# **NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

# Front & Center





ENGLEWOOD MORRISTOWN NEWARK NEW BRUNSWICK PRINCETON RED BANK



# Dear Friends, Music unites all of us.

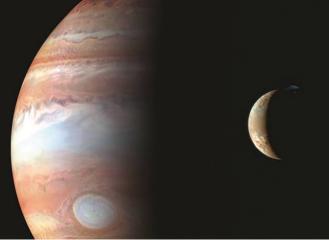
Diverse musical voices are front and center in the 2019–20 season. From the Baroque to modern eras, we feature women composers of the past and present, a Winter Festival of dramatic scores from ballet and opera stages, artists from Europe, Asia and America—plus our own talented NJSO musicians—and young-artist collaborations with the Metropolitan Opera and Sphinx Organization.

There is much to celebrate. For Beethoven's 250th birthday, artist-in-residence Louis Lortie performs all five of the composer's piano concertos. And, in honor of his 40th year with the NJSO, Principal Bassoon Robert Wagner takes center stage for a new co-commission from Christopher Rouse.

I look forward to sharing this season with you, shining a spotlight on programs that define this era of the NJSO.

Xian Zhang
Music Director





# Opening Weekend: Holst's The Planets in HD

Fri, Oct 11, at 7:30 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sat, Oct 12, at 8 pm Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank

Sun, Oct 13, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

An unmissable season opener pairs iconic and contemporary classics with film. The women of Newark Voices return by popular demand.

XIAN ZHANG conductor

Women of NEWARK VOICES | Heather J. Buchanan, conductor

#### **ELGAR** Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1

At the dawn of the 20th century, Elgar summed up the pride and power of the English with this march; its later use as a graduation theme made him a household name far beyond Britain.

# **SARAH KIRKLAND SNIDER** *Hiraeth* (with film by Mark DeChiazza) (NJSO Premiere)

The New Jersey-based composer was inspired by the Welsh word for nostalgia in this innovative work, touching music commissioned alongside an equally moving film.

### **HOLST** The Planets—An HD Odyssey (with film)

The myths and astrological meanings of our heavenly neighbors moved Holst to create his masterpiece. The work gathers new depth accompanied by jaw-dropping NASA visuals.

Join us for our annual **Opening Night Celebration** on Friday, October 11! Evening includes a pre-concert reception and post-concert dinner in the NJPAC lobby.

Details and tickets at njsymphony.org/openingnight.

# Grieg's Piano Concerto

Thu, Oct 31, at 7:30 pm bergenPAC in Englewood

Fri, Nov 1, at 8 pm Richardson Auditorium in Princeton

Sat, Nov 2, at 8 pm Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank

Sun, Nov 3, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

Hear two debuting stars—Markus Stenz, whose masterful interpretation of Brahms is legendary, and Juho Pohjonen, whose Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center recitals drew raves from *The New York Times*.

MARKUS STENZ conductor JUHO POHJONEN piano

#### REBEL "Chaos" from Les élémens (NJSO Premiere)

Louis XIV's favorite composer, Rebel stunned the king in the 1730s with this depiction of creation that incorporated harmonies 200 years ahead of their time.

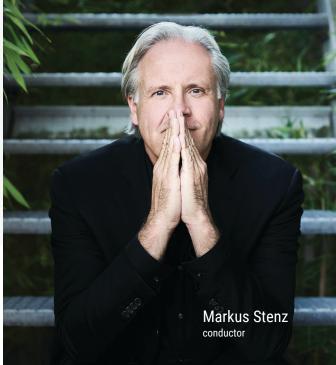
#### **GRIEG** Piano Concerto

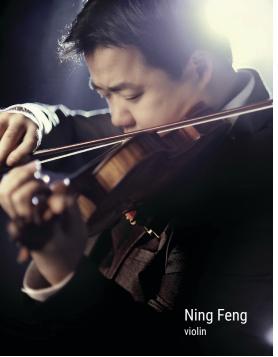
Iconic opening chords herald an eternal favorite. Grieg poured the exquisite beauty of Norwegian fjords and folksongs into his only concerto.

#### **BRAHMS** Symphony No. 2

Brahms' symphonies are cherished for their expression of a profound depth of human feeling. His Second radiates warmth and joy, with soaring strings, singable melodies and a thrilling finale of blazing brass.









# Spanish- and French-Inspired Showpieces

Thu, Nov 7, at 1:30 pm NJPAC in Newark Sat, Nov 9, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sun, Nov 10, at 3 pm Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown

The NJSO performs Spanish- and French-inspired showpieces alongside an electrifying US premiere from one of China's foremost composers, Qigang Chen, with returning violinist Ning Feng.

XIAN ZHANG conductor | NING FENG violin

### RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Capriccio espagnol

Inspired by Spanish dance, Russia's Rimsky-Korsakov turns a brilliant solo spotlight on members of the orchestra.

# **QIGANG CHEN** *La joie de la souffrance* for Violin and Orchestra (US Premiere and NJSO Co-Commission)

"The Joy of Suffering" explores the composer's view that joy and suffering are "a matter of 'Yin' and 'Yang', inseparable and hence all things should contain both. Like loss and gain, they are bound to balance out."

