CARNEGIE HALL ANNOUNCES 2019–2020 SEASON

Beethoven Celebration
Carnegie Hall honors 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth with more than 35 events with internationally-renowned artists exploring his works and transformative impact on music.

Perspectives:
Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Yannick Nézet-Séguin
Joyce DiDonato & Angélique Kidjo

Perspectives enters its 20th season with four fascinating series curated by acclaimed artists.

Debs Composer’s Chair: Jörg Widmann
Composer, conductor, and clarinetist leads season-long residency featuring eleven Carnegie Hall events with orchestral and chamber music, premieres of new works, lectures, and exciting collaborations.

Isaac Stern Centenary
Carnegie Hall dedicates its 2019–2020 season to Isaac Stern, paying tribute to the late violinist, educator, and activist during the centenary year of his birth.

Carnegie Hall’s Opening Night Gala
2019–2020 season launches on October 3 with celebratory Opening Night Gala concert featuring The Cleveland Orchestra, led by Franz Welser-Möst and joined by violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, cellist Lynn Harrell, and pianist Yefim Bronfman.

(For Immediate Release: January 30, 2019, NEW YORK)—Clive Gillinson, Executive and Artistic Director, today announced Carnegie Hall’s 2019–2020 season featuring more than 170 concerts by many of the world’s most celebrated artists and ensembles in classical, pop, jazz, and world music. The season also includes a wide range of groundbreaking education and social impact programs created by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, engaging audiences in New York City, across the country, and around the world.

Programming highlights include a season-long celebration of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth featuring more than 35 events with performances by renowned artists exploring the composer’s transformative impact on music history; Perspectives series curated by four acclaimed artists: conductors Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Joyce DiDonato & Angélique Kidjo.
Sir John Eliot Gardiner and Yannick Nézet-Séguin, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, and singer-songwriter Angélique Kidjo; and a season-long residency by renowned composer, clarinetist, and conductor Jörg Widmann who has been appointed to hold the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2019–2020 season.

“Carnegie Hall’s 2019–2020 season offers a dynamic range of musical experiences,” said Clive Gillinson, Carnegie Hall’s Executive and Artistic Director. “Our Beethoven celebration invites concertgoers to explore a revolutionary composer whose music changed the world. Curated series bring us closer to five fascinating artists, enabling us to gain deeper insights into their musical viewpoints. With a stellar line-up of performances by the world’s finest musicians, presented alongside creative education and social impact programs, Carnegie Hall continues to build on its legacy as a destination for the best in music, considering the many ways that a concert hall in the twenty-first century can invite people of all ages to enjoy and explore.”

With 2020 marking the centenary of the birth of world-acclaimed violinist, educator, and activist Isaac Stern, Carnegie Hall will dedicate its entire 2019–2020 season in his honor, grateful for his tireless work in saving the building from demolition in 1960 and for his aspirations for what the Hall would mean to future generations. “Everyone who cares about music will forever be grateful to Isaac for saving Carnegie Hall—for his understanding of its importance to our city, our country and to the world,” said Mr. Gillinson.

2019–2020 Carnegie Hall Season Highlights

Carnegie Hall’s 129th season launches on Thursday, October 3 with a celebratory Opening Night Gala concert by The Cleveland Orchestra led by Franz Welser-Möst. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, cellist Lynn Harrell, and pianist Yefim Bronfman join the orchestra for Beethoven’s Triple Concerto in C Major, with Ms. Mutter also featured in Beethoven’s Romance for Violin and Orchestra in G Major. The festive evening also includes the overture to Nicolai’s The Merry Wives of Windsor and Richard Strauss’s Der Rosenkavalier Suite.

Opening Night kicks off the Hall’s celebration of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth, an unprecedented range of performances throughout the 2019–2020 season that highlight the immensity of the composer’s transformative impact on music. More than 35 events focus on Beethoven’s works, performed by a remarkable line-up of internationally-renowned musicians. A highlight of the celebration—never before presented by Carnegie Hall in one season—are two complete symphony cycles, one by Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, performed on period instruments, and another by Yannick Nézet-Séguin and The Philadelphia Orchestra, contrasting their two different interpretive perspectives on these pillars of the orchestral repertoire. Additional events include the complete string quartets in a cycle by Quatuor Ébène; the complete piano sonatas by keyboard masters; chamber music with Emanuel Ax, Leonidas Kavakos, Yo-Yo Ma, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and more; choral works; lectures; and a global creative learning project exploring the themes found in Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy,” led by Marin Alsop. Together, these celebratory programs create an extraordinary view of this revolutionary composer who redefined every area of music that he explored.

In 2019–2020, Carnegie Hall marks its 20th season of Perspectives by inviting four acclaimed artists to curate series in the coming year.

Conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner’s Perspectives includes the complete cycle of Beethoven’s nine symphonies as well as the composer’s rarely-heard score for the ballet The Creatures of Prometheus performed with his internationally acclaimed early music ensemble Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique in five concerts over six days as a central part of Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven celebration. As a prelude to the cycle, Sir John Eliot kicks off his series with a talk that draws upon his exacting study of Beethoven’s music, providing additional insights into these masterworks.

Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin curates a nine-concert Perspectives next season including performances with three orchestras with whom he has built his remarkable career—The Philadelphia Orchestra.
Orchestra, The MET Orchestra, and the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal (as part of that orchestra’s first US tour) in concerts centered on the Beethoven cycle, and also exploring a range of repertoire. His series also includes a rare recital appearance with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, performing Schubert’s Winterreise.

Acclaimed mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato returns to curate her second Perspectives series at Carnegie Hall with concerts and events that highlight her full range of vocal artistry and her work as an educator. Performances include collaborations with Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; Yannick Nézet-Séguin and the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal; Maxim Emelyanychev leading the Italian baroque instrument orchestra Il Pomo d’Oro; and a stellar roster of musical friends performing an all-French evening in Zankel Hall. She returns to lead her annual public master classes for young opera singers and hosts a special concert, presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, celebrating music written by New Yorkers as part of a global learning project inspired by Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy.”

Three-time Grammy Award winner and Benin-born singer Angélique Kidjo brings her intoxicating blend of West African music, American R&B, jazz, and funk to her four-concert Perspectives next season. With guest appearances by the Lionel Loueke Trio, Benin International Musical, and others, Ms. Kidjo’s series charts the journey of African music and its culture throughout the world culminating with a special concert marking both her 60th birthday and the 60th anniversary of independence for Benin and other West African countries, performed with special musical friends.

Carnegie Hall has appointed composer, conductor, and clarinetist Jörg Widmann to hold the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2019–2020 season. Mr. Widmann’s residency includes eleven Carnegie Hall events throughout the year with his music heard on nine concerts—some featuring him as conductor or on clarinet—including performances by The Cleveland Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, The MET Orchestra, the Irish Chamber Orchestra, the International Contemporary Ensemble, Ensemble Connect, and Anne-Sophie Mutter as well as two special lectures.

Carnegie Hall continues its strong focus on new music throughout the season, entering the final year of its five-year 125 Commissions Project, an initiative through which more than 160 new works have been commissioned by Carnegie Hall from today’s leading composers. Commissioned composers in the 2019–2020 season include John Adams, Brett Dean, Xavier Foley, Michael Gordon, Brad Mehldau, Gabriella Smith, Jörg Widmann, and Julia Wolfe, among others.

Additional highlights of Carnegie Hall’s 2019–2020 season include performances by 17 leading orchestras from around the world, including performances by Michael Tilson Thomas leading the San Francisco Symphony in his last two Carnegie Hall concerts as Music Director; the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal conducted by Kent Nagano in his final season as Music Director; Mahler symphonies with Daniel Barenboim and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra; and three concerts by the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Andris Nelsons, including a concert performance of Act III of Wagner’s Tristan and Isolde featuring tenor Jonas Kaufmann and soprano Emily Magee.

