

FALL 2021 PERFORMANCES

Chronological Calendar

(as of May 5, 2021)

Please note that all Digital Stage performances are in **blue** and will be available for on-demand viewing **online** beginning at 8:00 PM ET on their broadcast date, and will remain available for one week, unless otherwise noted. Fall 2021 on the Digital Stage includes encore presentations of favorite digital performances from the past year. Look for new bonus content in the Digital Lobby or during the performance. All programs are subject to change.

DIGITAL STAGE: YANNICK AND MOZART

September 8 at 8:00 PM–September 15 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Jeffrey Khaner and Patrick Williams Flutes
Philippe Tondre Oboe
Ricardo Morales Clarinet
Daniel Matsukawa Bassoon
Jennifer Montone Horn

Coleman *Red Clay & Mississippi Delta*, for wind quintet
Ibert Flute Concerto
Mozart Serenade in B-flat major (“Gran Partita”)

Wind instruments take center stage! The “Gran Partita” Serenade was famously featured in the 1984 film *Amadeus* and, aside from its poignancy, is notable for breaking all bounds from earlier serenades: 13 instruments, including basset horns! Seven movements! 50 minutes long! The music of Jacques Ibert continues this celebration of winds, with an acrobatic, energetic concerto featuring Principal Flute Jeffrey Khaner. Written in 2009, Valerie Coleman’s *Red Clay & Mississippi Delta* is inspired by her mother’s family and the delta region from which they hail. Listen closely—can you hear the juke joints and casino boats that line the Mississippi River?

DIGITAL STAGE: BEETHOVEN’S SYMPHONY NO. 2

September 22 at 8:00 PM–September 29 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Daniel Matsukawa Bassoon

Bates *Undistant*
Weber Bassoon Concerto
Beethoven Symphony No. 2

Beethoven’s Symphony No. 2 captures the power of art to lift the human spirit. As the composer struggled with the loss of his hearing, his dedication to art fueled his drive to continue making music. The Second

Symphony looks back to Haydn and Mozart, but Beethoven infused it with dashes of his hallmark rowdy humor and a Romantic sensibility—particularly in the poetic slow movement.

Carl Maria von Weber's Bassoon Concerto celebrates the dynamic range of the bassoon and the wide variety of moods it can convey. Principal Bassoon Daniel Matsukawa takes center stage for this lively concert.

Composer Mason Bates describes *Undistant*: "Over crackling digital white noise drift textures from three musical ensembles, strewn across a dark space. ... Strings descend from the stratosphere into arpeggiations, brass and woodwind swells quicken their overlaps, and a soulful melody emerges that connects all elements."

OPENING NIGHT

October 5 at 7:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Yo-Yo Ma Cello

This historic concert officially launches the 2021-22 season. After more than a year without live performances, what better way to celebrate the return than with Yannick, Yo-Yo, and *Your* Philadelphia Orchestra?

The Philadelphia Orchestra looks forward to welcoming audiences back to Verizon Hall with this special gala fundraising event. Tickets for Opening Night will go on sale at a later date.

YANNICK CONDUCTS AMERICAN MASTERS

October 7 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 8 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

October 9 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Laurin Talese Vocalist—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT
Aaron Diehl Piano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT WITH AUDIENCE

Johnson "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*

Still *Out of the Silence*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Price Symphony No. 4—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

We begin our new almost-post-pandemic season with unifying American voices from across time and diverse experiences, beginning with James Weldon Johnson's inspiring anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing." Pianist Aaron Diehl pairs William Grant Still's poignant *Out of the Silence* with George Gershwin's swinging and iconic *Rhapsody in Blue*. Yannick's passion for sharing the music of Florence Price continues with her fourth and final symphony—a reflection of her experiences as a Black woman from the post-Civil War South. Listen for spirituals, syncopation, and a lively dance call the "juba"—brilliantly blended in this original and rarely performed work.

