

THE SAINT PAUL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

SPCO ANNOUNCES SERIES OF LIVE CONCERT VIDEO STREAMS AND ENCORE BROADCASTS THIS FALL

- SPCO musicians will perform six live concerts from the Ordway Concert Hall stage to be streamed for free through the SPCO Concert Library.
- Concerts will feature ten works by living composers — including four world premieres of newly commissioned music — as well as established favorites of the chamber music repertoire.
- Extensive precautions have been planned to protect the health and safety of SPCO musicians and staff during these performances.
- Additional encore broadcasts of past performances with new content are scheduled throughout the fall.

SAINT PAUL, MN, AUGUST 27, 2020 — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) announces today a series of live performances to be streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall this fall. SPCO musicians will perform from the Ordway Concert Hall with no audience on site, and these performances will be streamed through the organization's free online [Concert Library](#) via the SPCO's multi-camera high-definition video system, with audio provided by Classical Minnesota Public Radio. This announcement follows the recent cancellation of previously scheduled concerts through December 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the scheduled live performance streams, the SPCO will continue to release encore streams (rebroadcasts of past performances) throughout the fall, and the existing on-demand library, which includes recordings of 62 concerts and 122 compositions, will continue to be available. As always, all SPCO digital concerts will continue to be provided completely free of charge, which aligns with the organization's mission and ongoing commitment to sharing the orchestra and the music with as many people as possible in the community.

“Since the onset of this crisis we have endeavored to find ways to share our music with the community in a manner that is safe and responsible,” said SPCO Managing Director and President Jon Limbacher. “We are so pleased that in addition to our on-demand library and our encore broadcasts, we also will be able to offer a series of live streams this fall. All of this will be provided to our community free of charge because we remain deeply committed to our vision of providing a great orchestra for everyone in the community.”

SAFETY MEASURES

Musicians will perform chamber music repertoire for small ensembles so that appropriate physical distancing of at least six feet between players can be maintained on stage. Additional safety precautions developed in conjunction with the Ordway are planned to help protect musicians, stage crew, support staff and the video production team during these performances, including mask wearing, hygiene protocols, ventilation improvements and frequent surface cleaning. In addition, the SPCO is investing in COVID-19 (PCR) testing for musicians and support staff prior to live-streamed weeks. All of these plans

have been made with the guidance of medical experts and with the utmost concern for the safety of SPCO musicians and staff and will be subject to change as the pandemic situation evolves.

CONCERT PROGRAMS

A broad group of SPCO musicians collaborated to curate this series of performances, and several musicians will serve as virtual hosts, welcoming the audience and providing insight into each program. Continuing its commitment to presenting a wide range of works by living composers, the SPCO will perform ten works by living composers in the six live performance streams this fall, including four world premieres of SPCO commissions for solo instruments by [Tyson Davis](#), [Adolphus Hailstork](#), [Ambrose Akinmusire](#) and [Chen Yi](#).

“My colleagues in the orchestra and I were excited to come together to curate these special video performances from the Ordway, drawing on our passion for chamber music and deep experience playing in small ensembles,” said SPCO Artistic Director and Principal Violin Kyu-Young Kim. “We are thrilled to be able to play together again after so many months and to take our online audiences on a journey of discovery via our Concert Library. With our high-quality HD video system and superb audio mix provided by Classical MPR, these live streams will be the next best thing to being in the Concert Hall with us.”

FALL 2020 DIGITAL CONCERT SCHEDULE

As a prelude to its first live stream of the season, on September 26 and 27 the SPCO will present encore broadcasts of works captured in previous performances. Starting the first weekend of October, live streams will occur every other week at 8:00pm on Saturdays, with a 2:00pm rebroadcast the following day, streamed at thespco.org/live.

Encore Broadcast: Beethoven, Mendelssohn and Montgomery

Saturday, September 26, 8:00pm

Sunday, September 27, 2:00pm

Rebroadcast of previous SPCO performances

Jessie Montgomery: *Banner*

Ludwig van Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4

Felix Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4, *Italian*

Jeremy Denk, piano

We look ahead to our 62nd and most unusual season with past favorites and new surprises. We open this broadcast with Jessie Montgomery's *Banner*, a piece that aims to answer the question "What does an anthem for the 21st century sound like in today's multi-cultural environment?" At the center is Jeremy Denk's performance of one of the core works in the piano concerto literature, Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto. The program closes out with Mendelssohn's beloved *Italian* Symphony.