The English Concert and Artistic Director Harry Bicket return in spring 2020 as part of their multi-year Handel opera/oratorio project at Carnegie Hall, presenting a concert performance of Handel’s Rodelinda with British soprano Lucy Crowe singing the title role.

An array of the world’s leading pianists appear in recital, many as part of the Beethoven 250th celebration, including Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, Evgeny Kissin, Igor Levit (making his recital debut in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage), Maurizio Pollini, Sir András Schiff, Mitsuko Uchida, plus many more.

Among a wide variety of vocal and instrumental recitals: soprano Renée Fleming collaborates in recital with pianist Evgeny Kissin; bass-baritone Sir Bryn Terfel returns for the first time in ten years; tenor Ian Bostridge shares the stage with pianist/composer Brad Mehldau; pianists Daniil Trifonov and Sergei
Babayan return in a duo-recital with percussion; and cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason makes his New York recital debut with pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason.

Chamber music offered in 2019–2020 includes the first Carnegie Hall appearance by the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble, featuring violinist Michael Barenboim; performances by Ensemble Connect and Decoda; and four performances by young soloists and faculty from Germany’s prestigious Kronberg Academy.

Popular and world music highlights next season include the Carnegie Hall debut of television and Broadway star Tituss Burgess; the return of Latin Grammy Award-winning singer Buika, plus an evening with Rosanne Cash and Ry Cooder in a rare joint performance of songs from Johnny Cash’s beloved songbook; and Steven Reineke and The New York Pops with their remarkable five-concert series celebrating America’s popular music from Broadway to film scores, jazz to holiday classics.

Music lovers across New York will also enjoy dozens of performances through Carnegie Hall Citywide, a free concert series offered in all five boroughs all year long. Partnering with local community organizations, the performances feature leading artists and rising stars, representing all musical genres.

Carnegie Hall and WQXR 105.9 FM in New York partners for a ninth consecutive year to produce Carnegie Hall Live, an engaging nationwide live broadcast and digital series featuring performances from throughout Carnegie Hall’s season. This year’s series launches on October 3 with Carnegie Hall’s Opening Night Gala performance featuring The Cleveland Orchestra under the baton of Franz Welser-Möst. The full 2019–2020 broadcast schedule will be announced at a later date.

Playlists inspired by artists and programming themes in the 2019–2020 season are now offered on Apple Music, curated by Carnegie Hall, at applemusic.com/carnegiehall. A dynamic playlist focused on Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven celebration joins ongoing dynamic playlists created by the Hall exploring “The Symphony Orchestra,” “The Piano,” and “Carnegie Hall Presents,” highlighting artists and repertoire featured in upcoming concerts. Additional playlists feature musical selections handpicked to complement artistic initiatives in the coming year, inviting music lovers to explore.

Alongside the Hall’s line-up of performances, a wide range of music education and social impact programs by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute (WMI) engages more than 600,000 people in the coming season in New York City and beyond.

Highlights of WMI’s season include All Together: A Global Ode to Joy—an ambitious worldwide project marking the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth—in which conductor Marin Alsop leads inspiring and ambitious performances on five continents with nine renowned partner orchestras in concerts that reimagine Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony as a twenty-first century call for unity, justice, and empowerment. The concerts include newly composed music from each local community alongside Beethoven’s original, including translations of the Ode to Joy into local languages. The first All Together performance will take place in São Paulo, Brazil in December 2019, followed by concerts in London, England; Baltimore, Maryland; major centers of New Zealand; Sydney, Australia; Vienna, Austria; and Durban and Johannesburg, South Africa. Carnegie Hall presents a final culminating concert in December 2020 featuring a 300-piece choir made up of singers from across the city and the next generation of talented young instrumentalists. In April 2020, Joyce DiDonato also leads a performance of original songs interpreting the ideals embodied in Beethoven’s Ode to Joy, written by songwriters from across New York City.

In spring 2020, WMI honors Isaac Stern’s legacy with a free Family Day in Carnegie Hall’s Resnick Education Wing with a variety of hands-on activities exploring the world of strings in various musical genres. Later in 2020, violinists of all ages are invited to bring their instruments to Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage for a special Violin Day, a free event for families, students, and music-lovers, hosted by violinist Midori, a protégé of Mr. Stern, along with other leading artists.
Additional activities in 2019–2020 include My City, My Song family concerts exploring music from around the world found in New York City neighborhoods; immersive, sensory musical experiences for babies and toddlers; and the Lullaby Project, a program that gives pregnant women and new parents the opportunity to write and sing personal lullabies for their babies.

**Link Up.** Carnegie Hall’s music education program for grades 3–5, continues to grow in 2019–2020, reaching more than half a million students and teachers through partnerships with more than 115 orchestras worldwide. *Musical Explorers*, for grades K–2, also expands across the country next season with a new digital curriculum made available to music educators nationwide for free. Through *PlayUSA*, more than 15 local organizations across the United States dedicated to teaching instrumental music to students who may not otherwise have access, will receive financial support while building a national network of peers; and teachers will strengthen skills and build community through the *Music Educators Workshop*.

Carnegie Hall’s three acclaimed national youth ensembles return in summer 2019. Following a triumphant inaugural tour to Europe in 2018, *NYO Jazz* travels to Asia for the first time with trumpeter and artistic director Sean Jones and vocalist Kurt Elling. Sir Antonio Pappano leads the *National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America* (NYO-USA) at the Tanglewood Music Festival and Carnegie Hall, followed by performances in Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Germany. Mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato joins for select European dates. NYO2, Carnegie Hall’s orchestra for younger teens, returns to Miami Beach for a five-day residency in partnership with the New World Symphony, followed by concerts at Miami’s New World Center and Carnegie Hall led by Carlos Miguel Prieto and featuring pianist Gabriela Montero.

As part of Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven celebration, young orchestral musicians rehearse and perform one of Beethoven’s epic symphonies as part of a workshop with members of the *Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique*. For keyboard players, fortепianist Kristian Bezuidenhout leads a separate workshop focused on historically-informed performance of Beethoven’s sonatas, and Renée Fleming presents the second year of *SongStudio*, an innovative new workshop exploring the future of the vocal recital.

Complementing WMI’s work with teens across the country through the national youth ensembles, young people from across New York City write new music, meet each other, and learn from leading professionals through *Future Music Project* and *NeON Arts*.

WMI also serves people involved in the justice system locally and nationally. Through *Musical Connections*, men at Sing Sing Correctional Facility write and perform original music of all genres and collaborate with visiting artists as part of a creative residency now entering its eleventh year. In addition, artists, youth leaders, activists, and influencers come together with youth leaders through *Create Justice*, an annual initiative that seeks to shift the national conversation around youth justice and reform, exploring the power and potential of the arts to serve young people in the justice system.

**Bank of America** is Carnegie Hall’s season sponsor for the fifteenth consecutive year. “We are deeply grateful to Bank of America for our continued partnership, which is essential in helping us to bring extraordinary performances and initiatives to music lovers in New York City and around the globe,” said Clive Gillinson. “Our collaboration is built on a shared belief that music can truly make a meaningful difference in people’s lives. We remain so thankful to Bank of America for its generosity to Carnegie Hall and steadfast global support of arts and culture.”

“Bank of America is pleased to enter our 15th year as season sponsor of Carnegie Hall,” said Rena DeSisto, Global Arts and Culture Executive for Bank of America. “From large, world-class institutions like Carnegie Hall to the local playhouse or community museum, we are proud of our leadership in supporting the arts worldwide. Bank of America believes in the power of the arts to help communities thrive, educate and enrich societies, and create greater cultural understanding.”
DETAILS OF CARNEGIE HALL’S 2019–2020 SEASON

**Beethoven Celebration**

To mark the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth, Carnegie Hall presents its largest-ever exploration of the great master’s music, performed by leading artists of our time. Carnegie Hall’s season-long Beethoven celebration features an unprecedented range of performances that highlight the immensity of the composer’s transformative impact on music. More than 35 events throughout the 2019–2020 season focus on his works, performed by a remarkable line-up of internationally-renowned musicians.