DIGITAL STAGE: YANNICK CONDUCTS MOZART AND PRICE

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

October 13 at 8:00 PM—October 20 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor and Piano

Mozart Piano Concerto No. 12
Price Symphony No. 4

The Orchestra's passion for sharing the music of Florence Price continues this fall—in Verizon Hall and on the Digital Stage. Her Fourth, and final, Symphony, never performed during her lifetime, received accolades when it received its belated premiere in 2018. The *New York Times* noted: "The brio of the best Americana is present throughout the work, particularly in its rousing climax."

Written following his arrival in Vienna, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 12 is "very brilliant, pleasing to the ear, and natural, without being insipid," in the composer's own words. Listen for its melodic opulence and thrilling cadenzas. This performance includes a special treat for audiences as Yannick leads the Orchestra from the piano.

MAHLER'S SYMPHONY NO. 4

October 15 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
October 16 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
October 17 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Pretty Yende Soprano—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT

Holcomb *Paradise*—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA COMMISSION
Mahler Symphony No. 4

"At first glance one does not even notice all that is hidden in this inconspicuous little song," Gustav Mahler remarked to a friend. Inspired by a child's idea of heaven, he composed "The Heavenly Life," which later became the foundation of his Fourth Symphony. Soprano Pretty Yende is the soloist in one of Mahler's best-loved works. This performance also features the world premiere of Robin Holcomb's *Paradise*, an experiential response to California's deadly wildfires.

MOZART'S OBOE CONCERTO

October 21 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
October 22 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
October 23 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Susanna Mälkki Conductor
David Kim Violin
Philippe Tondre Oboe—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT WITH AUDIENCE

M. Wagner *Little Moonhead*—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES
Mozart Oboe Concerto
Stravinsky Suite from *Pulcinella*

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

With its soaring cadenzas and irresistible melodies, Mozart's Oboe Concerto is a wonder to behold. Newly appointed Principal Oboe Philippe Tondre is just the eighth person to hold this title in the past 121 years. His stunning virtuosity propels this piece to new heights. Philadelphia native Melinda Wagner took inspiration from Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 for her piece *Little Moonhead*. The concert concludes with the charm and wit of Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* Suite.

DIGITAL STAGE: AARON DIEHL PLAYS RHAPSODY IN BLUE

October 27 at 8:00 PM–November 3 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Aaron Diehl Piano

Ellington "Solitude"
Gershwin *Rhapsody in Blue*
Stravinsky Suite from *Pulcinella*

"There's an entire world of jazz in Aaron Diehl's playing. ... Diehl's agile mind is just one of several aspects of this performance that makes it so good."—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*. The supremely talented pianist joins the Orchestra for a mesmerizing performance of Gershwin's classic *Rhapsody in Blue*. Enjoy the rare opportunity to hear the piece in its original instrumentation for jazz band, following Duke Ellington's jazz standard "Solitude."

Closing the program is the Suite from Stravinsky's *Pulcinella*, composed just a few years earlier in 1920. Stravinsky, the Modernist composer of *The Firebird* and *The Rite of Spring*, shocked collaborators and audiences with the return to a more traditional 18th-century sound. He wrote that "Pulcinella was my discovery of the past," but it was also a "look in the mirror"—an integration of old and new that would define the next phase of his career.

SERMON AND MOZART'S SYMPHONY NO. 40

November 5 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 6 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 7 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Davóne Tines Bass-baritone—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT WITH AUDIENCE

Various *Sermon*

- I. "Shake the Heavens," from *El Niño* (A Nativity Oratorio), by John Adams
- II. "Vigil," by Igee Dieudonné and Davóne Tines
- III. "You Want the Truth, but You Don't Want to Know," from *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, by Anthony Davis

Mozart Symphony No. 40

From the extraordinary simplicity of its first movement to the brilliant energy of its bursting finale, Mozart's Symphony No. 40 is among his most passionate statements. In *Sermon*, bass-baritone and activist Davóne Tines performs contemporary works by John Adams and Anthony Davis, as well as "Vigil," both a work of art and a call to action co-written by Igee Dieudonné and Tines and dedicated to the memory of Breonna Taylor. *Sermon* echoes the words of James Baldwin (Excerpt from *The Fire Next Time*), Langston Hughes ("Hope"), and Maya Angelou ("We Saw Beyond Our Seeming") with compelling themes that are still relevant today.

