

SPCO ANNOUNCES FOUR SPECIAL VIDEO EVENTS DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

- The SPCO's free online Concert Library offers beautiful videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere.
- In weekly streamed events during April, concert recordings will be accompanied with new engagement resources and new features with SPCO musicians responding musically to the COVID-19 crisis.

SAINT PAUL, MN, MARCH 31, 2020 — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) announces today four upcoming live video events in its free online Concert Library (www.thespco.org/music). Launched in 2017, the Concert Library was created to share The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's performances with those who are unable to attend concerts in person — through on-demand streaming and regularly scheduled live streams throughout the season. Like many other arts organizations, the SPCO has canceled concerts due to the COVID-19 crisis. During these unprecedented times, the SPCO's digital capabilities give the organization an opportunity to continue serving people in Minnesota and beyond while live concerts aren't possible.

In the coming weeks, the SPCO plans to utilize the Concert Library and other digital media platforms to connect with its audience and the rest of the community during the COVID-19 crisis:

UPCOMING LIVE EVENTS WITH ADDITIONAL SPCO CONCERT MATERIAL

- **Saturday, April 4 at 8pm:**
Live Video Release: Mozart's Symphony No. 29
- **Friday, April 10 at 8pm (repeated Saturday, April 11 at 3pm):**
Live Rebroadcast: Bach's *Saint John Passion*
- **Saturday, April 18 at 8pm:**
Live Video Release: Ruth Reinhardt Conducts Schubert's Fifth Symphony
- **Saturday, April 25 at 10am:**
Live Rebroadcast: Family Concert — *Race for the Reef*

While the current public health guidance and Stay at Home order preclude a live transmission from the Ordway, the SPCO is creating four special events that will combine recent video recordings — some previously unreleased — with fresh content such as solos recorded by the orchestra’s musicians maintaining safe physical distance at home.

“We are excited to provide these four streaming events during the month of April and hope that they provide our community with great satisfaction,” said Managing Director and President, Jon Limbacher. “Additionally, our Concert Library includes 18 full-length video concerts and 49 distinct pieces. We hope that the SPCO Concert Library will be a source of enrichment and joy for our community during this challenging time.”

To make it even easier to access the Concert Library during the COVID-19 crisis, visitors are not currently required to register to watch free video concerts.

EVEN MORE CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE ON DEMAND ANYTIME

Launched in 2017, the Concert Library was created to serve more people in the community, especially those who would otherwise be unable to attend concerts in person. The orchestra’s free online [Concert Library](#) offers both live and on-demand videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere, completely free of charge. The library has 18 full-length concert videos for free on-demand viewing, including two concerts designed for children and their families, and dozens of audio concerts for streaming through the SPCO’s partnership with Classical Minnesota Public Radio.

In addition to the website (thespco.org/music), the free Concert Library is also available as a mobile app for Apple and Android devices via the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

RESOURCES TO ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

The Concert Library has two acclaimed Family Concert videos for on-demand streaming: *Race for the Reef* and *A Nighttime Story*, both geared towards children ages 6–12, but enjoyable by people of any age. The live rebroadcast event of *Race for the Reef* will be augmented with new material and will be accompanied with activities designed to extend and enhance the concert viewing experience.

In addition to the live rebroadcast, the SPCO will provide engagement resources for parents, guardians and educators to help spark the imagination and explore even more videos on the Concert Library. These resources will feature listening lessons and supplementary materials for students and children to engage with the music.

“We believe that the Concert Library is a place for everyone — including children and students,” said Chief Community Value Officer, Erin Jude. “Whether you are a parent or guardian looking for engaging online content for the young people in your life or an educator looking for listening activities to supplement distance learning or instrument instruction, we are proud to be able to offer options to the community. And if you’re just looking for something to sit down and watch as a family, we have you covered there too!”

Viewers will be able to access these additional resources by visiting thespco.org/resources as they become available.

ABOUT THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Renowned for its artistic excellence, remarkable versatility of musical styles and adventurous programming, [The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra](#) is widely regarded as one of the finest chamber orchestras in the world. Now in its 61st season, the SPCO has recently undergone transformational change with the opening of its new home, the Ordway Concert Hall, the addition of a new generation of players, and significant changes in its artistic vision. The SPCO is primarily an uncondacted ensemble

that performs a broad range of repertoire from Baroque to new music and works in close collaboration with a dynamic roster of [Artistic Partners](#), currently including British Baroque specialists Jonathan Cohen and Richard Egarr, American pianist Jeremy Denk, American composer and musical commentator Rob Kapilow, and Finnish violinist Pekka Kuusisto. Past Artistic Partners include Roberto Abbado, Pierre-Laurent Aimard, Joshua Bell, Douglas Boyd, Martin Fröst, Patricia Kopatchinskaja, Nicholas McGegan, Stephen Prutsman, Dawn Upshaw, Christian Zacharias and Thomas Zehetmair.

The virtuoso musicians of the SPCO present more than [130 concerts](#) and [educational programs](#) in the Twin Cities each year. The orchestra's free online [Concert Library](#) receives more than 80,000 visits annually and offers both live and on-demand videos of concerts that can be viewed anytime, anywhere, completely free of charge. Through its partnership with Classical Minnesota Public Radio, the SPCO is regularly heard on public radio programs that reach nearly 1 million listeners each week on over 250 stations. Additionally, the SPCO has released [67 recordings](#), including the 2018 Grammy Award-winning recording of Schubert's [Death and the Maiden](#) with violinist and Artistic Partner Patricia Kopatchinskaja. The SPCO has commissioned [150 new works](#) and tours nationally and internationally, including recent engagements in Europe and New York City, and a prestigious residency with Cal Performances at the University of California, Berkeley.

The SPCO is nationally recognized for its commitment to broad community accessibility, its innovative audience outreach efforts, and its [educational and family programming](#). Regular subscription series are performed in a [variety of different venues](#) across the Twin Cities metropolitan area each season, a unique commitment to geographic accessibility for a major orchestra. The SPCO offers the most affordable tickets of any major orchestra in the United States, with over 50 percent of tickets available for \$15 or less, and has expanded accessibility even further by offering free tickets for children and students starting in the 2016.17 season as a part of the [New Generation Initiative](#). The orchestra also offers an [innovative ticket membership model](#) in which members pay \$9 per month to attend unlimited concerts. The SPCO's award-winning [CONNECT education program](#) reaches over 3,000 students and teachers annually in 10 Minneapolis and Saint Paul public schools, and its [Target Free Family Music program](#) provides engaging and educational experiences for thousands of Twin Cities children and families each year.

MISSION OF THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Our mission is to sustain a world-class chamber orchestra at the highest standards of artistic excellence that enriches the Twin Cities community by sharing dynamic, distinctive and engaging performances. We are actively committed to accessibility and intentional inclusivity in all aspects of our work and continually strive to provide all people in our community with opportunities to connect with the music we perform.

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