A highlight of the celebration—never before presented by Carnegie Hall in one season—are two complete symphony cycles, one performed on period instruments by Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique (Feb. 19–21 and Feb. 23–24, SA/PS) and a second by Yannick Nézet-Séguin and The Philadelphia Orchestra, contrasting their two different interpretive perspectives on these pillars of the orchestral repertoire (Mar. 13, 20 and 26, and Apr. 3, SA/PS).

The celebration kicks off with Carnegie Hall’s Opening Night concert by The Cleveland Orchestra, led by Franz Welser-Möst. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, cellist Lynn Harrell, and pianist Yefim Bronfman join the orchestra for Beethoven’s Triple Concerto in C Major, with Ms. Mutter also featured in the Romance for Violin and Orchestra in G Major (Oct. 3, SA/PS). Additional orchestral repertoire and choral works featured throughout the year are presented by Orchestra of St. Luke’s led by Bernard Labadie with vocal soloists and pianist Jeremy Denk (Leonore Overture No 2; Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage; Choral Fantasy; Mass in C Major—Mar. 5, SA/PS); the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, joined by vocal soloists and conducted by Music Director Robert Spano (Missa solemnis—Apr. 4, SA/PS), and The MET Orchestra under the direction of Yannick Nézet-Séguin with violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter (Violin Concerto; Romance for Violin and Orchestra in F Major—Jun. 12, SA/PS).

A recital by internationally-acclaimed fortepianist Kristian Bezuidenhout (Mar. 31, ZH) launches a series of performances featuring Beethoven’s complete keyboard sonatas with appearances by acclaimed pianists Sir András Schiff (Apr. 2 and 5, SA/PS), Mitsuko Uchida (Apr. 7, SA/PS), Yefim Bronfman (Apr. 21, SA/PS), Igor Levit (making his Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage recital debut—May 5, SA/PS), Emanuel Ax (May 14, SA/PS), Maurizio Pollini (May 17, SA/PS), and Evgeny Kissin (May 27, SA/PS). Mr. Bezuidenhout also leads a workshop for young keyboard players, presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, culminating with a public Discovery Day (Apr. 4, WRH) to include performances of select Beethoven sonatas by outstanding young artists.

In spring 2020, Quatuor Ébène performs Beethoven’s complete string quartets across six concerts (Apr. 17–19 and 30 and May 1 and 2, ZH) with additional chamber music performances featuring violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and friends (Jan. 30, SA/PS) as well as three trio performances with violinist Leonidas Kavakos, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and pianist Emanuel Ax (Mar. 4, 6, and 8, SA/PS). The celebration will also include public lectures by Sir John Eliot Gardiner (Feb. 18, WRH) and Carnegie Hall Debs Composer Jörg Widmann (Mar. 29, WRH), enabling audiences to gain greater insights into Beethoven’s music, as well as a global creative learning project exploring the themes found in Beethoven’s “Ode to Joy,” led by Marin Alsop, featuring performances of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with eight renowned partner orchestras on five continents, including a December 2020 performance at Carnegie Hall.
Perspectives: Sir John Eliot Gardiner

Widely-celebrated conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner curates a 2019–2020 Perspectives series with his internationally acclaimed early music ensemble Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique, performing a complete cycle of Beethoven’s symphonies as well as the rarely-heard score for the ballet \textit{The Creatures of Prometheus} in five concerts over six days in February 2020.

Grounded in Sir John Eliot’s exacting study of Beethoven’s original manuscripts, the symphonies are performed as the composer would have experienced them, played on period instruments, including valveless brass, woodwinds without additional keys and levers, gut strings, and hide-covered timpani struck with hard sticks. For the series’ final concert—consisting of Beethoven’s symphonies nos. 8 and 9—soloists include soprano Lucy Crowe, contralto Jess Dandy, tenor Michael Spyres, and bass Tareq Nazmi, along with \textit{The Monteverdi Choir}.

As a prelude to the cycle, the maestro kicks off his Perspectives with a lecture in Weill Recital Hall, providing additional musical insights into these masterworks. In addition, young orchestra musicians will have the opportunity to rehearse and perform a Beethoven symphony with coaching from members of the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique as part of a workshop presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute. Sir John Eliot’s series is an integral part of Carnegie Hall’s celebration next season of the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth. (Feb. 18, WRH; Feb. 19–21, Feb. 23–24, SA/PS)

Perspectives: Yannick Nézet-Séguin

Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin curates a nine-concert Perspectives series during the 2019–2020 season including performances with three orchestras with whom he has built his spectacular career—The Philadelphia Orchestra, Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal, and The MET Orchestra—as well as a rare recital appearance with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato.

Mr. Nézet-Séguin kicks off his Perspectives in October leading The Philadelphia Orchestra in the New York premiere of Valerie Coleman’s \textit{Umoja} (arranged for orchestra), plus Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3, featuring Hélène Grimaud and Richard Strauss’s monumental \textit{Eine Alpensinfonie}. In November, fellow Perspectives artist mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato joins him with the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal, part of the orchestra’s first US tour, offering arias by Mozart alongside Bruckner’s Symphony No. 4. Mr. Nézet-Séguin appears at the keyboard in December, collaborating again with Ms. DiDonato on one of music’s great journeys: Schubert’s \textit{Winterreise}. In March and April, he leads The Philadelphia Orchestra in four concerts devoted to a great cornerstone of the orchestral repertoire—the complete symphonies of Beethoven—as a central part of Carnegie Hall’s celebration of Beethoven 250th birthday. Mr. Nézet-Séguin returns for two final concerts in June with The MET Orchestra. The first features violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter in Beethoven’s Violin Concerto and Romance in F Major, as well as Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5. For his final performance, he conducts Carnegie Hall Debs Composer’s Chair Jörg Widmann’s sonorous \textit{Lied} paired with Richard Strauss’s \textit{Four Last Songs} with soprano Elza van den Heever and \textit{Ein Heldenleben}. (Oct. 15, Nov. 22, Dec. 15, Mar. 13, 20 and 26, Apr. 3, Jun, 12 and 16, SA/PS)

Perspectives: Joyce DiDonato

Acclaimed mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato returns to curate her second Perspectives series at Carnegie Hall with performances and events throughout the 2019–2020 season that highlights her full range of vocal artistry as well as her work as an educator.

In the summer before the 2019–2020 season, Ms. DiDonato joins the Hall’s National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America on tour in Europe with her longtime collaborator conductor Sir Antonio Pappano in performances of Berlioz’s \textit{Les nuits d’été}. In November, she continues her Perspectives with one of her specialties: singing Berlioz’s \textit{La mort de Cléopâtre} with Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. That same month, she joins fellow Perspectives artist Yannick Nézet-Séguin
with the Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal for arias by Mozart as part of that ensemble’s first US tour. In December, Maestro Nézet-Séguin (on piano) also collaborates with her in Schubert’s powerful song cycle *Winterreise*.

In April, Ms. DiDonato returns to lead her annual series of three public master classes for young opera singers, webcast via medici.tv, presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute (WMI). As part of WMI’s *All Together: A Global Ode to Joy*, she joins New Yorkers of all ages onstage that month to share their own perspectives on joy, a universal emotion that bonds communities together, featuring music written as part of Carnegie Hall’s worldwide exploration of the “Ode to Joy” in Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony. Also in April, Ms. DiDonato is joined by flutist Tara Helen O’Connor, clarinetist Anthony McGill, harpist Emmanuel Ceysson, pianist Bryan Wagorn, and the Brentano String Quartet for *A French Soirée*, presenting works by Ravel, Debussy, and others in Zankel Hall. Ms. DiDonato’s *Perspectives* culminates in May with a recital in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage with conductor Maxim Emelyanychev leading the Italian baroque instrument orchestra Il Pomo d’Oro in selections by Mozart, Gluck, and Handel. (Aug. 3, Nov. 15 and 22, Dec. 15 and May 26, SA/PS; Apr. 5–7 REW, Apr. 5 and 13, ZH)

**Perspectives: Angélique Kidjo**

Three-time Grammy Award winner and Benin-born singer Angélique Kidjo brings her intoxicating blend of West African music, American R&B, jazz, and funk to her four-concert *Perspectives* series throughout Carnegie Hall’s 2019–2020 season.

