



## Press release

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### The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra announces its 2014-15 season

- **Opening of new Concert Hall at the Ordway in March 2015**, the new downtown Saint Paul home of the SPCO
- **All nine Beethoven symphonies** performed in the Ordway Music Theater to commemorate 30 years of SPCO performances there
- Special performances to celebrate the opening of the new Concert Hall featuring **Mozart's *Jupiter Symphony***, **Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*** and works by **Rossini and Adams**, all led by SPCO musicians
- Inaugural season for **two new artistic partners** – violinist **Patricia Kopatchinskaja** and pianist **Jeremy Denk**
- **World premieres** by **Charles Wuorinen**, **Fred Lerdahl** and **Nicola Campogrande**
- An abundance of Baroque works including an **all-Baroque December** featuring **Bach's *Brandenburg Concertos*** in neighborhood venues and **Handel's *Messiah*** at the **Basilica of Saint Mary**
- Core works of the chamber orchestra repertoire by **Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart and Schubert**
- The return of violinist **Simone Lamsma**, composer/conductor **Matthias Pintscher**, conductors **Hans Graf** and **Paul McCreesh**, pianist **Peter Serkin**, mezzo-soprano **Kelley O'Connor**, countertenor **John Holiday**, conductor and harpsichordist **Jonathan Cohen** and others
- The SPCO debuts of conductors **John Storgårds**, **Paul Agnew**, **Jaime Martin**, **Andrew Manze** and **Benjamin Schwartz**; pianists **Jan Lisiecki**, **Emanuele Arciuli** and **Lise de la**

**Salle**; violinist **Baiba Skride**; cellist **Suren Bagratuni**; clarinetist **Martin Fröst**; and soprano **Ying Fang**

- SPCO musicians featured as soloists including **Steven Copes, Ruggero Alliffranchini, Kyu-Young Kim, Sunmi Chang, Maiya Papach, Sarah Lewis, Alicia McQuerrey, Kathryn Greenbank** and **Charles Ullery**
- **Cal Performances 2014-2015 Orchestra Residency, University of California, Berkeley**

SAINT PAUL, MN, April 1, 2014 – Today the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra announces its 2014-15 season. Led by SPCO musicians and the SPCO's dynamic roster of Artistic Partners, the 2014-15 season celebrates 30 years of concerts in the Ordway Music Theater with performances of the entire Beethoven symphony cycle, followed by the opening of the new Concert Hall at the Ordway, which will serve as the SPCO's new downtown Saint Paul home. Throughout this celebratory season, the SPCO will explore the depth and breadth of the chamber orchestra repertoire, with core works from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods, as well as twentieth and twenty-first century works and world premieres.

### **All nine Beethoven symphonies – commemorating 30 years in the Ordway Music Theater**

About the 2014-15 season, SPCO President Bruce Coppock said, "We're always excited to announce a new season, but this is one for the ages. We've planned a season to celebrate the new Concert Hall, but we still want to say a giant "thank you!" for our 30 years in the Ordway Music Theater. Performing the entire Beethoven symphony cycle is the best way to celebrate the Music Theater, culminating in performances of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony as our final concerts there. This is music of mythic proportion, spanning the classicism of the First Symphony to the Ninth Symphony's epic ode to human possibility."

The SPCO will perform all nine Beethoven symphonies from September 2014 through February 2015:

- On September 13-14 the season opens with Artistic Partner Roberto Abbado leading Beethoven's Seventh and Eighth Symphonies alongside the world premiere of Nicola Campogrande's *Urban Gardens* for Piano and Orchestra featuring pianist Emanuele Arciuli.
- October 2-4 conductor John Storgårds will make his SPCO debut leading the orchestra in Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, along with Sibelius's *Pelléas and Mélisande* and Martin's Violin Concerto featuring violinist Baiba Skride in her SPCO debut.
- October 9-12 the SPCO will be led by Swedish conductor and clarinetist Martin Fröst in performances of Beethoven's First Symphony and Grieg's *Holberg Suite*. Fröst, who has been praised by *The New York Times* for exhibiting "a virtuosity and a musicianship unsurpassed by any clarinetist—perhaps any instrumentalist" will also perform as soloist on Mozart's Clarinet Concerto.
- Artistic Partner Jeremy Denk will join the SPCO October 24-26 to perform works by Ives and Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, and the orchestra will perform Beethoven's *Eroica* Symphony, led by SPCO musicians.
- November 14-15 Hans Graf conducts Beethoven's *Pastoral* Symphony. The program also includes Stravinsky's *Concertino for 12 Instruments* and Prokofiev's Second Violin Concerto performed by violinist Simone Lamsma.
- January 9-11 features performances of Beethoven's Fourth Symphony along with Stravinsky's *Dances concertantes* and Adams' *Shaker Loops*, all led by SPCO musicians.

- SPCO musicians will lead the orchestra in performances of Beethoven's Second Symphony and Prokofiev's *Classical* Symphony on January 15-18. SPCO Concertmaster Steven Copes will perform as soloist on Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor.
- Beethoven's complete symphony cycle culminates in performances of the epic Ninth Symphony on February 12-14 with renowned English conductor Andrew Manze and the SPCO Chorale. These performances will mark the SPCO debut of Manze, whose conducting "draws some of the most concerted orchestral playing you're likely to hear anywhere" (*The Guardian*). The program also includes Lieberon's *Neruda Songs* sung by mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor.

### **Opening of new Concert Hall at the Ordway**

A new era for the SPCO will begin in March 2015, when the orchestra moves into its new downtown Saint Paul home – the Ordway Concert Hall. Designs for the new hall reflect years of study and research into the prized acoustics of the traditional concert halls of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, while at the same time, reflecting modern sensibilities about architectural design, performer needs and audience experience.

SPCO Principal Second Violin and Senior Director of Artistic Planning Kyu-Young Kim said, "The new Concert Hall will be an incredible opportunity for us to connect with our audiences in a much deeper way. The intimacy of the space and the ability of the audience to hear every nuance of the orchestra will transform the concert experience, and I'm literally counting the days until we can begin making music in the new hall."

The first SPCO concerts in the new hall will take place on March 5-6 with special celebratory concerts featuring Mozart's *Jupiter* Symphony, Adams' Chamber Symphony, Rossini's Overture to *The Thieving Magpie* and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*, all led by SPCO musicians.

Performances in the new Concert Hall throughout the spring will feature the essential chamber orchestra music of Bach, Mozart and Schubert, paired with new commissions and scintillating SPCO favorites such as Adams' *Son of Chamber Symphony*, the chamber version of Mahler's Fourth Symphony, Schoenberg's *Transfigured Night*, Ravel's *Mother Goose*, Schumann's Piano Concerto, with Artistic Partner Christian Zacharias as soloist, and more.

### **Two new artistic partners**

Hailed by *The Times* of London for her "fierce questing intelligence, allied to a virtuosity that lets her turn her instrument into a thousand characters in a drama to which only she has the script," Moldovan violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja begins her tenure as an SPCO artistic partner in 2014-15. Winner of the 2014 International Classical Music Award, 2013 *Gramophone* Record of the Year and a 2013 Grammy nominee, Kopatchinskaja makes her debut with a major American orchestra when she begins her SPCO Artistic Partnership this season.

Kopatchinskaja's first performances in November 2014 will interweave traditional Eastern European folk music with classical works such as Bartók's Romanian Folk Dances, Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in D Minor and Schubert's *Death and the Maiden* String Quartet. In March 2015, Kopatchinskaja will return to lead a program featuring Bach's Concerto in D for Three Violins and Ligeti's Violin Concerto.