## SAINT-SAËNS Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso

A soulful start prepares the listener for a heartbreaking piece—then fireworks erupt. The soloist's left hand blurs on the fingerboard, and the bowings require an elite athlete's stamina and grace. Only the best violinists like Feng can make this piece sing.

#### FALLA Suite No. 2 from The Three-Cornered Hat

From the ballet stage comes this lighthearted Spanish tale filled with the rhythm and seduction of the dancing it is meant to accompany.

## Rachmaninoff's Third Piano Concerto

Thu, Dec 5, at 1:30 pm NJPAC in Newark Fri, Dec 6, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sat, Dec 7, at 8 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Sun, Dec 8, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

Three works of deeply felt emotion, and the NJSO return of astonishing young American pianist George Li. This program has it all: melodies that linger in the heart, rich harmonies and dance-like rhythms.

XIAN ZHANG conductor | GEORGE LI piano

#### **ANNA CLYNE** Within Her Arms (NJSO Premiere)

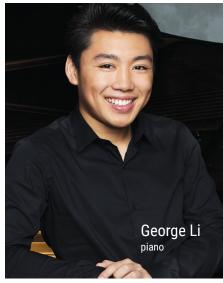
A defining work in this Brooklyn-based composer's career. Written for strings alone, this tender piece is the song of loss and memory for her mother.

#### **RACHMANINOFF** Piano Concerto No. 3

Rachmaninoff wrote this concerto to showcase his exceptional talent and blindingly fast technique. It starts with a deceptively simple melody that every beginner can play, but it quickly becomes the Everest of all piano concertos—one that few soloists attempt to conquer.

### **DVOŘÁK** Symphony No. 8

Dvořák's Eighth poured out of him while he was surrounded by the cherished Bohemian countryside that was his inspiration. Close your eyes and you'll see the colors of autumn, awash in sunlight.







# Handel's Messiah

Fri, Dec 20, at 8 pm Richardson Auditorium in Princeton

Sun, Dec 22, at 7 pm Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark

Do not miss Roderick Cox—one of today's most exciting young American conductors—leading Handel's classic. His choice of soloists and the fantastic Montclair State University Singers are an inspiration.

RODERICK COX conductor

AMANDA WOODBURY soprano
J'NAI BRIDGES mezzo-soprano
FREDERICK BALLENTINE tenor
DOUGLAS WILLIAMS bass-baritone
MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Heather J. Buchanan, conductor

#### **HANDEL** Messiah

The opening aria begins with, "Comfort ye ..." In the rush of the holiday season, set aside time for glorious music that touches the soul.

Add this concert to your subscription package!

Get the best seats and save!





Xian Zhang's love of music from opera and ballet inspires three weeks of epic works from the stage.

# WINTER 2020 FESTIVAL Center

Xian's handpicked scenes and arias from Mozart's *Don Giovanni* tell the opera's complete story, featuring singers from the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. The music is front and center in Wagner's *The Ring Without Words*, arranged by Lorin Maazel, and Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* provides crowdpleasing drama in this timeless story of star-crossed lovers.

# Prokofiev's Romeo and Juliet

Fri, Jan 3, at 8 pm Sat, Jan 4, at 8 pm Sun, Jan 5, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown

Powerhouse pianist Inon Barnatan makes a stunning case for 19th-century composer Clara Schumann. Xian Zhang's own passion for dance leaps onto center stage as she conducts Prokofiev's dynamic ballet.

XIAN ZHANG conductor | INON BARNATAN piano

#### SMETANA "The Moldau" from Má vlast

Sail with us down a fabled river, lined on either side by castles and forests full of myth and mystery.

# **CLARA SCHUMANN** Piano Concerto (NJSO Premiere)

A great pianist, Clara Schumann composed this glittering and graceful concerto in her teens—a remarkable achievement.

# **PROKOFIEV** Selections from Romeo and Juliet

Xian has won acclaim in opera and ballet houses around the world; you'll hear why in Prokofiev's riveting ballet about Shakespeare's doomed lovers.





## Mozart's Don Giovanni

Thu, Jan 9, at 7:30 pm bergenPAC in Englewood Sat, Jan 11, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sun, Jan 12, at 3 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Don Giovanni is a one-of-a-kind mix of comedy, tragedy and the supernatural, and it's on the shortlist of every opera fan's favorites. Enjoy highlights from Mozart's masterpiece, preceded by music composed for the church and the concert hall.

XIAN ZHANG conductor
ERIC WYRICK violin
Singers from the METROPOLITAN OPERA'S LINDEMANN
YOUNG ARTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

#### MOZART Exsultate, jubilate

One of Mozart's most famous works—with good reason. This church solo from Mozart's teenage years rivals his secular arias for sheer brilliance.

#### MOZART Violin Concerto No. 4

NJSO Concertmaster Eric Wyrick performs a Mozart concerto into which the composer crafted too much virtuosity to perform himself!

#### MOZART Scenes from Don Giovanni

Xian Zhang's selection of magnificent arias and scenes creates a masterful abridged version of Mozart's dramatic bad-boy opera.



# Wagner's The Ring Without Words

Fri, Jan 17, at 8 pm Richardson Auditorium in Princeton
Sat, Jan 18, at 8 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Sun, Jan 19, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

If you like your music larger than life, this is your concert. You'll hear Simon Trpčeski's towering talent in Liszt, and the strength of a massive orchestra in selections from Wagner's epic opera cycle.