Live Stream: Piano Quartets with Stewart Goodyear

Saturday, October 3, 8:00pm

Sunday, October 4, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Ludwig van Beethoven: *Marcia funebre* from Symphony No. 3 in E-flat, *Eroica*, for Piano Quartet (arr. by Ferdinand Ries)

Tyson Davis: Tableau No. X for Solo Trumpet (world premiere, SPCO commission)

Stewart Goodyear: Piano Quartet

Johannes Brahms: Piano Quartet in G Minor, Op. 25

Led by SPCO Musicians

Stewart Goodyear, piano

Lynn Erickson, trumpet

Pianist Stewart Goodyear joins The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra for a program of piano quartets — but with some unexpected twists and turns. The program begins with the *Marcia funebre* from Beethoven's Third Symphony, *Eroica* — except heard here in the stunning piano quartet arrangement by Beethoven's friend Ferdinand Ries. The musicians also tackle Goodyear's own inventive Piano Quartet and Brahms' first Piano Quartet, originally written for Romantic pianist and composer Clara Schumann. SPCO trumpeter Lynn Erickson premieres a new solo work by rising talent Tyson Davis, who was a 2019 Apprentice Composer for the National Youth Orchestra-USA and a NextNotes awardee with the American Composers Forum.

Live Stream: Love's Longing

Saturday, October 17, 8:00pm

Sunday, October 18, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Clara Schumann: Three Romances for Violin and Piano, Op. 22

Billy Childs: String Quartet No. 3, *Unrequited*

Adolphus Hailstork: *St. Paul's Blues* for Solo Flute (world premiere, SPCO commission)

Johannes Brahms: Clarinet Quintet, Op. 115

Led by SPCO Musicians

Steven Copes, violin

Alicia McQuerrey, flute

At the center of this program is Billy Childs' emotionally stirring third string quartet titled *Unrequited*. Childs wrote this work as a response to composer Leoš Janáček's *Intimate Letters*, a piece in which Janáček memorialized his unrequited infatuation with a younger married woman. Also featuring flutist Alicia McQuerrey giving the world premiere of a new work by Adolphus Hailstork, as well as exquisite Romantic works by Clara Schumann and Johannes Brahms, this program drips with melancholy and yearnings of love unreturned and unfulfilled.

Live Stream: Postcards Across the Atlantic

Saturday, October 31, 8:00pm

Sunday, November 1, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Errollyn Wallen: *Five Postcards* for Violin and Viola

Sir William Walton: String Quartet in A Minor

Ambrose Akinmusire: New work for Solo Bass (world premiere, SPCO commission)

Arthur Bliss: Oboe Quintet

Led by SPCO Musicians

Zachary Cohen, bass

Principal Bass Zachary Cohen gives the world premiere of a new composition by Ambrose Akinmusire, whose acclaimed studio album *Origami Harvest* was born out of an SPCO Liquid Music commission in 2017. The remainder of the program travels to the United Kingdom with works by Arthur Bliss and William Walton, as well as *Five Postcards*, a duo for violin and viola by Belize-born British composer and singer-songwriter Errollyn Wallen, who embellishes her work with a touch of popular writing.

Live Stream: *Lamentations*

Saturday, November 14, 8:00pm

Sunday, November 15, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson: *Lamentations*, Black/Folk Song Suite for Solo Cello

Richard Strauss: *Metamorphosen* for String Septet (arr. by Rudolph Leopold)

Johannes Brahms: Trio in E-flat

Led by SPCO Musicians

Julie Albers, cello

In the midst of a global pandemic and social unrest, this is a program centered on grief but anchored in hope. Richard Strauss wrote his *Metamorphosen* at the close of World War II and quotes directly from Beethoven's *Marcia funebre* found within the *Eroica* symphony. Brahms' Horn Trio was written in memory of the composer's recently deceased mother, and the piece intentionally simulates the stages of grief. The concert opens with Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson's 1973 *Lamentations* for Solo Cello, subtitled "Black/Folk Song Suite." Perkinson described this work as "the reflection and statement of a people's crying out."