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

DIGITAL STAGE: BACH AND MENDELSSOHN

November 10 at 8:00 PM—November 17 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor
David Kim Violin
Juliette Kang Violin

Bach Concerto for Two Violins and String Orchestra
Mendelssohn Symphony No. 1

Principal Guest Conductor Nathalie Stutzmann leads a performance of Bach's Concerto for Two Violins and String Orchestra, known for the sublime, heart-stirring solos in its second movement. Mendelssohn wrote his First Symphony at age 15, establishing his early identity as a composer and reflecting his admiration for Bach, Mozart, and Haydn.

DVOŘÁK'S SYMPHONY NO. 7

November 11 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 12 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 13 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Rafael Payare Conductor—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DEBUT
Ricardo Morales Clarinet

Berlioz *Roman Carnival* Overture
Bancks Clarinet Concerto—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION
Dvořák Symphony No. 7

Dvořák's Seventh Symphony is a towering triumph. Cascading from brooding themes to the serenity of woodwinds to the overwhelming tragic grandeur of the finale, the work has astounded audiences since its April 1885 premiere in London. Plus, Principal Clarinet Ricardo Morales takes center stage in a world premiere of the "invitingly lyrical" composer Jacob Bancks's Clarinet Concerto, a Philadelphia Orchestra co-commission.

JOSHUA BELL LEADS BEETHOVEN, PRICE, AND MENDELSSOHN

November 18 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 19 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
November 20 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Joshua Bell Leader and Violin—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA SUBSCRIPTION CONDUCTING DEBUT

Beethoven Symphony No. 4
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto
Price *Adoration*—WORLD PREMIERE OF ARRANGEMENT FOR VIOLIN AND ORCHESTRA

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

At age 14, violinist Joshua Bell made his professional debut as a concerto soloist with Riccardo Muti and The Philadelphia Orchestra—the start of a distinguished career spanning decades. Bell leads the Orchestra in Beethoven’s Fourth Symphony and is the soloist for Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto. The yearning and melancholy melody that opens the Concerto haunted Mendelssohn for years and “gave him no peace.” He didn’t begin to compose the work in earnest for another six years. The result: a piece that profoundly illustrates the virtuosity of the violin. Florence Price’s *Adoration*, originally written for organ, is one of the composer’s best-known works.

DIGITAL STAGE: FIRE, HOPE, AND TRUTH

November 24 at 8:00 PM–December 1 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor
Davóne Tines Bass-baritone

Various Sermon

I. “Shake the Heavens,” from *El Niño* (A Nativity Oratorio), by John Adams

II. “Vigil,” by Igee Dieudonné and Davóne Tines

III. “You Want the Truth, but You Don’t Want to Know,” from *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*, by Anthony Davis

Mozart Symphony No. 25

This week’s performance echoes the words of James Baldwin (Excerpt from *The Fire Next Time*), Langston Hughes (“Hope”), and Maya Angelou (“We Saw Beyond Our Seeming”), with the compelling vocals of bass-baritone opera singer and activist Davóne Tines for a powerful evening exploring themes that are still relevant today.

Tines performs “You Want the Truth, but You Don’t Want to Know” from Anthony Davis’s opera *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X* as well as “Vigil,” both a work of art and a call to action co-written by Igee Dieudonné and Tines, dedicated to the memory of Breonna Taylor. John Adams’s “Shake the Heavens” from his Nativity oratorio *El Niño* pulses with urgent and frightening tremolos reminiscent of Handel’s *Messiah* that live up to the title and speak to our times.

