

## **SPCO AND CAPRI CANCEL OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE AT THE PLAZA @ THE CAPRI ON JUNE 3**

**SAINT PAUL, MN, MAY 28, 2021** — The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (SPCO) and the Capri together announce the cancellation of an outdoor SPCO performance originally scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 3 to celebrate the opening of the new Plaza @ the Capri. This decision has been made out of concern for the safety of the audience attending the outdoor performance, as well as the staff and artists involved, after shots were fired near the Capri midday on Monday, May 24. There were no injuries or fatalities, but bullets hit the PCYC building adjacent to the Capri, as well as several cars parked nearby. This incident follows a recent sharp increase in gun violence in North Minneapolis and other areas of the Twin Cities.

“Both of our organizations are concerned about the intense escalation of gun violence in our treasured Northside community,” said James Scott, Director of the Capri. “We’ve never before had to cancel an event at the Capri out of concern for the safety of our audience, artists and employees, and we are deeply saddened to do so now.”

The SPCO and the Capri are exploring opportunities to reschedule this outdoor performance at a later date. The two organizations will enter their 12th year of partnership this fall when the orchestra returns to the newly renovated Capri to participate in their Grand Opening festivities in October. In addition to this special celebration, the orchestra will continue its regular concert series at the Capri in the 2021.22 season.

The June 3 performance was announced as part of a series of four outdoor SPCO performances planned in June. The [remaining three outdoor performances](#) will proceed as scheduled.

### **COLLABORATIVE HISTORY**

The collaboration between the SPCO and the Capri began in 2009 and has developed into a multifaceted partnership that includes a regular concert series and free concert programming for children and families. Community input has been critical in shaping this partnership as the SPCO has worked to support the Capri in its mission to build community, develop youth and establish the Northside as a regional cultural destination.

## **ABOUT THE CAPRI**

Built in 1927, the Capri is the last remaining theater of the original 13 theaters that were once located in North Minneapolis. In the course of its 94-year history, the Capri has operated as a movie theater and a venue for live entertainment and youth programming. It was also the place where a young artist named Prince Rogers Nelson first performed as a solo artist in 1979.

Now, after an 18-month construction period, the beautifully renovated and expanded Capri is ready to re-open its doors this fall to Northside neighbors and friends and audiences from across the city and the world. The new Capri features a smartly renovated theater with many new amenities; a new flexible space called the Paradise Community Hall; a Best Buy Teen Tech Center; classrooms and conference rooms; an outdoor plaza, and more. The design blends and connects the old with the new, integrating enhancements to the original theater while creating a distinctive new structure wrapped around the west and south of the old building.

Capri programs will resume this fall as well, including Legends @ the Capri, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra's Chamber Music Series, First Thursday Films, and the Capri Glee! Adult Community Choir, among others. Rental spaces at the Capri will be available starting October 11.

For more information contact James Scott, Director of the Capri, 612.643.2024 or [jscott@pcyc-mpls.org](mailto:jscott@pcyc-mpls.org).

The Capri is owned and operated by PCYC, 2210 Oliver Avenue North, in Minneapolis.

## **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 62nd 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 uncondensed 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 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 Franz 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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