Live Stream: *Sounds from Home*

Saturday, November 28, 8:00pm

Sunday, November 29, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

Chen Yi: New Work for Solo Oboe (world premiere, SPCO commission)

Florence Price: "Juba" from String Quartet No. 2

John Novacek: Three Rags for String Quartet

James Lee, III: *Choro sem tristeza (Lament Without Sadness)*

Antonín Dvořák: String Quintet No. 3, *American*

Led by SPCO Musicians

Cassie Pilgrim, oboe

Julia Bogorad-Kogan, flute

Over Thanksgiving weekend, our program centers around our complex and ever-evolving sense of home. Dvořák wrote his *American* String Quintet after moving to the United States, blending Czech influences with popular American music. The program also features excerpts from Florence Price's String Quartet No. 2, infused with African dances and Black idioms of the mid-20th century. Principal Flute Julia Bogorad-Kogan performs a solo work by James Lee III, inspired by his long relationship with Brazilian music. Composer Chen Yi was born in Guangzhou, China and settled in the United States, where she is a Professor of Composition at University of Missouri-Kansas City. To come full circle, Dr. Chen will be writing a new work for Principal Oboe Cassie Pilgrim, whose family hails from the same region of China.

Encore Broadcast: *250 Years of Beethoven*

Saturday, December 5, 8:00pm

Sunday, December 6, 2:00pm

Rebroadcast of previous SPCO performances

Celebrate 250 years of the legendary Ludwig van Beethoven with memorable past SPCO performances of his works, including his Seventh Symphony.

Live Stream: Bach, Frank and Mozart

Saturday, December 12, 8:00pm

Sunday, December 13, 2:00pm (rebroadcast of live performance)

Streamed from the Ordway Concert Hall, Saint Paul

J. S. Bach: *Brandenburg* Concerto No. 3

Gabriela Lena Frank: *Leyendas (Legends): An Andean Walkabout* for String Quartet

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Divertimento in B-flat for Two Horns and Strings

Led by SPCO Musicians

James Ferree, horn

One of Bach's most cherished works, his *Brandenburg* Concerto No. 3, opens this program. Gabriela Lena Frank's string quartet *Leyendas: An Andean Walkabout* seamlessly blends cultural and musical traditions, evoking Andean and Incan imagery. Principal Horn James Ferree shines alongside his fellow SPCO musicians in Mozart's Divertimento for two horns and string quintet.

Encore Broadcast: Handel's *Messiah*

Saturday, December 19, 8:00pm

Sunday, December 20, 2:00pm

Rebroadcast of a previous SPCO performance

George Frideric Handel: *Messiah*

Jeannette Sorrell, conductor

Carine Tinney, soprano

Reginald Mobley, countertenor

Rufus Müller, tenor

Jesse Blumberg, baritone

The Singers — Minnesota Choral Artists, chorus

Matthew Culloton, artistic director

For generations, Handel's *Messiah* has been one of classical music's greatest holiday traditions. Now, you can enjoy free HD streaming video of this performance featuring conductor Jeannette Sorrell, an all-star roster of vocal soloists, and renowned vocal ensemble The Singers.

Encore Broadcast: New Year's Eve with The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra

Thursday, December 31, 8:00pm

Rebroadcast of previous SPCO performances

We finish out 2020 with a concert curated from previous programs, welcoming the new year with musical passion and beauty.

EVEN MORE CONCERTS ARE AVAILABLE ON DEMAND ANYTIME

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 Concert Library is also available as a free mobile app for Apple and Android devices via the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#).

RESOURCES TO ENHANCE ENGAGEMENT FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

The SPCO offers engagement resources for parents, guardians and educators to help spark the imagination and explore even more videos in the Concert Library. These resources feature listening lessons and supplementary materials for students and children to engage with the music and can be found at thespco.org/resources.

The Concert Library has two acclaimed Family Concert videos for on-demand streaming: [Race for the Reef](#) and [A Nighttime Story](#), both geared toward children ages 6–12, but enjoyable by people of any age. To accompany these videos, the SPCO has created activities designed to extend and enhance the concert viewing experience.

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. Entering its 62nd season in September, 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, whose engagements with the orchestra have been postponed until the 2021.22 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The virtuoso musicians of the SPCO present more than 100 concerts and educational programs in the Twin Cities each year. The orchestra's free online Concert Library receives more than 350,000 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 850,000 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 former 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 and its innovative audience engagement efforts. 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 ticket prices of any professional 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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