XIAN ZHANG conductor SIMON TRPČESKI piano

#### **WAGNER** Prelude to Act I of Lohengrin

Ten minutes of utter serenity: Wagner has painted the most delicate sound, with soft strings evoking the tenderness of silver moonlight.

#### LISZT Piano Concerto No. 2

NJSO audiences demanded Trpčeski's return. Don't miss him in this dazzler by the composer-pianist genius Franz Liszt.

#### **WAGNER/arr. Maazel** The Ring Without Words (NJSO Premiere)

Wagner's four-night epic of *Ring* operas is full of heaven-storming music. The American conductor Lorin Maazel, who mentored Xian early in her career, arranged it into this amazing 60-minute suite.





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Don't worry, we know that plans change. That's why we offer our subscribers free and easy ticket exchanges to any other NJSO concert throughout the season. Please note that fees will apply to seat upgrades and multiple exchanges of the same ticket.

## **Ticket Turn-In**

It's always best to inform us of your change in plans in advance. If something comes up last-minute, you have the option to donate the value of your ticket to the NJSO and receive a tax-deductible receipt.

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# **MORE WAYS TO CONNECT**

## **NJSO Accent Events**

Designed to inspire you, NJSO Accents are pre- and post-concert events that bring you closer to the musicians and music you love!

- · Classical Conversations: Discover the orchestra experience from a new perspective. This series of casual discussions gives you an up-close and personal look into the music and music-makers performing that day.
- · Ask a Musician: Get to know NJSO musicians during intermission at most concerts. Chat with them in the lobby or in front of the stage or visit njsymphony.org/askamusician to see videos of past questions and answers.
- · Additional Events: Enjoy College Nights, #OrchestraYou, sing-alongs and more throughout the season.

# **Program Notes Online**

Program notes are available online at **njsymphony.org**—offering you interesting details and fun facts about the music—at least one week before the concert.

# **Digital NJSO**

- · Concert Reminders: A helpful reminder prior to each of your concerts that includes links to program notes and artist bios and confirms NJSO Accent event information.
- Concert Codas: Post-concert emails including encore information and a link to the NJSO website, where you can discuss your thoughts with other concertgoers.
- eNews: Concert information, news of note and special offers.
- Broadcasts: Listen to recorded broadcasts of recent performances at njsymphony.org/broadcasts.

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# **Lunar New Year Celebration**

Sat, Jan 25, at 7:30 pm

NJPAC in Newark

Celebrate the Year of the Rat with us! Join Music Director Xian Zhang and the NJSO for a joyful Lunar New Year concert blending Eastern and Western musical traditions—an unmissable celebration of community and culture. The evening begins with a pre-concert festival of entertainment and activities in the Prudential Hall lobby.

#### XIAN ZHANG conductor

Soloists, performers and program details to be announced.



# Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto

Thu, Feb 27, at 1:30 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sat, Feb 29, at 8 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Sun, Mar 1, at 3 pm NJPAC in Newark

Audiences and NJSO musicians agree: Christoph König is a favorite guest conductor. His November 2018 concerts were a triumph, and we couldn't wait to bring him back for Bruckner's magnificent Sixth Symphony. Bonus: the NJSO debut of a young American violinist who's taking the world by storm.

CHRISTOPH KÖNIG conductor SIMONE PORTER violin

#### **MENDELSSOHN** Violin Concerto

This is the diamond in the crown of violin concertos, with sparkling melodies and quicksilver beauty in every bar. Simone Porter, only in her early 20s, has been hailed by the *Los Angeles Times* for playing that is "lovingly lyrical, occasionally frisky. She is clearly on the cusp of a major career."

#### **BRUCKNER** Symphony No. 6

Bruckner was a church organist by day, but when he took up his composing pen at night, he opened a whole new world of orchestral splendor. His Sixth Symphony begins with violins playing so softly you may miss them; then, a mysterious horn call sounds, and suddenly the whole orchestra sweeps you away.



# Celebrate the composer's 250th birthday with a Beethoven Bash!

# **BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY BASH:** THE PIANO CONCERTOS

An audacious NJSO debut: one of the most acclaimed pianists today, artist-in-residence Louis Lortie performs all five Beethoven piano concertos across two programs in a can't-miss weekend.

#### BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY BASH

# Beethoven's Piano Concertos 1 & 5

Thu, Mar 19, at 7:30 pm Fri, Mar 20, at 8 pm bergenPAC in Englewood Richardson Auditorium in Princeton

XIAN ZHANG conductor LOUIS LORTIE piano

#### **BEETHOVEN** Piano Concerto No. 1

Beethoven was considered a great pianist in his time, and this early showcase for his own talent holds an affectionate nod to his hero, Haydn.

# **BEETHOVEN** Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"

Full of Beethoven's most beautiful melodies and powerful rhythms, his final piano concerto more than earns its regal title.









#### BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY BASH

# Beethoven's Piano Concertos 2, 3 & 4

Sat, Mar 21, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sun, Mar 22, at 3 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

XIAN ZHANG conductor LOUIS LORTIE piano

#### **BEETHOVEN** Piano Concerto No. 2

When Beethoven moved from his small-town home to the big city of Vienna, he used this music to impress the Viennese with his once-in-a-lifetime virtuosity at the piano.