Ms. Kidjo’s *Perspectives* charts the journey of African music and its culture throughout the world. It launches in October with a program featuring Benin International Musical, a fast-rising band that fuses hip hop, pop, and electronica with traditional rhythms and sounds from Benin. The series continues in December with a concert dedicated to the powerful voices of the African diaspora from generation to generation and continent to continent, featuring notable singers from around the world. Also in December, she is honored by long-time friend and guitarist Lionel Loueke and his trio in a concert that both celebrates and reinvents many of her beloved songs. The series culminates in March with a special concert marking both Ms. Kidjo’s 60th birthday and the anniversary of independence for Benin and other West African countries. (Oct. 19 and Dec. 13, ZH; Dec. 6 and Mar. 14, SA/PS) In addition, she is one of ten artists to be co-commissioned next season to write a new work for *Fifty for the Future: The Kronos Learning Repertoire*.

Angélique Kidjo’s performances over the past two decades have thrilled audiences and left an indelible mark on the history of Carnegie Hall. In 2014, she closed Carnegie Hall’s UBUNTU festival with a tribute to singer and activist Miriam Makeba that inspired concertgoers—including Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu—to rise to their feet and sing along. In 2017, former Talking Heads lead singer David Byrne joined Kidjo on stage for her cover of the band’s hit “Once in a Lifetime” before she led a conga line that made its way throughout Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage. This upcoming series is sure to give audiences more unforgettable moments with performances featuring outstanding guest artists joining together to celebrate one of music’s most vibrant voices.

**The Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair: Jörg Widmann**

Clarinetist, composer, and conductor Jörg Widmann has been appointed to hold the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2019–2020 season. Mr. Widmann’s captivating and powerfully visceral music has won him numerous high-profile commissions from and countless performances by soloists, chamber ensembles, and major orchestras around the world. A much sought-after virtuoso clarinetist and dynamic conductor, he has performed his own works—as well as works by other composers—with Daniel Barenboim, Mitsuko Uchida, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, and a host of other great artists.
Mr. Widmann’s residency showcases his musical versatility and imaginative vision with his powerful orchestral works performed by The Cleveland Orchestra, Munich Philharmonic, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, and The MET Orchestra. The series also recognizes the striking originality in his chamber music with an all-star ensemble headlined by violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, who gives the New York premiere of his new work for string quartet. Mr. Widmann displays his formidable skills as a clarinetist, playing his own music as well as works by Schumann and Mozart in a trio with violinist Tabea Zimmermann and pianist Dénes Várjon. He does double duty with the Irish Chamber Orchestra, conducting his own music and playing the clarinet, and with the International Contemporary Ensemble in a program devoted to his works. As part of his residency, he returns to his alma mater to conduct the Juilliard Orchestra at Alice Tully Hall. The series also features two lectures in spring 2020—in which he discusses dissonance and beauty in music, as well as Beethoven's lasting impact. (Oct. 4 and 26, Nov. 19, Jan. 30, Mar. 28 and Jun. 16, SA/PS; Jan. 28 and Apr. 1, ZH; Mar. 29 and Apr. 6, WRH)

Isaac Stern Centenary

World-acclaimed violinist, educator, and activist, Isaac Stern was an American icon. With 2020 marking the centenary of his birth, Carnegie Hall is dedicating its entire 2019–2020 season in his honor in gratitude for his tireless work in saving the Hall from demolition in 1960 and for his aspirations for what the illustrious concert hall would mean to future generations.

In March 2020, violinist Leonidas Kavakos, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and pianist Emanuel Ax perform three all-Beethoven chamber music evenings as part of Carnegie Hall’s season-long Beethoven 250th birthday celebration. These performances also commemorate the 50th anniversary of a historic series of concerts performed by Isaac Stern with cellist Leonard Rose and pianist Eugene Istomin at Carnegie Hall in 1970 in celebration of the Beethoven’s 200th anniversary. The concert on Sunday, March 8, 2020 has been designated as The Annual Isaac Stern Memorial Concert for the season.

Also in spring 2020, Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute pays tribute to Mr. Stern with a free Family Day throughout Carnegie Hall’s Resnick Education Wing, with a variety of interactive activities for families exploring the world of strings. In fall 2020, violinists of all ages will be invited to bring their instruments to Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage for a special “Violin Day,” a free event for families, students, and music-lovers. Celebrated violinist Midori, a protégé of Mr. Stern, along with other leading artists, will host this unique opportunity for the entire audience to make music together at Carnegie Hall.

Visitors to Carnegie Hall are invited to explore the life and legacy of Isaac Stern through a spring 2020 exhibit in the Hall’s Rose Museum. Throughout the season, music lovers worldwide will learn more through engaging digital content featured online.

Additional 2019–2020 Season Programming Highlights

Orchestras

Carnegie Hall presents concerts by 10 American orchestras and seven international orchestras during the 2019–2020 season. Orchestral highlights include:

- Carnegie Hall’s 2019–2020 season opens with Music Director Franz Welser-Möst leading The Cleveland Orchestra in a concert that kicks off Carnegie Hall’s season-long celebration of Beethoven’s 250th birthday. Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, cellist Lynn Harrell, and pianist Yefim Bronfman join the orchestra for Beethoven’s Triple Concerto in C Major with Ms. Mutter also featured in Beethoven’s Romance for Violin and Orchestra in G Major. The program also includes the overture to Nicolai’s The Merry Wives of Windsor and Richard Strauss’s Der Rosenkavalier Suite. Maestro Welser-Möst and the orchestra return the following evening with Mr. Bronfman as soloist in Trauermarsch, a piece written expressly for the pianist by Jörg Widmann, holder of Carnegie Hall’s Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair, and Mahler’s Symphony No. 5. (Oct. 3–4, SA/PS)
• **The Sphinx Virtuosi**, a chamber orchestra comprising alumni of the renowned Sphinx Competition, return to Carnegie Hall with *For Justice and Peace*, a program featuring works by Bartók and Schubert alongside works by contemporary composers Michael Abels, Philip Herbert, and Xavier Foley. (Oct. 10, SA/PS)

• **Yannick Nézet-Séguin** kicks off his season-long *Perspectives* series leading **The Philadelphia Orchestra** in the New York premiere of Valerie Coleman’s *Umoja* (arranged for orchestra), Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3 with soloist Hélène Grimaud, and Richard Strauss’s *Eine Alpensinfonie*. Maestro Nézet-Séguin and the orchestra return in the spring with a complete Beethoven symphony cycle performed over four concerts; soprano Angel Blue, mezzo-soprano Mihoko Fujimura, tenor Rolando Villazón, baritone Quinn Kelsey, and the **Westminster Symphonic Choir** are featured in the Ninth Symphony. (Oct. 15, Mar. 13, Mar. 20, Mar. 26, Apr. 3, SA/PS)

• **Orchestra of St. Luke’s** appears three times with Principal Conductor Bernard Labadie, performing music by Mendelssohn, Bach, Handel, and Vivaldi in concerts featuring pianist Beatrice Rana, violinist Daniel Hope, and contralto Marie-Nicole Lemieux. For their final concert of the season, the orchestra brings an all-Beethoven program as part of Carnegie Hall’s celebration of the composer’s 250th birthday including the *Choral Fantasy* with pianist Jeremy Denk and Mass in C Major featuring soprano Karina Gauvin, mezzo-soprano Kelley O’Connor, tenor Jeremy Ovenden, baritone Joshua Hopkins, and La Chapelle de Québec. (Oct. 17, Feb. 6, Mar. 5, SA/PS)

