2020.21 SEASON

It gives me great pleasure to invite you to join us for our 2020.21 season, one in which the creativity, virtuosity and versatility of our SPCO musicians are unleashed in new and exciting ways. If you are like me and my colleagues at the SPCO, you are missing and craving the ability to share amazing live music with each other. We are in the midst of an unprecedented global crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, one that affects all of us and has upended our lives in ways we could not have imagined just a few months ago.

While the orchestra has not been able to rehearse and perform since mid-March, we have been using this period of self-quarantine to meet virtually and work as an ensemble to create a season that reflects these unique times we live in. Typically, we engage a small committee of musicians to develop the programs. This year, we felt it was important for our programming to reflect the creativity of all the SPCO’s musicians. Early in the planning process, as the coronavirus pandemic unfolded, we recognized that we would not be able to bring our usual roster of Artistic Partners for the 2020.21 season. While they will be missed by all of us, they will return in the following season.

We rallied around the idea that the 2020.21 season was a chance for the SPCO to take its audience on a journey of musical discovery, one that will be guided by your very own SPCO musicians. The range of repertoire remains the same: from the Baroque to the music of our time, from the completely new and unfamiliar to the iconic anchors of the chamber orchestra repertoire, from the light-hearted and whimsical to the profound and tragic. Throughout the season, we draw on the rich chamber music repertoire that is so dear to our SPCO members to heighten the intimacy of the SPCO concert experience.

Our belief in the power of music to uplift, provide solace, and express the inexpressible remains unwavering, and we invite you to look to the future with optimism and hope, and join us for an unforgettable season of concerts that reflects the heart, soul and creativity of the SPCO musicians.

Kyu-Young Kim
Artistic Director and Principal Violin

Full page: The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra performing in the Ordway Concert Hall
Cover: Richard Belcher and Sarah Lewis rehearsing in the Ordway Concert Hall. Photography by Peter Myers.
SUBSCRIBER BENEFITS

Season ticket holders enjoy many privileges all season long:

FLEXIBILITY: Free and flexible ticket exchanges! You may also bank tickets in your account for later use if you are unsure of what concert you would like to exchange into.

PRIORITY: Priority seating before the general public, guaranteed same seats for each concert in your series (when available) and advance ordering privileges for additional tickets and special performances.

CONVENIENCE: Option to purchase prepaid parking for Ordway evening and weekend concerts for only $10 per pass. Regular parking rates in the Lawson ramp range from $12–$25, so order discounted parking passes and save!
As a musician, any excuse to play more Bach is welcome. As a composer and arranger myself, there is no better teacher than Bach’s music. But why arrange the Goldberg Variations? It is a monumental work full of color, intimacy and virtuosity — ample fodder for the SPCO. Originally conceived for solo keyboard, there is an inherent intimacy to the music that lends itself well to a personal tour of the individuals and instruments of the chamber orchestra. With this approach, the work becomes a concerto grosso at times, then features soloists, a string quartet here, a wind band there.

One of my closest friends, Stephen Prutsman, is not only an amazing pianist and musician, but also a composer, creative person all around, and one of the SPCO’s first Artistic Partners! I asked him to arrange the haunting and turbulent Prokofiev Sonata for Violin and Chamber Orchestra because we both heard the wind, string and percussion instruments of the orchestra bursting out of the original piano part. It will be fun to hear what this “new” piece sounds like!

In our Thanksgiving week program, we seek to explore different facets of Americana and tradition. From Duke Ellington’s jazz standard Solitude to Copland’s classic and sentimental Appalachian Spring, these pieces represent some of the diverse and varied experiences in the United States. Also featured is Samuel Barber’s final opus, his Canzonetta for Oboe and String Orchestra. I love the pensiveness and sentimentality in this work, which was intended to be the second movement of a concerto that was unfortunately never finished.