#### **BEETHOVEN** Piano Concerto No. 3

You know Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. His Third Piano Concerto has the same drama and impact, and it is a thrill to witness as it unfolds through a great pianist's hands.

#### **BEETHOVEN** Piano Concerto No. 4

The opening is Beethoven magic: a hushed piano solo brings you to the edge of your seat for what becomes his most joyous concerto.



#### BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY BASH

# Beethoven's 'Eroica' Symphony

Thu, Mar 26, at 1:30 pm NJPAC in Newark Fri, Mar 27, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sat, Mar 28, at 8 pm Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank Sun, Mar 29, at 3 pm Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown

Musical legends abound! Celebrate Rossini's portrayal of a daring Swiss archer who shot an apple from his son's head; Beethoven's illustration of the ideal hero; and a new work commissioned for a beloved hometown musician.

XIAN ZHANG conductor | ROBERT WAGNER bassoon

#### **ROSSINI** Overture to Guillaume Tell

Not just a curtain-raiser, the overture to Rossini's 39th (!) and final opera, *William Tell*, is a full symphony in miniature.

# **CHRISTOPHER ROUSE** Bassoon Concerto (East-Coast Premiere and NJSO Co-Commission)

This lyrical new piece completes Christopher Rouse's cycle of concertos for every wind instrument. The NJSO co-commissioned this work to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Principal Bassoon Robert Wagner, who has given so much to our organization on and off stage.

### BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"

With two thunderous opening chords, Beethoven unlocked a new world of music-making, and every performance of his "Eroica" sounds revolutionary.





# Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony

Thu, Apr 2, at 7:30 pm Sat, Apr 4, at 8 pm Sun, Apr 5, at 3 pm bergenPAC in Englewood NJPAC in Newark

State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

After making a splash in his superb Metropolitan Opera debut last season, Hungarian conductor Henrik Nánási makes his first NJSO appearance with a masterpiece from his homeland and a favorite Romantic symphony.

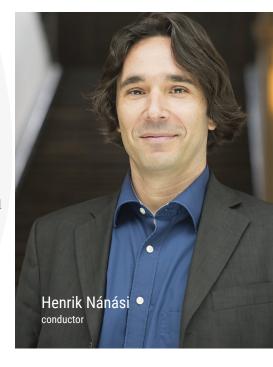
#### **HENRIK NÁNÁSI** conductor

# **BARTÓK** Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta

A daring 20th-century masterpiece! Revel in the sounds of the NJSO strings, accentuated by keyboard and percussion—writing so evocative that Stanley Kubrick famously used it in *The Shining*.

# **TCHAIKOVSKY**Symphony No. 5

Critics in Tchaikovsky's day bashed this new symphony ("a horde of demons struggling in a torrent of brandy," wrote one), and even the composer said, "It is a failure." But its hypnotic melodies and triumphant mood turned the Fifth into an audience favorite.





# Brahms, Vivaldi & Beethoven

Fri, May 1, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sat, May 2, at 8 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick Sun, May 3, at 3 pm Mayo Performing Arts Center in Morristown

A beloved guest conductor returns to the NJSO's podium and harpsichord bench, as astonishing rising stars from the Sphinx Organization and virtuosos from our own ranks take center stage.

NICHOLAS MCGEGAN conductor RUBÉN RENGEL violin | EDUARDO RIOS violin ADRIANA ROSIN violin | NA-YOUNG BAEK cello

#### **BRAHMS** Variations on a Theme by Haydn

Brahms reimagined an old German hymn tune in eight different ways, then wove these variations together into one breathtaking showpiece.

#### VIVALDI Concerto for Two Violins in B-flat Major, RV 529

With Nicholas McGegan at the harpsichord, NJSO Assistant Concertmaster Adriana Rosin pairs up with 2018 Sphinx Competition winner Rubén Rengel for dazzling Vivaldi.

### VIVALDI Concerto for Violin and Cello in B-flat Major, RV 547

2015 Sphinx Competition winner Eduardo Rios partners with newly named NJSO Assistant Principal Cello Na-Young Baek for Baroque fireworks in this virtuosic showpiece.

#### VIVALDI Concerto for Three Violins in F Major, RV 551

Both Sphinx winners and Rosin perform together in the give and take of Vivaldi's brilliant melodies as if in sparkling conversation.

### **BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 2

The program concludes with the sunniest of an often-stormy composer's symphonies.

# Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto

Fri, May 15, at 8 pm Richardson Auditorium in Princeton

Sat, May 16, at 8 pm NJPAC in Newark

Sun, May 17, at 3 pm State Theatre New Jersey in New Brunswick

Two NJSO debuts we're eager to share with you: Russia's Andrey Boreyko in treasured masterpieces from his homeland, and Japan's Akiko Suwanai in an iconic violin classic.

ANDREY BOREYKO conductor AKIKO SUWANAI violin

#### MASON BATES Attack Decay Sustain Release (NJSO Premiere)

A four-minute joyride, with the strings and brass tumbling over each other, and a touch of groove inspired by Mason Bates' love of electronic dance music.

#### **TCHAIKOVSKY** Violin Concerto

Famous for blending elegance with fireworks, Suwanai performs one of the most beloved of all violin concertos.

#### SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 10

For decades early in his career, Shostakovich was hounded and harassed by Soviet leader Josef Stalin. Shostakovich's 10th was written just after Stalin's death; it is a towering testament to resilience over tyranny.







# Season Finale: Mozart & Mahler

Thu, June 4, at 1:30 pm

Fri, June 5, at 8 pm

Sat, June 6, at 8 pm

Sun, June 7, at 3 pm

NJPAC in Newark

Richardson Auditorium in Princeton

Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank

NJPAC in Newark

Two great composers wrap up our season: Mozart, who prized elegance and balance in his music, and Mahler—the revolutionary, the musical earthquake.

XIAN ZHANG conductor LOUIS LORTIE piano

#### MOZART Piano Concerto No. 24

After making a splash for our celebration of Beethoven's 250th birthday, artist-in-residence Louis Lortie returns to play Mozart's most dramatic piano concerto—famous for its interplay of woodwinds and piano. After hearing Mozart's concerto for the first time, Beethoven said, "We shall never be able to do anything like it!"

#### **MAHLER** Symphony No. 7 (NJSO Premiere)

Sweep into summer with Mahler's most innovative music! A guitar, a mandolin and the rarely heard tenor horn all add touches of surprise and mystery to the Seventh—alongside the thrilling, massive sound of the entire NJSO.

# **NJSO Family Concerts**

# Peter and the Wolf

Sat, Nov 16, at 2 pm & 3:30 pm Victoria Theater at NJPAC in Newark

Join the NJSO and a guest narrator for this timeless fairy tale, in which charming melodies and fantastical characters introduce the different instruments of the orchestra.

# The 'New World' Symphony & Beyond!

Sat, May 9, at 2 pm & 3:30 pm Victoria Theater at NJPAC in Newark

Hear how the rich tapestry of America has inspired music of dizzying diversity—from Dvořák's first encounters with the "New World," to Florence Price, Leonard Bernstein and more!



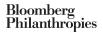
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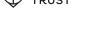






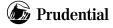


























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# Want to be even closer to the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra?



Symphony Friends enjoy donor-exclusive benefits designed to put you front and center with the NJSO:

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- · Advance notice of special concerts and events
- Invitations to pre- and post-concert receptions with NJSO artists
- · Priority reservations for special travel opportunities
- · And more!

Symphony Friends make a difference by providing essential support for the NJSO and our presence throughout New Jersey. Each season, NJSO musicians are invited into our communities—schools, hospitals and parks—to educate, comfort and bring neighbors together through the power of music.

# Your support makes this possible!

For information about membership benefits or to donate, visit **njsymphony.org/supportNJSO** or call 973.735.1730.

# NJSO: Resident Orchestra of NJPAC

New Jersey Performing Arts Center and the NJSO share common goals to ensure a lasting connection between the people of the Garden State and the performing arts. Strong artistic and educational partnerships—such as MANY (Music Advancement for Newark-Area Youth), a joint program designed to provide students in Greater Newark with high-quality instrumental instruction—foster opportunities to enhance and transform lives through the arts. Because of this shared commitment, the NJSO is proud to be the resident orchestra of NJPAC.

Since its opening on October 18, 1997, NJPAC has attracted nearly 10 million visitors and has reached more than 1.7 million children and families with innovative arts education programs. Prudential Hall's crystalline acoustics are on full display whenever an instrumentalist, singer or symphonic orchestra sounds the first note. Beautiful music-making continues to be the foundation of NJPAC's programming, which each season accounts for more than 600 plays, recitals, spoken-word performances and other cultural experiences. Among the world-class performers who have appeared at NJPAC are Joshua Bell, Lang Lang, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Bob Dylan, Jerry Seinfeld, Wayne Shorter, Diana Ross, the Gipsy Kings, Savion Glover, Tony Bennett, Sting and Aretha Franklin.

Many artists and writers have praised NJPAC's Prudential Hall for its

beauty and extraordinary acoustics, among them former *New York Times* music critic Hans Fantel (one of the "world's greatest concert halls") and arts critic Clive Barnes (the "nation's most glamorous theater").





# **NEW JERSEY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

# Pull-Out Season Calendar





# Find an NJSO Venue Close to Home



Englewood: bergenPAC
30 North Van Brunt Street, Englewood, NJ 07631

Hear superb classical concerts in Englewood on Thursday evenings, with great restaurants nearby and free street parking in the evenings.



Morristown: Mayo Performing Arts Center 100 South Street, Morristown, NJ 07960

Mayo Performing Arts Center is a wonderful setting to enjoy four Sunday afternoon classical programs. Be sure to take in the balcony-level fine-art displays to round out your experience.



Newark: Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart 89 Ridge Street, Newark, NJ 07104

The Cathedral Basilica is one of Newark's true architectural treasures and a perfect setting to appreciate Handel's *Messiah*. Secure on-street parking is available on all surrounding streets; lots are also adjacent.



Newark: New Jersey Performing Arts Center 1 Center Street, Newark, NJ 07102

Enjoy classical, pops and family concerts at this sensational venue on Thursday afternoons, Friday evenings, Saturday afternoons or evenings and Sunday afternoons, with plenty of parking options and on-site dining.



New Brunswick: State Theatre New Jersey
15 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

The NJSO performs classical and pops concerts in this beautiful and acoustically excellent theater in downtown New Brunswick on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons.