• **Music Director Valery Gergiev** and the **Munich Philharmonic** are featured in two concerts, performing Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto No. 1 with Behzod Abduraimov and Bruckner’s Symphony No. 7 on the first evening. The next night, the orchestra plays Brahms’s Violin Concerto in D Major with Leonidas Kavakos, and *Con brio* by Jörg Widmann. (Oct. 25–26, SA/PS)

• **Chief Conductor Mariss Jansons** leads the **Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra** in two performances, including Richard Strauss’s *Four Last Songs* with soprano Diana Damrau on the first evening. The second program includes Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 23 in A Major with Leonidas Kavakos, and *Con brio* by Jörg Widmann. (Oct. 25–26, SA/PS)

• **Music Director Riccardo Muti** conducts the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra** in two concerts. The first evening features music inspired by Rome, including Berlioz’s *La mort de Cléopâtre*, written in 1829 as a bid for a Prix de Rome, with *Perspectives* artist mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato; Bizet’s rarely-performed *Roma*; and Respighi’s *Pines of Rome*. They return on the following night with an all-Prokofiev program. (Nov. 15–16, SA/PS)

• **Music Director Andris Nelsons** leads the **Boston Symphony Orchestra** in three concerts. In November, they perform Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A Minor featuring Leif Ove Andsnes and Mahler’s Symphony No. 4 with soprano Genia Kühlmeier. In the spring, they present the New York premiere of a new work by HK Gruber, along with Rachmaninoff’s Symphony No. 3 and Gershwin’s Piano Concerto in F with Jean-Yves Thibaudet. For the final concert in the series, Maestro Nelsons conducts a concert performance of Wagner’s *Tristan und Isolde* (Act III), featuring tenor Jonas Kaufmann and soprano Emily Magee in the title roles. This performance follows the orchestra’s April 2018 Carnegie Hall performance of Act II of *Tristan und Isolde*, which also featured Mr. Kaufmann. (Nov. 18, Apr. 14–15, SA/PS)

• **Orchestre Métropolitain de Montréal** makes its Carnegie Hall debut with Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin and mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato with works by Mozart and Bruckner’s Symphony No. 4, “Romantic.” (Nov. 22, SA/PS)

• The **New York String Orchestra** returns for its annual concerts conducted by Jaime Laredo. The orchestra’s Christmas Eve program is dedicated to Isaac Stern, who was instrumental to helping launch the program. The all-Mozart program features violinist Nancy Zhou, a NYSO alumna and winner of the 2018 Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition. The orchestra’s second
program features works by Bach, Bartók, and Brahms with violinists Laredo, Shannon Lee, and pianist Peter Serkin. (Dec. 24 and 28, SA/PS)

- **Perspectives** artist Sir John Eliot Gardiner leads Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique in a complete Beethoven symphony cycle performed on original instruments, along with the ballet score to The Creatures of Prometheus, part of Carnegie Hall’s celebration of the composer’s 250th birthday. Soloists for the Ninth Symphony include soprano Lucy Crowe, contralto Jess Dandy, tenor Michael Spyres, and bass Tareq Nazmi alongside The Monteverdi Choir. (Feb 19–21, 23–24, SA/PS)

- In his last Carnegie Hall performances as Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony, Michael Tilson Thomas leads the New York premiere of his original work, Lope on a program with Saint-Saëns’s Cello Concerto No. 1 in A Minor, featuring Gautier Capuçon, and the New York premiere of a new work by John Adams, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and the San Francisco Symphony as part of the 125 Commissions Project, alongside Mahler’s Symphony No. 6. (Mar. 17–18, SA/PS)

- In his final season as Music Director of the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, Kent Nagano leads Schumann’s Piano Concerto in A Minor with pianist Mikhail Pletnev and Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 13 in B-flat Minor, "Babi Yar," featuring men from the Chamber Singers, Oratorio Society, and Varsity Men’s Glee Club of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. (Mar. 24, SA/PS)

- Pianist Mitsuko Uchida directs and performs with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra in Mozart’s Piano Concertos Nos. 17 and 22, K. 453 and K. 482; while concertmaster Meesun Hong Coleman leads the New York premiere of Jörg Widmann’s Choralquartett (arr. for Chamber Orchestra) commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of the 125 Commissions Project. This concert continues the multi-year focus of Mozart concerti by Ms. Uchida and the ensemble at Carnegie Hall. (Mar. 28, SA/PS)

- As part of Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven celebration, Music Director Robert Spano leads the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus in Missa solemnis with soprano Susanna Phillips, mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke, tenor Ben Bliss, bass Matthew Rose. (Apr. 4, SA/PS)

- The MET Orchestra performs three times in spring 2019, including concerts conducted by Gianandrea Noseda and Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin with repertoire to include Shostakovich’s Violin Concerto No. 1 with Christian Tetzlaff, Stravinsky’s The Firebird, Beethoven’s Romance for Violin and Orchestra in F Major and Violin Concerto in D Major with Anne-Sophie Mutter, Jörg Widmann’s Lied, and Richard Strauss’s Four Last Songs sung by soprano Elza van den Heever. (May 15, Jun. 12, Jun. 16, SA/PS)

- The Carnegie Hall season concludes with Daniel Barenboim leading three performances by Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in programs to include Mahler’s symphonies nos. 5, 7, and 9. (Jun. 19–21, SA/PS)

---

### New & Contemporary Music / 125 Commissions Project

**125 Commissions Project**

Carnegie Hall’s commitment to the music of tomorrow continues next season with the fifth and final year of the 125 Commissions Project throughout which more than 125 new works have been commissioned from today’s leading composers. Launched during the Hall’s 125th anniversary season in 2015, the project has featured new solo, chamber, and orchestral music from both established and emerging composers, including John Adams, Thomas Adès, Timo Andres, Valerie Coleman, Donnacha Dennehy, Bryce Dessner, Philip Glass, Sofia Gubaidulina, Hannah Lash, Brad Mehldau, Nico Muhly, Steve Reich, Frederic Rzewski, Caroline Shaw, Gabriella Smith, Tyshawn Sorey, Chris Thile, and Jörg Widmann.
Highlights from the 2019–2020 season of the 125 Commissions Project include the New York premiere of a new chamber orchestra arrangement of Jörg Widmann’s *Choralquartett*, for the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. In addition, Carnegie Hall audiences will hear the world premiere of a new work by Gabriella Smith for pianist Timo Andres; the US premiere of a new work by Brett Dean for the Doric String Quartet; the New York premiere of a new work by John Adams for the San Francisco Symphony and Music Director Michael Tilson Thomas; the New York premiere of bassist Xavier Foley’s *For Justice and Peace* for Sphinx Virtuosi; the New York premiere of a new work by pianist Brad Mehldau for tenor Ian Bostridge; and the New York premiere of a new work by Pulitzer Prize winner Julia Wolfe for Sō Percussion.

As part of the 125 Commissions Project, Kronos Quartet and Kronos Performing Arts Organization also continues *Fifty for the Future: The Kronos Learning Repertoire*. Collaborating with Carnegie Hall and other partners over five seasons, Kronos has co-commissioned 50 new works by 25 men and 25 women devoted to contemporary approaches to the string quartet, designed expressly for the training of students and emerging professionals. Composers commissioned to write works for previous seasons included Fodé Lassana Diabaté, Rhiannon Giddens, Garth Knox, Aleksandra Vrebalov, and Wu Man. Commissions for the 2019–2020 season include works written by Mark Appelbaum, Rafiq Bhatia, Hawa Kassé Mady Diabaté, Alexandra du Bois, Barry Guy, Angélique Kidjo, Sky Macklay, Aruna Narayan, Charlton Singleton, and Paul Wiancko.