**Principal Horn James Ferree**

on arranging Bach’s music
September 17–26

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**Concertmaster Steven Copes**

on Prokofiev’s First Violin Sonata
November 13–15

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**Principal Oboe Cassie Pilgrim**

on our Thanksgiving week program
November 27–29

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**Above: Concertmaster Steven Copes and Violinist Eunae Koh**
While birdsong is the obvious thread through this program, the more meaningful connection comes from the message behind the works. Each piece came from some sort of isolation or exile, reflecting our current situation. When Franco took over Spain, the great cellist Pablo Casals went into voluntary exile, and vowed to never return until the fascist regime had ended. From that time on he began every concert with his arrangement of Song of the Birds. Each piece on this program shows a personal attempt to either escape or decry oppression, and to celebrate freedom and peace.

“Sound like light shining through the leaves!” “Sound cool, sound blue like water.” “Vibrato? You need luminosity on a note — like sugar on strawberries, or dew on a leaf.” These are words that were spoken to me by my flute teacher, the great French flute soloist Marcel Moyse. I was extremely lucky to study with him, starting when he was eighty-five and I was nineteen years old. Moyse premiered works by Claude Debussy in early 20th-century Paris, and through him I developed a special love for this colorful, sensual and evocative music, and I’m thrilled to share it with SPCO audiences.

How do “serious” composers let their hair down? Haydn’s celebrated sense of humor shines through in this program dedicated to music that will tickle your funny bone. P.D.Q. Bach’s hilarious parody of Beethoven’s Septet reveals that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, while both Shostakovich and Weber display their wit and whimsy in this evening that will bring smiles and a chance to forget our cares. After a worldwide pandemic, I am excited about this program that lets go of the somber, intellectual mood and has some fun instead!
YOU MAKE THE SPCO POSSIBLE.

Audience members play an essential role in ensuring that our world-class orchestra is available to everyone in the community. In fact, contributions from audience members like you are our largest and most important source of support. We need your support, especially in difficult times, so that we can continue sharing transformational performances with the broadest possible audience.

When you donate to the SPCO, your gift directly helps us to offer the most affordable ticket prices of any professional orchestra in the United States, free tickets for children and students, and free access to our online Concert Library. With more than 60% of our budget coming from contributions alone, your support makes it possible for us to serve the community through these initiatives and more. Thank you!

To make a gift, please add a contribution to your subscription order form. To learn more about other ways to give, including from your bank account, by credit card, from your retirement or brokerage account, from a donor advised fund, and more, visit thespco.org/contribute.

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In gratitude for our community’s support, we are pleased to offer these exciting benefits that invite you to experience more of what the SPCO has to offer.

**The Liaison Program — great for subscribers!**

The Liaison Program is a personalized service for donors contributing $400 or more annually and is a great way for subscribers to experience more of what the SPCO has to offer. Liaison Program members are assigned an SPCO staff “liaison” to serve as a personal contact for any SPCO needs throughout the year.

Your staff liaison provides assistance with ticket and subscription purchases or exchanges and shares special invitations, exciting news and updates. Liaison Program members also receive priority on waiting lists for sold-out concerts and for season ticket orders, and can purchase tickets and subscriptions with no service fees. Liaison Program members also receive the benefits of The Green Room (see below).

**The Green Room**

Open to donors contributing $120 or more annually, The Green Room program offers free admission to SPCO open rehearsals and an exclusive email club membership with inside news and updates.

Learn more about The Liaison and Green Room Programs, and make your donation today by visiting thespco.org/contribute or by calling Megan Foust at 651.292.3246.
FREE TICKETS FOR STUDENTS AND KIDS

Thanks to generous funding from SPCO donors, the SPCO is proud to offer unlimited regular SPCO concert tickets, free of charge, to students with a valid student ID and children under the age of 17. The SPCO is committed to sharing our music with the broadest possible audience in our community. We believe our music has the power to inspire, challenge, move and uplift and that everyone deserves the opportunity to experience transformational performances, including young people. With free tickets for students and kids, we are expanding access to the arts for young people and making it easier than ever for the whole family to experience SPCO concerts.

thespco.org/newgeneration

651.291.1144

MUSIC OF OUR TIME

The SPCO remains steadfastly committed to presenting a wide range of music by living composers throughout our season, illuminating classical music through contemporary lenses. The rich and inventive music of Valerie Coleman stands at the center of an all-American program, with some twists, over Thanksgiving weekend. Be among the first listeners in the world to hear premieres of new works by Saint Paul local PaviElle French, Thomas Adès, Sky Macklay and Jessie Montgomery. SPCO Principal Horn James Ferree’s innovative arrangement of Bach’s Goldberg Variations for various combinations of SPCO musicians will paint this monumental work with a new palette of colors.