Princeton: Richardson Auditorium 61 Nassau Street, Princeton, NJ 08540

Our most intimate performing space will draw you into the music! Enjoy five Friday-evening concerts in this stately hall on the campus of Princeton University.



Red Bank: Count Basie Center for the Arts 99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank, NJ 07701

This ornate theater in charming Red Bank plays host to the NJSO for Friday-evening pops concerts and Saturday-evening classical programs. Enjoy a drink or dinner nearby, then stroll to the theater.



Skip the hassle of traffic and parking—leave the driving to us! Coach bus transportation is available for select series for \$7 per person per concert; a minimum of 25 reservations are required to guarantee service. Please contact us to learn more. We graciously acknowledge the support of an anonymous donor for covering a portion of annual transportation expenses.

#### **Classical Series Prices**

| VENUE             |               |              | STATE THEATRE<br>NEW BRUNSWICK |          |          |          |              |          |          |  |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|--|
| SERIES            | 1             | 2            | 3                              | 4        | 5        | 5 6      |              | 2        | 3        |  |
| DAY<br># CONCERTS | FRI/SAT<br>10 | THU/SUN<br>8 | THU<br>5                       | FRI<br>5 | SAT<br>5 | SUN<br>6 | SAT/SUN<br>8 | SAT<br>4 | SUN<br>4 |  |
| Р                 | \$864         | \$688        | \$430                          | \$430    | \$434    | \$522    | \$624        | \$304    | \$353    |  |
| А                 | \$661         | \$520        | \$325                          | \$325    | \$336    | \$408    | \$486        | \$232    | \$284    |  |
| В                 | \$407         | \$320        | \$200                          | \$200    | \$207    | \$258    | \$318        | \$152    | \$180    |  |
| С                 | \$315         | \$248        | \$155                          | \$155    | \$160    | \$222    | \$222 \$246  |          | \$154    |  |
| D                 | \$173         | \$136        | \$85                           | \$85     | \$88     | \$102    | \$140        | \$68     | \$71     |  |

#### **Classical Series Prices**

| VENUE             | PRINCETON RICHARDSON | MORRISTOWN<br>MAYO PAC | ENGLEWOOD<br>BERGENPAC | RED BANK<br>COUNT BASIE |
|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| DAY<br># CONCERTS | FRI<br>5             | SUN<br>4               | THU<br>4               | SAT<br>5                |
| Р                 | \$440                | \$348                  | NA                     | NA                      |
| A/P1              | \$342                | \$272                  | \$271                  | \$325                   |
| B/P2              | \$217                | \$172                  | \$171                  | \$205                   |
| С                 | NA                   | \$148                  | NA                     | NA                      |
| D/P3 \$88         |                      | \$68                   | \$71                   | \$85                    |

#### **Family Series Prices**

| VENUE      | NEWARK NJPAC:<br>VICTORIA THEATER |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| DAY        | SAT (2 pm & 3:30 pm)              |
| # CONCERTS | 2                                 |
| ADULTS     | \$28                              |
| YOUTH      | \$16                              |

# Specials: Add these concerts to your subscription package now and SAVE!

Single ticket prices listed below do not reflect 10–30% subscriber add-on pricing. Discounts are based on the number of years subscribed. Please call Patron Services to verify your discount.

#### Handel's Messiah

| VENUE | PRINCETON<br>RICHARDSON | NEWARK<br>CATHEDRAL |  |  |  |  |
|-------|-------------------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|
| DATE  | FRI<br>DEC 20           | SUN<br>DEC 22       |  |  |  |  |
| Р     | \$80                    | \$70                |  |  |  |  |
| Α     | \$60                    | \$50                |  |  |  |  |
| В     | \$40                    | \$30                |  |  |  |  |
| С     | \$20                    | \$10*               |  |  |  |  |
| D     | \$20*                   | NA                  |  |  |  |  |

#### **Lunar New Year Celebration**

| VENUE | NEWARK NJPAC |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|--------------|---------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| DATE  | SAT JAN 25   |                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PRICE | ADULT        | YOUTH<br>17 & UNDER |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Р     | \$80         | \$80                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| А     | \$65         | \$49                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| В     | \$50         | \$38                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| С     | \$35         | \$26                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| D     | \$20         | \$20                |  |  |  |  |  |  |

\*Partially obstructed view



The NJSO is ADA compliant. For our patrons with specials needs, we offer wheelchair-accessible seating and facilities, large-print programs and assisted listening devices. Not all services are available in all locations. Please contact us for more information.

