#### 2024–2025 | 125th Season Marian Anderson Hall

#### The Philadelphia Orchestra

Friday, February 14, at 7:30

Naomi Woo Conductor Juliette Kang Violin Kelley Curran Speaker

Smyth Overture to The Boatswain's Mate First Philadelphia Orchestra performance

Massenet "Meditation," from Thaïs, for violin and orchestra

Schubert/arr. Stephens "Ständchen," from Schwanengesang, D. 957, No. 4, for violin and chamber orchestra

Mendelssohn "Wedding March," from A Midsummer Night's Dream, Op. 61

Tchaikovsky Fantasy-Overture, Romeo and Juliet

Intermission

Mozart Overture to The Marriage of Figaro, K. 492

Morricone/arr. Morley Love Theme, from Cinema Paradiso

Williams "Across the Stars" (Love Theme), from Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones

Various/arr. Kathrotia The Music from Kal Ho Naa Ho First Philadelphia Orchestra performance

Bernstein/orch. Ramin & Kostal Excerpts from Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

Lennon & McCartney/arr. Jackman "All You Need Is Love," from The Great Beatles Singles Suite II

This program runs approximately two hours.

Philadelphia Orchestra concerts are broadcast on WRTI 90.1 FM on Sunday afternoons at 1 PM and are repeated on Monday evenings at 7 PM on WRTI HD 2. Visit www.wrti.org to listen live or for more details.

The Philadelphia Orchestra Yannick Nézet-Séguin Music Director

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Photo: Jeff Fusco



#### The Philadelphia Orchestra

The world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra strives to share the transformative power of music with the widest possible audience, and to create joy, connection, and excitement through music in the Philadelphia region, across the country, and around the world. Through innovative programming, robust education initiatives. a commitment to its diverse communities. and the embrace of digital outreach, the ensemble is creating an expansive and inclusive future for classical music and furthering the place of the arts in an open and democratic society. In June 2021 the Orchestra and its home, the Kimmel Center, united. Today, The Philadelphia Orchestra and Ensemble Arts brings the greatest performances and most impactful education and community programs to audiences in Philadelphia and beyond.

Yannick Nézet-Séguin is now in his 13th season with The Philadelphia Orchestra, serving as music and artistic director. His connection to the ensemble's musicians has been praised by both concertgoers and critics, and he is embraced by the musicians of the Orchestra, audiences, and the community. In addition to expanding the repertoire by embracing an ever-growing and diverse group of today's composers, Yannick and the Orchestra are committed to performing and recording the works of previously overlooked composers.

Your Philadelphia Orchestra takes great pride in its hometown, performing for the people of Philadelphia year-round, at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts and around the community, in classrooms and hospitals, and over the airwaves and online. The Kimmel Center has been the ensemble's

home since 2001, and in 2024 Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center was officially rededicated as Marian Anderson Hall in honor of the legendary contralto, civil rights icon, and Philadelphian. The Orchestra's award-winning education and community initiatives engage over 50,000 students, families, and community members of all ages through programs such as PlayINs; side-by-sides: PopUP concerts: Our City, Your Orchestra Live; the free annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Tribute Concert; School Concerts; sensory-friendly concerts; open rehearsals; the School Partnership Program and School Ensemble Program; All-City Orchestra Fellowships; and residency work in Philadelphia and abroad.

Through concerts, tours, residencies, and recordings, the Orchestra is a global ambassador and one of our nation's greatest exports. It performs annually at Carnegie Hall, the Mann Center, the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, and the Bravo! Vail Music Festival. The Orchestra also has a rich touring history, having first performed outside Philadelphia in its earliest days. In 1973 it was the first American orchestra to perform in the People's Republic of China, launching a now-five-decade commitment of people-to-people exchange.

Under Yannick's leadership, the Orchestra returned to recording with 14 celebrated releases on the Deutsche Grammophon label, including the GRAMMY® Award– winning *Florence Price Symphonies Nos. 1 & 3.* The Orchestra also reaches thousands of radio listeners with weekly broadcasts on WRTI-FM and SiriusXM. For more information, please visit www.philorch.org.

# Conductor



Canadian conductor and pianist **Naomi Woo** is a widely sought-after symphonic and operatic conductor and educator. Assistant conductor of The Philadelphia Orchestra, where her duties include assisting Music and Artistic Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin as well as other guest conductors and leading the Orchestra in select concerts, she is also music director of NYO Canada and artistic partner of the Orchestre Métropolitain in Montreal. In the 2024–25 season, Ms. Woo makes

debuts with The Philadelphia Orchestra, London's Philharmonia Orchestra, the Edmonton Symphony, the Luxembourg Chamber Orchestra, and the Royal Conservatory Orchestra in Toronto. Return engagements include the Toronto Symphony, the Calgary Philharmonic, the Vancouver Symphony, and the Orchestre Métropolitain. Highlights of her 2023–24 season included her first tour and recordings with NYO Canada; conducting engagements with the Orchestre Métropolitain, the Montreal Symphony, the Toronto Symphony, the Vancouver Symphony, the National Arts Center Orchestra in Ottawa, and the Chautauqua Symphony; and leading opera productions with English Touring Opera and Opera Holland Park in the United Kingdom.