Top row: Thomas Adès, T.J. Cole, Valerie Coleman, James Ferree, Gabriela Lena Frank, PaviElle French, John Harbison
Bottom row: Sky Macklay, Jessie Montgomery, Arvo Pärt, Stephen Prutsman, Peter Schickele (P.D.Q. Bach), Pärtis Vasks, Jörg Widmann
CONCERT START TIMES:
Friday Morning, 11:30am
Friday/Saturday Evening, 8:00pm
Saturday Afternoon, 2:00pm

HOW TO USE THIS GRID:
- Choose the day and time that work best for you.
- Glance down the column to see which programs are in each series.

PRICING AND SEATING CHARTS

Pricing:

- Tier 1 (Premium) - $500
- Tier 2 (Upper) - $300
- Tier 3 (Lower) - $180

Seating:
- Child/Student - FREE

20-Concert Series:
- section 1 $350
- section 2 $295
- child/student FREE

12-Concert Series:
- section 1 $295
- child/student FREE

16-Concert Series:
- section 1 $300
- child/student FREE

10-Concert Series:
- section 1 $300
- child/student FREE

8-Concert Series:
- section 1 $300
- child/student FREE
### HOW TO USE THIS GRID:

- Choose the day, time and location that work best for you.
- Glance down the column to see which programs are in each seat.

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### PRICING AND SEATING CHARTS

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SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

Add tickets for these special performances to your order before they go on sale to the general public. They are sure to sell out!

Opening Weekend: Beethoven's Seventh Symphony

Friday, September 11, 8:00pm
Saturday, September 12, 8:00pm
Sunday, September 13, 2:00pm
Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Mozart: Overture to The Marriage of Figaro
Haydn: Sinfonia concertante in B-flat
Adès: O Albion from Arcadiana
(B.U.S. premiere, SPCO co-commission)
Beethoven: Symphony No. 7

Led by SPCO Musicians

$50 — BEST AVAILABLE SEATS

Our 2020.21 season starts where our 2019.20 season was cut short — with Beethoven's remarkable Seventh Symphony. Our opening weekend is both contemplative and festive, highlighting the many unique strengths of the SPCO. Our musicians take center stage as soloists in Haydn's joyous Sinfonia concertante. The U.S. premiere of Thomas Adès' stirring O Albion for string orchestra is at the heart of this program. Come experience the start of an adventurous season that celebrates the healing power of music.

Holiday Concerts: Bach's Brandenburg Concertos

Thursday, December 10, 7:30pm
Friday, December 11, 8:00pm
Saturday, December 12, 8:00pm
Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Bach: Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 1–5

Continuing our annual holiday tradition, the SPCO presents Bach's most cherished set of orchestral works, the Brandenburg Concertos. The profound inventiveness and instrumental virtuosity of these enduring Baroque masterpieces are on full display as led by SPCO musicians.

$50 — BEST AVAILABLE SEATS
Holiday Concerts: Handel’s *Messiah* Copresented with The Basilica of Saint Mary

Thursday, December 17, 7:30pm
Friday, December 18, 8:00pm
Saturday, December 19, 8:00pm
The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis
**Sunday, December 20, 2:00pm**
Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Handel: *Messiah*

Dmitry Sinkovsky, conductor and countertenor
Caitlin Lynch, soprano
David Portillo, tenor
John Moore, baritone
The Singers — Minnesota Choral Artists;
Matthew Culloton, Artistic Director

**Celebrate the holidays with one of classical music’s most beloved traditions and join the SPCO for our extremely popular annual performances of Handel’s *Messiah*. Dmitry Sinkovsky and the SPCO will be joined by an all-star roster of vocal soloists, including renowned vocal ensemble The Singers in what is sure to be a wonderful musical experience for the whole family this holiday season.**

*These concerts sell out every year. Don’t miss this opportunity to get your tickets before they go on sale to the general public.*

**$50 — BEST AVAILABLE SEATS**

**SPCO IN NORTH MINNEAPOLIS**

The SPCO returns to the newly renovated Capri Theater for the 11th year of our community partnership, beginning with a performance during their opening weekend of concerts! Add this series to your order today and save 33% off the individual ticket price (regularly $15 per concert).