Celebrated American pianist Jeremy Denk will also begin his artistic partnership in 2014-15. Winner of the 2014 Avery Fisher Prize, 2014 *Musical America* Instrumentalist of the Year and recipient of the 2013 MacArthur Fellowship, Denk has been heralded by *The New York Times* as "a pianist you want to hear no matter what he performs, in whatever combination – both for his penetrating intellectual engagement with the music and for the generosity of his playing." During the 2014-15 season, Denk will join the SPCO to perform Bach's First and Fifth Piano Concertos, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, and works by Charles Ives.

### **Baroque in abundance**

For Baroque lovers, there will be ample opportunities to experience this important part of the SPCO's core repertoire during 2014-15.

- The SPCO presents an all-Baroque December, featuring 3 consecutive weeks of Baroque programming, continuing its holiday tradition of performing Bach's *Brandenburg* Concertos in various neighborhood venues December 11-14 and Handel's *Messiah* at the Basilica of Saint Mary with the SPCO Chorale December 18-20.
- In addition to Artistic Partner Jeremy Denk performing Bach's Piano Concertos Nos. 1 and 5, the orchestra will perform selections from Bach's *Art of Fugue* February 26-27.
- Artistic Partner Thomas Zehetmair will perform Bach's Violin Concerto in A Minor May 21-23.
- Throughout the season, additional concertos by Bach, Handel, Veracini and Vivaldi will also be featured.

### **Three world premieres**

Once again the SPCO asserts its role as a champion of new works by presenting three world premieres in the 2014-15 season, all of which are SPCO commissions or co-commissions.

- September 13-14 the SPCO will give the world premiere of Italian composer Nicola Campogrande's *Urban Gardens* for Piano and Orchestra, featuring Italian pianist Emanuele Arciuli in his SPCO debut and conducted by Artistic Partner Roberto Abbado.
- April 10-11, pianist Peter Serkin joins the SPCO to perform the world premiere of a new piano concerto by Charles Wuorinen.
- April 23-25 Artistic Partner Roberto Abbado will conduct the world premiere of a new work by composer Fred Lerdahl.

## **Core Classical works by Mozart and Haydn**

The SPCO's 2014-15 season will feature core works of the chamber orchestra repertoire by Mozart and Haydn.

- October 9-12, Swedish clarinetist Martin Fröst will join the SPCO to perform Mozart's Clarinet Concerto.
- Artistic Partner Christian Zacharias will lead the orchestra in performances of Haydn's Symphonies Nos. 40 and 87 and will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17 on October 16-18.
- Artistic Partner Jeremy Denk will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20 on October 24-26.
- January 29-31, SPCO Principal Second Violin Kyu-Young Kim and Principal Viola Maiya Papach will perform Mozart's Sinfonia concertante in E-flat for Violin and Viola. This program also includes Haydn's *Surprise* Symphony, conducted by Jaime Martin in his SPCO debut.
- March 5-6, the SPCO will celebrate the opening of the new Concert Hall at the Ordway with performances featuring Mozart's *Jupiter* Symphony, as well as works by Rossini, Adams and Vaughan Williams, all led by SPCO musicians.
- Artistic Partner Thomas Zehetmair will conduct performances of Mozart's Symphony No. 40 May 7-16
- Other works by Mozart include his Adagio and Fugue, *Prague* Symphony, Symphony No. 39 and Serenade for 13 Winds, *Gran partita*.

## **12 performance venues throughout the Twin Cities**

In addition to the Ordway, the SPCO will continue its series in Twin Cities suburbs and residential neighborhoods of Minneapolis and Saint Paul in 2014-15, bringing the total number of SPCO venues to 12:

- Ordway Center in downtown Saint Paul
- The Music Room at SPCO Center in downtown Saint Paul
- Saint Paul's United Church of Christ in Summit Hill, Saint Paul
- Ted Mann Concert Hall at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis
- Temple Israel in Uptown Minneapolis
- Capri Theater in North Minneapolis – these concerts are produced in partnership with the Capri and once again, a third of the seats will be offered for free on a first-come, first-served basis, released within a month of each concert date
- Benson Great Hall at Bethel University in Arden Hills
- Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater
- Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi
- Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley
- Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie
- Wayzata Community Church in Wayzata

The Neighborhood Series will feature works for smaller chamber ensembles from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods, as well as symphonies by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Mahler and Prokofiev. SPCO musicians will also be featured as soloists on several Neighborhood Series programs.

