. As a chart-topping recording artist, a powerfully charismatic performer, a curator, and tastemaker, she is recognized as a cultural visionary on the national arts scene.

Downes will perform two SPAC premieres: *A Lovesome Thing: Billy Strayhorn Suite*, co-commissioned by SPAC, Downes, and the Boston Symphony and featuring three selections from the music of Billy Strayhorn (also an Orchestra premiere), as well as Florence Price's Piano Concerto in One Movement, which evokes Price's experiences as a Black woman raised in the post-Civil War South. This stunning Concerto includes references to spirituals, call-and-response, and the juba—a lively, syncopated plantation dance that predates the Civil War.

Closing the program is Brahms's Second Symphony, possibly his most popular, and said to be his personal favorite. Its pastoral aura surely accounts for some of its appeal, but there is tension and drama as well, building to an extraordinary, triumphant finale.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Yo-Yo Ma Returns**

**August 5 at 7:30 PM**—Friday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**William Eddins** Conductor  
**Yo-Yo Ma** Cello

**Villa-Lobos** "Ária (Cantilena)," from *Bachianas brasileiras* No. 5  
**Saint-Saëns** Cello Concerto No. 1  
**Rimsky-Korsakov** *Sheherazade*

World-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma will make his return to SPAC for the first time since 2017 with a program that opens with the "Ária" from Villa-Lobos's *Bachianas brasileiras* No. 5, a delightful blend of Brazilian folk tunes and Bach-inspired chamber music.

Following is Saint-Saëns's sparkling First Cello Concerto, one of the greatest and most technically challenging cello pieces ever written, in the masterful hands of Yo-Yo Ma. The evening closes with Rimsky-Korsakov's sweeping *Sheherazade*—core Russian Romantic repertoire seemingly invented to showcase the Philadelphia Sound.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **The Princess Bride in Concert**

**August 6 at 7:30 PM**—Saturday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Constantine Kitsopoulos** Conductor

**Knopfler** *The Princess Bride* (complete with film)

Fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles. Experience one of the most beloved films of all time as never before ... with the power of a full symphony orchestra performing the entire musical score live-to-picture!

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Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Beethoven's Fifth**

**August 10 at 7:30 PM**—Wednesday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Dvořák** *Carnival*, concert overture, Op. 92  
**Rachmaninoff** *The Isle of the Dead*  
**Habibi** *Jeder Baum spricht*  
**Beethoven** Symphony No. 5

Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin returns to Saratoga to lead the Orchestra in four programs, beginning on Wednesday, August 10.

Highlighting the evening is Beethoven's indelible Fifth Symphony, originally scheduled as part of the 2020 season to celebrate the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. Written in 1807–08, and on the program when The Philadelphia Orchestra gave its first concert in 1900, it's an epic tour de force that still resonates today.

Also inspired by nature, and based on a direct quote from Beethoven, composer Iman Habibi's *Jeder Baum spricht* imagines Beethoven's response to today's climate crisis.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Beethoven's "Eroica"**

**August 11 at 7:30 PM**—Thursday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Randall Goosby** Violin—Philadelphia Orchestra Debut

<b>Rossini</b>	Overture to <i>The Thieving Magpie</i>
<b>Bruch</b>	Violin Concerto No. 1
<b>Hunt</b>	<i>Climb</i>
<b>Beethoven</b>	Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica")

Twenty-six-year-old violin superstar Randall Goosby makes his Orchestra and SPAC debuts performing Bruch's youthful yet expressive Violin Concerto No. 1.

Also featured on this program is composer Jessica Hunt's *Climb*, a letter-through-time to Beethoven, expressing her gratitude for his work. Hunt relates Beethoven's personal struggles to her own experience with chronic illness.

A vast ode to heroism, revolution, and freedom, the "Eroica" is considered by many to be the greatest of not just Beethoven's symphonies, but the greatest of all time. From its indelible opening theme to its thundering finale, the "Eroica" Symphony is one of Beethoven's most popular works.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Angel Blue Sings Coleman & Barber**

**August 12 at 7:30 PM**—Friday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Angel Blue** Soprano

<b>Rossini</b>	Overture to <i>The Thieving Magpie</i>
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**Barber** *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*  
**Coleman** *Eternal Flame* [WORLD PREMIERE]  
**Coleman** *This Is Not a Small Voice*  
**Dvořák** *Symphony No. 7*

Beginning with Rossini's effervescent Overture to *The Thieving Magpie*, this program features the SPAC debut of soprano Angel Blue.

In a performance grounded in our shared connection to a sense of place, Angel Blue transports us to *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* through Samuel Barber's dream-like depiction of the world through the eyes of a child. Valerie Coleman creates an inspiring new work for voice and orchestra using a text by Sonia Sanchez.

Closing the evening is the towering triumph, Dvořák's Seventh Symphony. Cascading from brooding themes to the serenity of woodwinds to the overwhelming tragic grandeur of the finale, the work has astounded audiences since its April 1885 premiere in London.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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### **Beethoven's Ninth**

**August 13 at 7:30 PM**—Saturday evening—Saratoga Performing Arts Center, Saratoga Springs

**Yannick Nézet-Séguin** Conductor

**Angel Blue** Soprano

**Jennifer Johnson Cano** Mezzo-soprano

**Russell Thomas** Tenor

**Ryan McKinny** Bass-baritone—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

**Albany Pro Musica**

**José Daniel Flores-Carabello** Artistic Director

**Frank** *Pachamama Meets an Ode*  
**Beethoven** *Symphony No. 9* ("Choral")

The Philadelphia Orchestra's residency finale is highlighted by Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. Written just a few short years before his death, "Beethoven's profound ode to brotherhood, salvation, and pure joy reminds us why we are here as an orchestra," says Yannick, "and why we constantly try to make our world better by playing music."

Philadelphia Orchestra Composer-in-Residence Gabriela Lena Frank draws inspiration from Beethoven and her Peruvian culture in *Pachamama Meets an Ode*, challenging us to look at gifts from the past with new and searching eyes.

The evening culminates with a brilliant fireworks display.

Tickets are available from the Saratoga Performing Arts Center Box Office, by phone at 518.584.9330 (handling fees apply), or at [www.spac.org/tickets](http://www.spac.org/tickets).

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[About The Philadelphia Orchestra](#)

[About Yannick Nézet-Séguin](#)

[About Nathalie Stutzmann](#)

[About the 2022–23 Season](#)

[About the Digital Stage](#)

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