**October 2 | February 5 | March 26**

All concerts held at the Capri Theatre in North Minneapolis.

**Adults: $30 | Children and students: FREE | General Admission**

order | online thespco.org/renew | phone 651.291.1144
The Lark Ascending
Ralph Vaughan Williams
featuring Maureen Nelson, violin

Experience full-length digital performances. Always free.
The Concert Library is our innovative video streaming initiative, making our performances more accessible to people anytime, anywhere. Complement your season ticket experience by enjoying additional SPCO performances in the comfort of your own home, at the lake, on the bus, or wherever you are. With a wide selection of video concerts and more than 100 audio recordings available for free on-demand streaming, it’s never been easier to deeply personalize your concert experience!

thespco.org/music

Check out these featured concert videos:

The Lark Ascending Ralph Vaughan Williams
featuring Maureen Nelson, violin

Piano Concerto in A Minor Robert Schumann
featuring Jeremy Denk, director and piano

Symphony No. 7 Ludwig van Beethoven

Saint John Passion Johann Sebastian Bach

 Messiah George Frideric Handel

Family Concert: A Nighttime Story featuring H. Adam Harris, actor
CREATE YOUR OWN PACKAGE

Choose 6 or more concerts at any of our venues to create a season ticket package that is perfect for you.

**Ordway and Ted Mann Series:** scale 1 ($50), scale 2 ($30) or scale 3 ($12)

**Neighborhood Series:** scale 1 ($30) or scale 2 ($12)

**Northside Series:** general admission ($12)

For concerts please see page 8 (Ordway), page 11 (Neighborhood and Ted Mann Series) and page 15 (Northside Series).

**LIST THE CONCERTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND:** (minimum 6 concerts)

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**SUBTOTAL from above** x **adults per concert** =  
Number of children or students per concert =  **FREE**  

**TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION** Thank you!  
**ORDWAY FACILITY FEE** + $5.00  
**SERVICE FEE** + $15.00  
**TOTAL DUE**

PAYMENT TYPE

☐ CHECK (payable to SPCO) enclosed
☐ CREDIT CARD (Visa, MC, AmEx, Discover)

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION BILLING ZIP

SIGNATURE CVV CODE

Complete this form and mail it with payment to SPCO Ticket Office, CM9480, PO Box 70870, Saint Paul, MN 55170-9480 or call our Ticket Office at 651.291.1144 to order. You can also order online at thespco.org/cyo. Free Family Music events and holiday performances of Bach’s *Brandenburg* Concertos (Dec. 10–12) and Handel’s *Messiah* (Dec. 17–20) are not eligible for a Create Your Own Package. Create Your Own Package patrons are not guaranteed the same seats for each concert. You will receive the best available seats after all set series season ticket holders are seated. Some concerts may be unavailable for a Create Your Own Package based on set series season ticket sales.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS / required for order confirmation

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

DAY PHONE / EVENING PHONE

**ORDER BY JUNE 5 AND SAVE $5 OFF YOUR SERVICE FEE!**

Regular service fee of $15 is included here. If ordering before June 5, cross out the $15 fee and write $10.
Visit thespco.org/renew and follow the instructions to renew online.

651.291.1144
Ticket Office hours:
12pm–5pm M–F (10am–5pm through June 5)
11am–3pm Sat (Sep–June)

To renew by mail, return your order form with payment using the enclosed addressed envelope.

thespco.org/contribute
Your contributions directly support music in our community. Thank you for making what we do possible!

Full page: The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra performing in the Ordway Concert Hall. Photography by Peter Myers.