Contemporary music offerings at Carnegie Hall throughout the 2019–2020 season also include:

- **American Composers Orchestra**, led by Music Director George Manahan, performs two Carnegie Hall programs. The first includes the world premiere of Hilary Purrington’s Guitar Concerto, featuring guitarist JIJI, alongside world premieres of songs by Charles Ives in new orchestrations by Purrington and Hannah Lash to be sung by mezzo-soprano Jamie Barton. Also on the program is Matthew Aucoin’s *Evidence*. The spring concert includes the New York premiere of John Luther Adams’s *Become River* as well as the world premieres of a Mark Adamo’s *Last Year Concerto for Cello and String Orchestra* featuring cellist Jeffrey Zeigler and the expanded version of Nina C. Young’s *Out of whose womb came the ice*, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of its 125 Commissions Project. (Nov. 13, Apr. 2, ZH)

- **Sō Percussion** charts the evolution of percussion music from the 20th to 21st century to include the New York premiere of a new work by Julia Wolfe, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of its 125 Commissions Project. (Dec. 7, ZH)

- **Kronos Quartet** plays George Crumb’s *Black Angels*, a piece which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2020. Violinist and Artistic Director David Harrington credits *Black Angels* as one of his inspirations to form Kronos after hearing the highly-unorthodox and mesmerizing Vietnam-era work featuring bowed water glasses, spoken word passages, and electronic effects. (Jan. 25, ZH)

- Clarinetist and composer Jörg Widmann, holder of the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2019–2020 season, conducts the International Contemporary Ensemble in an all-Widmann concert featuring the composer on clarinet as well. Mr. Widmann’s music will be heard on other orchestral and chamber music concerts throughout the season. (Jan. 28, ZH)

- Philadelphia-based new music choir The Crossing performs the New York premiere of Michael Gordon’s *Travel Guide to Nicaragua* featuring cellist Maya Beiser, a work co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of its 125 Commissions Project. (Mar. 25, ZH)

- Composer and pianist Timo Andres offers a solo recital of contemporary piano works drawn in part from the seven pieces written for the “Nonesuch Celebration” of former Nonesuch Records President Bob Hurwitz including works by John Adams and Louis Andriessen, and the world premiere of a new work by Gabriella Smith, commissioned by Carnegie Hall as part of its 125 Commissions Project. (Apr. 29, ZH)
Early Music / Baroque

The 2019–2020 season features music drawn from the Renaissance through Baroque eras, performed by renowned artists who have championed this repertoire. Among the highlights:

- Viol consort Fretwork and countertenor Iestyn Davies offer a program titled Silent Noon including works by Purcell, Handel, Gesualdo, Byrd, and others. (Oct. 19, WRH)

- Period instrument ensemble Il Pomo d'Oro offers three concerts, one on each Carnegie Hall stage, conducted by Maxim Emelyanychev from the harpsichord. On the first program, they are joined by the young French cellist Edgar Moreau. They return for two concerts in May, the first with Perspectives artist Joyce DiDonato in her program “My Favorite Things,” with works by Monteverdi, Gluck, Handel, and Purcell, and a second performance presenting music by Handel, Corelli, and Haydn. (Nov. 10, ZH; May 26, SA/PS; May 27, WRH)

- Harpsichordist Tom Foster returns after a stand-out performance in The English Concert's Rinaldo in March 2018, offering a program of works by Zachow, Froberger, Handel, Mattheson, and Muffat. (Feb. 13, WRH)

- Venice Baroque Orchestra led by concertmaster Giampiero Zanocco and featuring mezzo-soprano Ann Hallenberg pay tribute to legendary soprano Jenny Lind on a program titled The Swedish Nightingale, which includes arias by Handel, Vivaldi, Orlandini, Giacomelli, and Hasse. (Feb. 27, ZH)

- Les Violons du Roy returns to Carnegie Hall for its third consecutive season, appearing with new Music Director Jonathan Cohen and mandolin player Avi Avital on a program of Bach and Vivaldi concertos. (Apr. 26, ZH)

- As part of their multi-year Handel operas project at Carnegie Hall, The English Concert and Artistic Director Harry Bicket present a concert performance of Handel's Rodelinda with Lucy Crowe singing the title role, joined by Iestyn Davies (Bertarido), Joshua Ellicott (Grimoaldo), Jess Dandy (Eduige), Anthony Roth Costanzo (Unulfo), and Brandon Cedel (Garibaldo). (May 3, SA/PS)

Chamber Music

Chamber music highlights of Carnegie Hall's 2019–2020 season include performances by a number of celebrated ensembles, string quartets, and leading musicians in new collaborations.

- Pianist Emanuel Ax joins the Dover Quartet for Schumann's Piano Quintet in E-flat Major. The program also includes Britten’s String Quartet No. 1 in D Major and Brahms’s String Quartet No. 3 in B-flat Major. (Oct. 15, ZH)

- The musicians of Ensemble Connect perform a range of chamber works from the classical to the contemporary including a commission by TJ Cole and Debs Composer’s Chair Jörg Widmann’s Oktett. (Oct. 22, Dec. 3, Feb. 17, Apr. 6, WRH)

- The Miró Quartet offers a window into the evolution of string quartet programming with an eclectic program that recreates a performance by the legendary Kneisel Quartet in 1910. The program includes works by Mozart, Gluck, Franck, Servais, and Schubert with pianist Stephanie Ho. (Oct. 25, WRH)

- The Brentano String Quartet gives the New York premiere of a new work by MacArthur Fellow Matthew Aucoin, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, along with works by Mozart and Ravel. (Nov. 6, ZH)
• **Decoda**, the affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall made up of Ensemble Connect alumni, returns for two inventive concerts of classical and contemporary chamber works. (Nov. 7, Jan. 22, WRH)

• Debs Composer’s Chair Jörg Widmann leads the Irish Chamber Orchestra in works by Mozart, Weber, Mendelssohn, plus his own *180 beats per minute* and *Versuch über die Fuge* with soprano Clarion McFadden. (Nov. 19, ZH)

• Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter—joined by violinist Ye-Eun Choi, violist Vladimir Babeshko, cellist Daniel Müller-Schott, and pianist Lambert Orkis—performs the New York premiere of a new work by Debs Composer’s Chair Jörg Widmann along with chamber works by Beethoven. (Jan. 30, SA/PS)

• Young soloists from the lauded Kronberg Academy in Germany perform side-by-side with Kronberg faculty members—including violist Antoine Tamestit and cellist Gary Hoffman—for two concerts, as well as in two performances that feature Kronberg debut artists. (Feb. 21–22, WRH; Feb. 22–23, ZH)

• The Doric String Quartet gives the US premiere performance of a new work by Brett Dean, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, on a program that includes works by Haydn and Schubert. (Feb. 6, WRH). Additional Weill Recital Hall programs next season include Castalian String Quartet (Mar. 13), Pacifica Quartet (Mar. 27), and Van Kuijk Quartet (Apr. 23).

• The West-Eastern Divan Ensemble, led by the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra’s concertmaster Michael Barenboim, presents its first chamber music concert at Carnegie Hall including music by Schubert, Mendelssohn, and the New York premiere of a new work by Benjamin Attahir. (Feb. 28, ZH)

• Violinist Leonidis Kavakos, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and pianist Emanuel Ax perform three all-Beethoven concerts as part of Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven 250th birthday celebration. These performances pay homage to all-Beethoven programs presented at Carnegie Hall in 1970 by the illustrious Istomin-Stern-Rose Trio during the Hall’s Beethoven’s 200th anniversary celebrations. They are also a central part of Carnegie Hall’s season-long commemoration of the centenary of violinist Isaac Stern’s birth. (Mar. 4, 6, 8, SA/PS)

• Debs Composer’s Chair Jörg Widmann plays clarinet in recital, collaborating with violist Tabea Zimmermann and pianist Dénes Várjon in works by Mozart and Schumann, plus Widmann’s own *Es war einmal...Fünf Stücke im Märchenton* for Clarinet, Viola, and Piano, inspired by the music of Schumann. (Apr. 1, ZH)

• Quatuor Ébène performs the complete Beethoven quartet cycle, with all 16 string quartets performed over six concerts as part of the composer’s 250th birthday celebration at Carnegie Hall. (April 17–19, 30, May 1–2, ZH)

## Recitals

Carnegie Hall presents a wide variety of recitals in 2019–2020, showcasing internationally-acclaimed and emerging artists on all three stages.