| Order online or call today! njsymphony.org/subscribe   1.800.ALLEGRO (255.3476) |   | Venue   | e NJPAC IN NEWARK         |                                    |                             |                       | NEW BI             |                    | EW BRUNSWI           | N BRUNSWICK E      |                        | ENGLEWOOD PRINCETON       |                    | RED BANK MORRISTOWN |                        |   |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
|   |   | Series  | 1                         | 2                                  | 3                           | 4                     | 5                  | 6                  | 1                    | 2                  | 3                      |                           |                    |                     |                        | SPECIAL   |
|   |   | Number of Concerts  | 10                        | 8                                  | 5                           | 5                     | 5                  | 6                  | 8                    | 4                  | 4                      | 4                         | 5                  | 5                   | 4                      | PRESENTATIONS   |
|   | <b>2019/20</b> CLASSICAL SEASON   | Day / Time  | FRI / SAT<br>8 pm         | <b>THU</b> 1:30 pm <b>SUN</b> 3 pm | <b>THU</b><br>1:30 pm       | FRI<br>8 pm           | SAT<br>8 pm        | SUN<br>3 pm        | SAT 8 pm<br>SUN 3 pm | SAT<br>8 pm        | SUN<br>3 pm            | <b>THU</b> 7:30 pm        | FRI<br>8 pm        | SAT<br>8 pm         | <b>SUN</b><br>3 pm     |   |
|   | Title / Conductor / Artists   | Program   |                           |                                    |                             |                       |                    |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    |                     |                        |   |
| OCTOBER   | OPENING WEEKEND: HOLST'S THE PLANETS IN HD XIAN ZHANG conductor Women of NEWARK VOICES   Heather J. Buchanan, conductor   | ELGAR Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1<br>SARAH KIRKLAND SNIDER Hiraeth (with film by<br>Mark DeChiazza) (NJSO Premiere)<br>HOLST The Planets—An HD Odyssey (with film)  | <b>FRI OCT 11</b> 7:30 pm | <b>SUN OCT 13</b> 3 pm             |                             | FRI OCT 11<br>7:30 pm |                    | SUN OCT 13<br>3 pm |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    | SAT OCT 12<br>8 pm  |                        |   |
| iER   | GRIEG'S PIANO CONCERTO MARKUS STENZ conductor JUHO POHJONEN piano   | REBEL "Chaos" from Les élémens (NJSO Premiere) GRIEG Piano Concerto BRAHMS Symphony No. 2   |                           | SUN NOV 3<br>3 pm                  |                             |                       |                    | SUN NOV 3<br>3 pm  |                      |                    |                        | <b>THU OCT 31</b> 7:30 pm | FRI NOV 1<br>8 pm  | SAT NOV 2<br>8 pm   |                        |   |
| NOVEMBER  | SPANISH- AND FRENCH-INSPIRED SHOWPIECES XIAN ZHANG conductor NING FENG violin   | RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Capriccio espagnol QIGANG CHEN La joie de la souffrance for Violin and Orchestra (US Premiere and NJSO Co-Commission) SAINT-SAËNS Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso FALLA Suite No. 2 from The Three-Cornered Hat                      | SAT NOV 9<br>8 pm         | <b>THU NOV 7</b> 1:30 pm           | <b>THU NOV 7</b><br>1:30 pm |                       | SAT NOV 9<br>8 pm  |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    |                     | SUN NOV 10<br>3 pm     |   |
| ER  | RACHMANINOFF'S THIRD PIANO CONCERTO XIAN ZHANG conductor GEORGE LI piano  | ANNA CLYNE Within Her Arms (NJSO Premiere) RACHMANINOFF Piano Concerto No. 3 DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 8  | FRI DEC 6<br>8 pm         | <b>THU DEC 5</b> 1:30 pm           | <b>THU DEC 5</b> 1:30 pm    | FRI DEC 6<br>8 pm     |                    | SUN DEC 8<br>3 pm  | SAT DEC 7<br>8 pm    | SAT DEC 7<br>8 pm  |                        |                           |                    |                     |                        |   |
| DECEMBER  | HANDEL'S MESSIAH RODERICK COX conductor   AMANDA WOODBURY soprano J'NAI BRIDGES mezzo-soprano   FREDERICK BALLENTINE tenor DOUGLAS WILLIAMS bass-baritone MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY SINGERS   Heather J. Buchanan, conductor | HANDEL Messiah In the rush of the holiday season, set aside some time for glorious music that touches the soul.   |                           |                                    |                             |                       |                    |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    |                     |                        | FRI DEC 20<br>8 pm PRINCETON<br>SUN DEC 22<br>7 pm CATHEDRAL<br>BASILICA IN NEWAL |
| , AL  | PROKOFIEV'S ROMEO AND JULIET XIAN ZHANG conductor   INON BARNATAN piano   | SMETANA "The Moldau" from Má vlast CLARA SCHUMANN Piano Concerto (NJSO Premiere) PROKOFIEV Selections from Romeo and Juliet   | FRI JAN 3<br>8 pm         |                                    |                             | FRI JAN 3<br>8 pm     |                    |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    | SAT JAN 4<br>8 pm   | SUN JAN 5<br>3 pm      |   |
| JANUARY:<br>WINTER FESTIVAL   | MOZART'S DON GIOVANNI XIAN ZHANG conductor   ERIC WYRICK violin Singers from the METROPOLITAN OPERA'S LINDEMANN YOUNG ARTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM  | MOZART Exsultate, jubilate MOZART Violin Concerto No. 4 MOZART Scenes from Don Giovanni   | SAT JAN 11<br>8 pm        |                                    |                             |                       | SAT JAN 11<br>8 pm |                    | SUN JAN 12<br>3 pm   |                    | SUN JAN 12<br>3 pm     | <b>THU JAN 9</b> 7:30 pm  |                    |                     |                        |   |