- September 18-21, conductor and harpsichordist Jonathan Cohen and countertenor John Holiday return for a program featuring Baroque arias by Handel and Vivaldi. SPCO Principal Oboe Kathryn Greenbank and SPCO violinist Sunmi Chang will be featured as soloists on Bach's Concerto in C Minor for Oboe and Violin.
- On September 25-28, the orchestra will perform Tchaikovsky's *Souvenir de Florence* and SPCO Associate Concertmaster Ruggero Alliffranchini will be joined by cellist Suren Bagratuni to perform Vivaldi's Concerto in B-flat for Violin and Cello and Mansurian's Concerto for Violin, Cello and Strings.
- SPCO wind players will be featured on November 6-9 with performances of Dvořák's Serenade for Winds, Raff's Sinfonietta for Double Wind Quintet and Prokofiev's Quintet for Oboe, Clarinet, Violin, Viola and Double Bass.
- SPCO musicians will once again be featured as soloists April 16-18 with a program that includes Baroque concertos by Veracini, Handel, Bach and Vivaldi performed by SPCO flutist Alicia McQuerrey on piccolo, Principal Bassoon Charles Ullery, and cellist Sarah Lewis.

### **Target Free Family Music continues**

Free tickets will continue to be available for the popular Start the Music!, xplorchestra! and Ordway Family Concerts as part of Target Free Family Music, thanks to generous support from Target. Featuring the musicians of the SPCO, these programs are specifically geared for listeners ages 3-12.

### **Cal Performances 2014-2015 Orchestra Residency, University of California, Berkeley**

March 20-22, the SPCO will perform three concerts at University of California, Berkeley, as part of Cal Performances' marquee Orchestra Residency program. The SPCO will be the first chamber orchestra to participate in this program, joining the ranks of such world-renowned orchestras as the Vienna Philharmonic, the Mariinsky Orchestra, and the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela. Programs will highlight The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's long-time association with American composer John Adams and will feature Adams' *Shaker Loops*, Chamber Symphony and *Son of Chamber Symphony*. Programs will also include Stravinsky's *Dances concertantes*, Mahler's Fourth Symphony, and clarinet concertos by Mozart and Anders Hillborg. The SPCO will be joined for these performances by clarinetist Martin Fröst, conductor Benjamin Shwartz and soprano Ying Fang. These performances will be the first West Coast appearances by the SPCO in 8 years.

**Ticket information**

Season ticket packages are now available for purchase. To learn about available packages and order tickets, call the SPCO Ticket Office at 651.291.1144 or visit [www.thespco.org](http://www.thespco.org). To request a brochure, email [tickets@spcomail.org](mailto:tickets@spcomail.org). The Ticket Office is open 12pm – 5pm Monday through Friday, and 11am – 3pm Saturday. Season ticket packages start at just \$30.

**ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, beginning its 56<sup>th</sup> season in September 2014, is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. In collaboration with a team of artistic partners, the virtuoso musicians present more than 130 concerts and educational programs each year, and are regularly heard on public radio's *Performance Today* which reaches 1.2 million listeners each week on 256 stations, and *SymphonyCast* reaching 230,000 listeners each week on 126 stations nationwide. The SPCO has released 67 recordings, commissioned 133 new works, and performed the world premiere of 49 additional compositions. The SPCO has earned the distinction of 16 ASCAP awards for adventurous programming. Renowned for its artistic excellence and remarkable versatility of musical styles, the SPCO tours nationally and internationally, including performances in premier venues in Europe, Asia and South America. Launched in 1994, the SPCO's award-winning CONNECT education program reaches over 5,000 students and teachers annually in 12 Minneapolis and St. Paul public schools. For more information, visit [www.thespco.org](http://www.thespco.org).

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