### Vocal:

• Pianist and composer Brad Mehldau performs in recital with tenor Ian Bostridge, presenting the New York premiere of his song cycle, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, along with Schumann’s *Dichterliebe*. (Oct. 24, ZH)

• In December, Perspectives artist mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato sings Schubert’s *Winterreise*, performing with fellow Perspectives artist and frequent collaborator Yannick Nézet-Séguin on piano. In April, she presents *A French Soirée*, appearing with flutist Tara Helen O’Connor, clarinetist
Anthony McGill, harpist Emmanuel Ceysson, pianist Bryan Wagorn and the Brentano String Quartet, performing works by Ravel, Debussy, and more. For the final concert in Ms. DiDonato’s series, she is joined by early music ensemble Il Pomo d’Oro for “My Favorite Things,” a program that includes works by Monteverdi, Purcell, Gluck, and Handel. (Dec. 15, SA/PS, Apr. 13, ZH, May 26, SA/PS)

• Baritone Peter Mattei gives a performance of Schubert’s Winterreise with pianist Lars David Nilsson. (Jan. 31, ZH)

• Bass-baritone Sir Bryn Terfel returns to Carnegie Hall for the first time in ten years with pianist Natalia Katyukova (Feb. 9, SA/PS)

• Baritone Gerald Finley is joined in recital by pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet in a program to include songs by Schubert, Schumann, Fauré, and Ravel. (Mar. 22, SA/PS)

• Bass-baritone Davóne Tines offers a recital of songs by Schubert, Brahms, Eastman, and Caroline Shaw. (Apr. 3, WRH)

• Acclaimed soprano Renée Fleming is joined by celebrated pianist Evgeny Kissin for an extraordinary evening of collaboration. (Apr. 23, SA/PS)

• Baritone Benjamin Appl gives a solo recital with pianist James Baillieu entitled Nocturne, exploring works with a nighttime theme by composers including Schubert, Schumann, Richard Strauss, and more. (May 14, WRH)

• Among the other vocal highlights for 2019–2020 will be solo recitals by soprano Golda Schultz (Nov. 1, WRH), soprano, soprano Pretty Yende (Dec. 4, ZH), and Sally Matthews (Feb. 4, WRH).

**Instrumental:**

• Pianists Danil Trifonov and mentor Sergei Babayan are joined by guest percussionist Gabriel Globus-Hoenich for Ravel’s Rapsodie espagnole. The duo also performs Rachmaninoff’s Symphonic Dances, and selections from Prokofiev’s Romeo and Juliet, War and Peace, and The Queen of Spades, transcribed for two pianos by Babayan. (Oct. 16, SA/PS)

• Pianist Conrad Tao offers an eclectic program, performing works by Bach, Rachmaninoff, Schumann, Carter, David Lang, Julia Wolfe, and Jason Eckardt. (Nov. 20, WRH)

• Pianist Behzod Abduraimov gives a solo recital of Chopin’s 24 Preludes, Debussy’s Children’s Corner, and Mussorgsky’s Pictures at an Exhibition. (Dec. 10, SA/PS)

• Cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason, who gained international attention performing at the the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle, returns to Carnegie Hall with his sister, pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason, for his New York recital debut, performing works by Beethoven, Lutosławski, Barber, and Rachmaninoff. (Dec. 11, WRH)

• Violinist Maxim Vengerov presents a recital with pianist Polina Osetinskaya with works by Mozart, Schubert, Ysaïe, and others. (Feb. 11, SA/PS)

• Pianist Kirill Gerstein gives a solo recital with works that range from the classical to the contemporary, including Blanca Variations, based on an excerpt from Thomas Adès’s opera The Exterminating Angel. (Feb. 20, ZH)

• As part of Carnegie Hall’s celebration of Beethoven’s 250th birthday, fortepianist Kristian Bezuidenhout plays an all-Beethoven recital. In addition, he leads a workshop for young keyboard
players focused on historically-informed performance, presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute. The workshop culminates with a public Discovery Day with a lecture and demonstration exploring the ways that Beethoven’s works influenced the development of keyboard instruments as well as performances of selected Beethoven sonatas by outstanding young artists. (Mar. 31, ZH; Apr. 4, WRH)

- Notable pianists Sir András Schiff, Mitsuko Uchida, Yefim Bronfman, Igor Levit (making his Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage recital debut), Emanuel Ax, Maurizio Pollini, and Evgeny Kissin each perform all-Beethoven solo recitals as part of Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven 250th anniversary celebration. (Mar. 31, ZH; Apr. 2 & 5, 7, 21; May 5, 14, 17, 27, SA/PS)

- Acclaimed pianists also returning in recital next season: Denis Matsuev (Oct. 20, SA/PS), Marc-André Hamelin (Oct. 22, SA/PS), Inon Barnatan (Nov. 14, ZH), Yuja Wang (Feb. 28, SA/PS), Murray Perahia (Mar. 25, SA/PS), and Lang Lang (May 7, SA/PS)

**Pop, Jazz, and World Music**

Alongside its exciting classical music offerings this season, Carnegie Hall presents an array of outstanding pop, jazz, and world music artists from around the globe.

**World:**
- Grammy Award-winning singer Angélique Kidjo charts the journey of African music and culture around the world throughout her Perspectives series. The series begins with a program that features Benin International Musical, a fast-rising ensemble that fuses hip-hop and electronica with traditional music of Benin. It continues with Diaspora Songs, examining the extraordinary impact that African music has had on the musical landscape. Ms. Kidjo’s Perspectives culminates with Daughter of Independence, a special celebration of her 60th birthday that also honors the anniversary of independence of her native Benin and other West African nations. Joined by a host of stellar guests, the evening will pay tribute to one of the most vibrant voices in music today. (Oct. 19, ZH; Dec. 6, SA/PS; Mar. 14, SA/PS)

- Two widely popular groups from Quebec—Le Vent du Nord & De Temps Antan—come together in an exuberant celebration of traditional and contemporary dance tunes and earthy—often hilarious—ballads of French-Canadian culture. Performed on a host of instruments that include hurdy-gurdy, jaws harp, guitar, and accordion, they maintain a constant banter between their richly harmonized songs and instrumentals. (Jan. 24, ZH)

- gamin and the Nangye Gugak Orchestra present an evening of traditional Korean music. Gugak, the ancient court and folk music of Korea, is characterized by a huge range of sounds, from piercing oboes and bombastic percussion to the dulcet tones of reed flutes, zithers, and fiddles. This celebrated ensemble takes its name from a legendary 13th- and 14th-century master, Nangye Park Yeon. Gamin is one of the most celebrated performers of the piri and taepyeongso (oboes). (Mar. 27, ZH)

- Spanish singer and songwriter Buika is known worldwide for her soulful voice and unmistakable charisma. Named one of the “50 Best Voices of All Time” by NPR, the Latin Grammy Award-winner returns to Carnegie Hall for an evening of one-of-a-kind fusion of flamenco, Latin jazz, soul, and more. (May 9, SA/PS)

**Jazz:**
- Bali-born jazz pianist Joey Alexander is one of the most talked about jazz artists on the scene today. At just 15 years old, he has received three Grammy Award nominations and performed at renowned music venues and major festivals around the world. He comes to Carnegie Hall for the first time this fall for a performance that is sure to be season highlight. (Oct. 18, ZH)
• All-female jazz ensemble Artemis make their Carnegie Hall debut this season, interpreting classic tunes from Thelonious Monk and Billie Holiday to The Beatles and Stevie Wonder, as well as striking original compositions. These stellar artists—Cécile McLorin Salvant, Renee Rosnes, Anat Cohen, Melissa Aldana, Ingrid Jensen, Noriko Ueda, and Allison Miller—are each renowned for their outstanding solo work, and now come together to form a dynamic supergroup. (Dec. 7)