| NIW.  | WAGNER'S THE RING WITHOUT WORDS XIAN ZHANG conductor   SIMON TRPČESKI piano   | WAGNER Prelude to Act I of Lohengrin<br>LISZT Piano Concerto No. 2<br>WAGNER/arr. Maazel The Ring Without Words (NJSO Premiere)   |                           | SUN JAN 19<br>3 pm                 |                             |                       |                    | SUN JAN 19<br>3 pm | SAT JAN 18<br>8 pm   | SAT JAN 18<br>8 pm |                        |                           | FRI JAN 17<br>8 pm |                     |                        |   |
| JAN   | LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION XIAN ZHANG conductor   | Celebrate the Year of the Rat! Join us for a joyful Lunar New Year concert blending Eastern and Western musical traditions—an unmissable celebration of community and culture.  |                           |                                    |                             |                       |                    |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    |                     |                        | SAT JAN 25<br>7:30 pm<br>NJPAC in Newark  |
| FEB-<br>MAR   | MENDELSSOHN'S VIOLIN CONCERTO CHRISTOPH KÖNIG conductor   SIMONE PORTER violin  | MENDELSSOHN Violin Concerto<br>BRUCKNER Symphony No. 6  |                           | SUN MAR 1<br>3 pm                  | THU FEB 27<br>1:30 pm       |                       |                    | SUN MAR 1<br>3 pm  | SAT FEB 29<br>8 pm   | SAT FEB 29<br>8 pm |                        |                           |                    |                     |                        |   |
| H H   | BEETHOVEN'S PIANO CONCERTOS 1 & 5 XIAN ZHANG conductor   LOUIS LORTIE piano   | BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 1 BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"  |                           | о ріп                              | 1.00 ріп                    |                       |                    | о ріп              | ο μπ                 | о ріп              |                        | <b>THU MAR 19</b> 7:30 pm | FRI MAR 20<br>8 pm |                     |                        |   |
| ARCH:<br>VEN'S 250  | BEETHOVEN'S PIANO CONCERTOS 2, 3 & 4 XIAN ZHANG conductor LOUIS LORTIE piano  | BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 2<br>BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 3<br>BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 4  | <b>SAT MAR 21</b><br>8 pm |                                    |                             |                       | SAT MAR 21<br>8 pm |                    | SUN MAR 22<br>3 pm   |                    | SUN MAR 22<br>3 pm     |                           |                    |                     |                        | Add   |
| M/<br>BEETHO\   | BEETHOVEN'S 'EROICA' SYMPHONY XIAN ZHANG conductor ROBERT WAGNER bassoon  | ROSSINI Overture to Guillaume Tell CHRISTOPHER ROUSE Bassoon Concerto (East-Coast Premiere and NJSO Co-Commission) BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"   | <b>FRI MAR 27</b><br>8 pm | <b>THU MAR 26</b> 1:30 pm          | <b>THU MAR 26</b> 1:30 pm   | FRI MAR 27<br>8 pm    |                    |                    |                      |                    |                        |                           |                    | SAT MAR 28<br>8 pm  | <b>SUN MAR 29</b> 3 pm | these<br>concerts   |
| APR   | TCHAIKOVSKY'S FIFTH SYMPHONY<br>HENRIK NÁNÁSI conductor   | BARTÓK Music for Strings, Percussion and Celesta<br>TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5  | SAT APR 4<br>8 pm         |                                    |                             |                       | SAT APR 4<br>8 pm  |                    | SUN APR 5<br>3 pm    |                    | SUN APR 5<br>3 pm      | <b>THU APR 2</b> 7:30 pm  |                    |                     |                        | to your<br>series   |
| MAY   | BRAHMS, VIVALDI & BEETHOVEN NICHOLAS MCGEGAN conductor RUBÉN RENGEL violin   EDUARDO RIOS violin ADRIANA ROSIN violin NA-YOUNG BAEK cello   | BRAHMS Variations on a Theme by Haydn<br>VIVALDI Concerto for Two Violins in B-flat Major, RV 529<br>VIVALDI Concerto for Violin and Cello in B-flat Major, RV 547<br>VIVALDI Concerto for Three Violins in F Major, RV 551<br>BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 2 | <b>FRI MAY 1</b><br>8 pm  |                                    |                             | FRI MAY 1<br>8 pm     |                    |                    | SAT MAY 2<br>8 pm    | SAT MAY 2<br>8 pm  |                        |                           |                    |                     | SUN MAY 3<br>3 pm      | and<br>save!  |
|   | TCHAIKOVSKY'S VIOLIN CONCERTO ANDREY BOREYKO conductor AKIKO SUWANAI violin   | MASON BATES Attack Decay Sustain Release (NJSO Premiere) TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 10   | SAT MAY 16<br>8 pm        |                                    |                             |                       | SAT MAY 16<br>8 pm |                    | SUN MAY 17<br>3 pm   |                    | <b>SUN MAY 17</b> 3 pm |                           | FRI MAY 15<br>8 pm |                     |                        |   |
| NH.   | SEASON FINALE: MOZART & MAHLER XIAN ZHANG conductor   LOUIS LORTIE piano  | MOZART Piano Concerto No. 24 MAHLER Symphony No.7 (NJSO Premiere)   |                           | <b>THU JUNE 4</b> 1:30 pm          | <b>THU JUNE 4</b> 1:30 pm   |                       |                    | SUN JUNE 7<br>3 pm |                      |                    |                        |                           | FRI JUNE 5<br>8 pm | SAT JUNE 6<br>8 pm  |                        |   |