Ms. Woo's previous season engagements include the National Arts Centre Orchestra, the Calgary Philharmonic, the Ann Arbor Symphony, Orchestra NOW (New York), the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, and Regina Symphony, and her debut at LSO St. Luke's in London with the ensemble Tangram Sound. She was assistant conductor of the Winnipeg Symphony from 2019 to 2023 and appeared with that orchestra on multiple occasions. On the opera stage, she has conducted the Canadian premiere of Du Yun's Pulitzer Prize–winning *Angel's Bone* in Vancouver and the world premiere of Ellis Ludwig-Leone's *The Night Falls* in New York City. In 2022 she assisted in the world premiere of Oliver Leith's *Last Days* at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and returned to assist Thomas Adès with the same work for its United States premiere with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

The 2022 winner of the Canada Council's prestigious Virginia Parker Prize, Ms. Woo is a member of Tapestry Opera's Women in Musical Leadership program and was chosen by her mentor, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, as a member of the Orchestre Métropolitain's inaugural orchestral conducting academy. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Gates Cambridge Scholar. She also studied mathematics, philosophy, and music at Yale College, the Yale School of Music, and the University of Montreal.

## Soloist



Appointed first associate concertmaster of The Philadelphia Orchestra in 2005, Canadian violinist **Juliette Kang** (Joseph and Marie Field Chair) enjoys an active and varied career. Previously assistant concertmaster of the Boston Symphony and a member of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, she has appeared in solo engagements with the San Francisco Symphony, l'Orchestre National de France, the Baltimore Symphony, the Boston Pops, the Omaha Symphony,

the Syracuse Symphony, and every major orchestra in Canada. Internationally she has performed with the Czech Philharmonic, the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, the Singapore Symphony, the Hong Kong Philharmonic, and the KBS Symphony in Seoul. She has given recitals in Philadelphia, Paris, Tokyo, and Boston. In 1994 she won first prize at the 1994 International Violin Competition of Indianapolis and was presented at New York's Carnegie Hall in a recital that was recorded live and released on CD. She has also recorded the Schumann and Wieniawski violin concertos with the Vancouver Symphony for CBC Records. In 2012 Ms. Kang was again a featured soloist at Carnegie Hall for the visit of her hometown orchestra, the Edmonton Symphony, and that season she made her Philadelphia Orchestra subscription debut with guest conductor Gianandrea Noseda.

Ms. Kang has been involved with chamber music since studying at the Curtis Institute of Music. Festivals she has participated in include Bravo! Vail, Bridgehampton (NY), Kingston (RI), Marlboro (VT), Moab (UT), Skaneateles (NY), and Spoleto USA (SC). In New York she has performed with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center; at the Mostly Mozart Festival with her husband, cellist Thomas Kraines; and at the Bard Music Festival. With Philadelphia Orchestra colleague violist Che-Hung Chen, pianist Natalie Zhu, and cellist Clancy Newman she is a member of the Clarosa Quartet, dedicated to exploring and enriching the piano quartet repertoire.

After receiving a Bachelor of Music degree at age 15 from Curtis as a student of Jascha Brodsky, Ms. Kang earned a Master of Music degree at the Juilliard School under the tutelage of Dorothy Delay and Robert Mann. She was a winner of the 1989 Young Concert Artists Auditions, and she subsequently received first prize at the Menuhin Violin Competition of Paris in 1992. She lives in Queen Village with her husband and two daughters.

# Soloist



**Kelley Curran** can be seen as Turner in Julian Fellowes's *The Gilded Age* on HBO, for which she was nominated for a Screen Actors Guild Award. She was most recently seen on the stage off-Broadway in *The Meeting: The Interpreter* at the Theatre at St. Clements, *The Half-God of Rainfall* at New York Theatre Workshop, and opposite Glenn Close in *Mother of the Maid* at the Public Theater. Prior to that she was Clytemnestra in the world premiere of Ellen

McLaughlin's *The Oresteia* at the Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, DC. She has also appeared on Broadway in *Present Laughter* with Kevin Kline and at Signature Theatre, Classic Stage Company, Theatre for a New Audience, and LAByrinth Theatre Company, among others.

Ms. Curran made her network television debut on NBC's *The Blacklist* and also appeared on the CBS drama *God Friended Me*. She made her feature film debut in *The Man Who Killed Hitler and then the Bigfoot*. She has won the Joe A. Callaway Award, the Emery Battis Award, and the National Theatre Conference's Emerging Professional Award and was nominated for a Drama League Award. She has also been nominated for a Princess Grace Award and a Helen Hayes Award. Tonight's concert marks her Philadelphia Orchestra debut.



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