STUTZMANN CONDUCTS SCHUBERT’S NINTH SYMPHONY

December 2 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 3 at 2:00 PM—Friday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 4 at 8:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra
Nathalie Stutzmann Conductor

Mazzoli Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCES

Schubert Symphony No. 9 (“Great”)

Schubert’s colossal Symphony No. 9, known as the “Great,” represents the pinnacle of the composer’s art, though it did not premiere until 10 years after his early death. Schubert felt that the Ninth was his only fully mature symphony, the only one intended for audiences, and the only one that could be compared to Beethoven, whom Schubert revered above all others. Listen for a striking resemblance to Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy” theme in the last movement. In sparkling contrast, Missy Mazzoli notes that her *Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres)* is “a piece that churns and roils, that inches close to the listener only to leap away at breakneck speed.”

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

DIGITAL STAGE: FLORENCE PRICE'S SYMPHONY NO. 3

December 8 at 8:00 PM—December 15 at 11:00 PM

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Erica Peel Piccolo—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA DIGITAL STAGE DEBUT

Harberg Piccolo Concerto—FIRST PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Price Symphony No. 3—FIRST COMPLETE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA PERFORMANCE

Commissioned by the Federal Music Project at the height of the Great Depression, Florence Price composed her Third Symphony in the midst of the Chicago Renaissance, a powerful backdrop for writers and artists including Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, and Margaret Bonds. While her Second Symphony remains lost, Price's engaging Third Symphony reflects her growth as a composer, taking more risks, adding modern techniques, and expanding emotional elements as compared to her more traditional First Symphony.

Completing this Digital Stage performance that celebrates the tremendous contributions of women, Erica Peel's talent is on full display in Amanda Harberg's Piccolo Concerto.

MARSALIS'S TUBA CONCERTO

December 9 at 7:30 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 10 at 8:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 12 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Carol Jantsch Tuba

Marsalis Tuba Concerto—WORLD PREMIERE—PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA CO-COMMISSION

Brahms Symphony No. 1

Wynton Marsalis's newly minted Tuba Concerto is given its world premiere on the Philadelphia Orchestra stage. Principal Tuba Carol Jantsch will be the first to perform this brilliant pairing of classical and jazz in Marsalis's inimitable style. More than a century before, Brahms spent 23 years struggling with the pressure to write a symphony. When his long-awaited Symphony No. 1 finally premiered in 1876, a friend and critic noted, "Seldom, if ever, has the entire musical world awaited a composer's first symphony with such tense anticipation ... [but audiences] will immediately recognize it as one of the most distinctive and magnificent works of the symphonic literature."

THE GLORIOUS SOUND OF CHRISTMAS®

December 16 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 17 at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 18 at 7:00 PM—Saturday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 19 at 2:00 PM—Sunday afternoon—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 21 at 7:00 PM—Tuesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra

May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

Bramwell Tovey Conductor

The Glorious Sound of Christmas has been a Philadelphia Orchestra tradition since the Philadelphians and Eugene Ormandy released the now-iconic recording in 1962. Make these concerts part of your holiday tradition with these jubilant and family-friendly performances.

MESSIAH

December 22 at 7:00 PM—Wednesday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

December 23 at 7:00 PM—Thursday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Julian Wachner Conductor

Handel *Messiah*

In 24 days of feverish writing, Handel created his immortal *Messiah*. Conductor Julian Wachner leads the Orchestra in these holiday presentations of this masterwork in what is certain to be a revelatory performance.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

December 31 at 7:00 PM—Friday evening—Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin Conductor

Yannick returns, bringing his inimitable charm and joy to our New Year's Eve concert. Bring on the bubbly and ring in 2022 with the Fabulous Philadelphians!

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May 5, 2021—All programs and artists subject to change.

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About [The Philadelphia Orchestra](#)

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