• Benin-born guitarist Lionel Loueke’s fluid guitar playing—inspired by African and traditional jazz—was one of the highlights of Angélique Kidjo’s extraordinary Remain in Light concert in 2017. Loueke and his trio, along with special guest Brazilian percussion superstar Cyro Baptista, honor Kidjo in a concert that both celebrates and reinvents many of her beloved songs. (Dec. 13, ZH)

• JUNO Award-winning singer, trumpeter, and songwriter Bria Skonberg has been described as one of the “most versatile and imposing musicians of her generation” (The Wall Street Journal). The rising star has made her mark in the jazz world with bold horn playing, smoky vocals, and a repertoire spanning the entire history of jazz, including acclaimed original work. (Feb. 14, ZH)

• Widely-esteemed jazz guitarist Kurt Rosenwinkel is considered to be one of the most important and influential artists of his generation. A decade in the making, Rosenwinkel’s recent album Caipi is a love-letter to Brazil and a bold new direction as he sings for the first time, in addition to playing guitar and other instruments in collaboration with musicians from the US and Brazil. (Mar. 21, ZH)

• Dynamic trumpeter, composer, and bandleader Theo Croker leads a new big-band project that features some of the most important contemporary musicians in jazz. His acclaimed albums Escape Velocity, AfroPhysicist and his upcoming 2019 release, Star People Nation, will form the basis of this program along with fresh interpretations of important works from the jazz catalogue. (Apr. 25, ZH)

Pop:
• The New York Pops and Music Director Steven Reineke launch their 2019–2020 season in a brand-new program with special guest Jeremy Jordan, highlighting the celebrated actor’s career in television, film, Broadway, and beyond. In December, renowned artists Tony DeSare and Capathia Jenkins join the orchestra in A Frank and Ella Christmas, a holiday program of festive classics and special surprises. Additional performances this season include Find Your Dream: The Songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein, a concert highlighting all 11 of the classic collaborations by the legendary duo including Oklahoma!, Carousel, South Pacific, The King and I, and The Sound of Music with special guests Laura Michelle Kelly and Max von Essen. Mandy Gonzalez, Carrie Manolakos, and Alex Newell join the orchestra in I’m Every Woman: Divas on Stage, a program paying tribute to iconic female singers including Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Barbra Streisand, Adele, and more. The orchestra’s season culminates with Movie Night: The Scores of John Williams, a program celebrating the five-time Academy Award-winning composer who created unforgettable scores for films including Jaws, Star Wars, Indiana Jones, and more. (Oct. 18, Dec. 20–21, Jan. 24, Feb. 14, Mar. 27, SA/PS)

• Singer-songwriter Michael Feinstein returns as artistic director of his three-concert Standard Time with Michael Feinstein series, bringing his charismatic stage presence, impeccable voice, and great stellar guests to the Zankel Hall stage. (Oct. 23, Feb. 5, Mar. 18, ZH)

• The Milk Carton Kids bring their harmonized vocals reminiscent of the Everly Brothers and Simon & Garfunkel to Zankel Hall as part of Rosanne Cash’s annual series, American Byways. The folk duo performs songs from their fourth album, All the Things That I Did And All the Things That I Didn’t Do which earned them a wave of critical praise and a 2018 Grammy Award nomination. (Nov. 1, ZH)

• Rosanne Cash and Ry Cooder come together for a rare joint performance of songs from Johnny Cash’s beloved songbook. After immediately selling out four dates at the SFJAZZ Center and presenting two additional performances at San Francisco’s War Memorial Opera House in 2018, the duo brings this highly-anticipated concert to New York City for the first time. (Nov. 2, SA/PS)
• Television star **Tituss Burgess** makes his Carnegie Hall debut with an exciting performance. Best known as the magnificent Titus Andromedon on Netflix’s *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt* and Sebastian in Broadway’s *The Little Mermaid*, the charismatic singer presents *Take Me to the World*, a breathtaking revue honoring the music of Stephen Sondheim. (Feb. 1, SA/PS)

• The second installment of Rosanne Cash’s American Byways series features the undiluted Mississippi Hill Country Blues of multi-instrumentalist **Cedric Burnside** (the grandson of legendary bluesman R. L. Burnside) and guitarist-vocalist **Molly Tuttle** (daughter of bluegrass icon Jack Tuttle). They each celebrate their incredible musical lineage in performances seeped in southern American roots tradition. (Apr. 24, ZH)

**Season Highlights—Ensemble Connect**

The musicians of **Ensemble Connect**—a two-year fellowship program created by Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the New York City Department of Education—take on an active performance schedule in the group’s 13th season, including four concerts at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall plus performances at Paul Hall at The Juilliard School, in community venues, and as part of its biannual residency at Skidmore College. This season, Ensemble Connect gives the world premiere performance of a new commission by TJ Cole, and also performs **Oktett** by Jörg Widmann—this season’s holder of the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair at Carnegie Hall—along with additional works by Jennifer Higdon, Tania León, Shulamit Ran, Bach, Brahms, Mozart, and more.

Ensemble Connect’s in-school residencies represent one of the largest and most in-depth collaborations between a cultural institution and New York City public schools. Each Ensemble Connect fellow is partnered with a public school instrumental music teacher for a 25-day residency over the course of each year, strengthening students’ music skills through a creativity-rich approach. The fellows’ two-year public school partnerships culminate in May 2020 with a Partner School Performance Festival in The Juilliard School’s Peter Jay Sharp Theater, with more than 400 students participating in this celebratory event.

In addition to its work in NYC-area public school classrooms, each year Ensemble Connect presents 80 interactive performances in schools and 20 in community venues across New York City. Interactive performances are designed to invite audiences to explore and discover a piece of music or musical concept, and include listening activities aimed at deepening and enriching the concert experience. Fellows give these assembly-style interactive performances for large, school-wide audiences and also adapt them for community venues such as correctional facilities, senior-care centers, homeless shelters, and organizations working with special-needs populations.

Throughout the 12 years since Ensemble Connect was established, Carnegie Hall has maintained close relationships with the program’s alumni. As the reputation of this group has grown, demand for work by its now 119 alumni has developed as well. In 2011, Decoda—an ensemble exclusively made up of Ensemble Connect alumni—was formed and later named an affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall. Carnegie Hall presented Decoda for the first time in concert for two performances in Weill Recital Hall during the 2018-2019 season, and will again feature the ensemble in two concerts in 2019–2020. In addition, alumni are at the forefront of initiatives that use their art form to impact a variety of audiences around the world and many also hold faculty and guest artist teaching positions at US universities and colleges.

For more information, visit [carnegiehall.org/ensembleconnect](http://carnegiehall.org/ensembleconnect).
2019–2020 Season—Carnegie Hall Partnerships

The following organizations will be artistic partners throughout the 2019–2020 season: Absolutely Live Entertainment LLC; Rosanne Cash; The Juilliard School; Kronos Performing Arts Association; medici.tv; New York City Department of Education; New York City Department of Probation; Robert Browning Associates LLC; George Wein; and WQXR.

Ticket Information

Carnegie Hall subscription packages for the 2019–2020 season are currently on sale. Single tickets for all 2019–2020 performances will go on sale to Carnegie Hall subscribers and members on August 12 at 8:00 a.m., and to the general public on August 21 at 8:00 a.m.

* * * *

Bank of America is the Proud Season Sponsor of Carnegie Hall.

United Airlines® is the Official Airline of Carnegie Hall.

Breguet is the Exclusive Timepiece of Carnegie Hall.

Mastercard® is the Official Card of Carnegie Hall.

For complete 2019–2020 season information, including concert calendar, please visit carnegiehall.org/press.

# # #