CARNEGIE HALL ANNOUNCES 2020–2021 SEASON

Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression
Citywide Carnegie Hall festival examines the role of artists during times of tyranny and injustice with 16 concerts at Carnegie Hall and events at 40+ NYC partner institutions

Perspectives:
Rhiannon Giddens, Yannick Nézet-Séguin & Jordi Savall

Three captivating series, personally curated by renowned singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and speaker Rhiannon Giddens, early music explorer, viola da gamba virtuoso, and conductor Jordi Savall, and acclaimed conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin invite audiences to gain deeper insights into musical viewpoints of leading artists of our time

Debs Composer’s Chair: Andrew Norman
Celebrated American composer Andrew Norman leads season-long residency with nine performances, including orchestral, chamber, and new music concerts, and exciting new works commissioned by Carnegie Hall

Carnegie Hall’s Opening Night Gala
2020–2021 season launches on October 7 with festive Opening Night Gala concert featuring Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, joined by pianist Lang Lang and soprano Liv Redpath

(For Immediate Release: January 28, 2020, NEW YORK)—Clive Gillinson, Executive and Artistic Director, today announced Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 season consisting of more than 170 concerts as well as wide-ranging education and community programs created by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute. The upcoming season includes performances by many of the world’s greatest artists and ensembles representing classical, world, jazz, and pop music, with events presented on Carnegie Hall’s three stages, in the Hall’s Resnick Education Wing, and throughout New York City. Programming highlights include a citywide Carnegie Hall festival—Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression—from March–May 2021; three exciting Perspectives series curated by singer-songwriter Rhiannon Giddens; conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin; and early music explorer, conductor, and viola da gamba virtuoso Jordi Savall; and the appointment of celebrated American composer Andrew Norman to hold the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair.

“As we consider the remarkable range of experiences in Carnegie Hall’s 2020-2021 season, we are reminded of the amazing power that music can have in our lives—its ability to not only elevate us, but to play a role in enabling us to look at issues with fresh eyes, illuminating new perspectives, and helping us...”
to feel connected with one another,” said Clive Gillinson, Carnegie Hall’s Executive and Artistic Director. “Our Voices of Hope festival promises to be a special journey, inviting audiences to explore the inspiring role that artists have played in some of the darkest chapters of our shared history—capturing stories or a moment in time and expressing hope, courage, and resistance in the face of the unimaginable. Our four curated series are in the hands of some of the most creative artists working today, each challenging us to explore through music, with programming that brings their unique viewpoints to the forefront. With so many concerts spanning musical genres performed by the world’s finest artists and ensembles, it promises to be a season rich with new discoveries.”

2020–2021 Carnegie Hall Season Overview

Carnegie Hall’s 130th season launches on Wednesday, October 7 with an Opening Night Gala performance by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, led by Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel, marking the orchestra’s first appearances at Carnegie Hall in 30 years. The celebratory program includes John Adams’s Tromba Lontana, Grieg’s Piano Concerto featuring Lang Lang along with selections from Grieg’s Peer Gynt with soprano Liv Redpath. Following Opening Night, the orchestra returns to the Hall for two consecutive evenings of concerts, performing premieres of works by Andrew Norman and Gabriela Smith, plus music by Ginastera and Mahler.

From March–May 2021, Carnegie Hall presents Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, a citywide festival spotlighting the resilience of artists throughout history and the life-affirming power of music and the arts during times of oppression and tyranny. With 16 concerts at Carnegie Hall crossing musical genres and thought-provoking events at more than 40 prestigious partner organizations, the festival kicks off at Carnegie Hall on March 12 with Rhiannon Giddens and Friends: Songs of Our Native Daughters, where Giddens and her group of black female banjo players, Our Native Daughters, draw from historical sources to reimagine our collective past, shining a new light on African American women’s stories of struggle, resistance, and hope. The festival extends across New York City over three months with exhibitions, performances, talks, film screenings, and more, further exploring how the arts have been used as a tool for activism, resistance, solidarity, and hope.

Renowned singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and speaker Rhiannon Giddens curates a five-concert Perspectives series showcasing her remarkable talents, shedding a light on the shared history of a variety of musical traditions around the world. In addition to Songs of Our Native Daughters, she is joined by frequent collaborator pianist Francesco Turrisi for an evening of back-to-back recitals, as well as a program showcasing songs from their critically praised album there is no Other. Her residency culminates with Mr. Bones Need to Leave Me Alone, an evening that looks at the complex history of minstrelsy in American music and how it relates to music of today.

Viola da gamba virtuoso and conductor Jordi Savall presents a four-concert Perspectives focused both on early-music repertoire and wide-ranging programs of his own creation. His series includes two concerts focused on works by Monteverdi, where he shares the stage with his ensemble, Le Concert des Nations and singers from La Capella Reial de Catalunya. In the spring, he presents Bal-Kan: Honey and Blood, Music in the Ottoman Empire as part of the Voices of Hope festival, working with his Hespèrion XXI ensemble, joined by guest musicians from Hungary, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Turkey, Romania, and beyond. His final performance reveals the expanse of Mediterranean musical traditions from Europe to the Islamic world.

Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin returns for the second half of his two-year Perspectives curating seven concerts including performances with The Philadelphia Orchestra and The MET Orchestra, as well the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and Westminster Choir. Maestro Nézet-Séguin’s Perspectives features collaborations with some of the finest soloists today, including violinist Lisa Batiashvili and pianist Mitsuko Uchida; some of the world’s greatest singers including frequent collaborator Joyce DiDonato; and a wide range of repertoire ranging from Beethoven to recent works by Mason Bates and Missy Mazzoli.
Carnegie Hall has appointed composer Andrew Norman to hold the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2020–2021 season. Mr. Norman’s residency includes nine concerts throughout the season with his music being performed by violinist Leila Josefowicz and the Los Angeles Philharmonic led by Gustavo Dudamel, Berliner Philharmoniker led by Kirill Petrenko, the Louisville Orchestra led by Teddy Abrams, pianist Emanuel Ax, Ensemble Connect, yMusic, and the American Composers Orchestra. Committed to the development of new work by emerging composers of all backgrounds, Mr. Norman curates a program for the LA Phil New Music Group, led by John Adams, and participates in the Weill Music Institute’s All Together: A Global Ode to Joy project as part of his residency.

Additional highlights of Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 season include performances by 21 leading orchestras from around the world, including several debuts: Lahav Shani makes his Carnegie Hall debut in his inaugural season as music director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra; Teodor Currentzis and musicAeterna make their Carnegie Hall debut; Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko leads the Berliner Philharmoniker for the first time at Carnegie Hall; the Galilee Chamber Orchestra makes its debut with Music Director Saleem Abboud Ashkar; and Teddy Abrams makes his Carnegie Hall debut conducting the Louisville Orchestra in its first performance at the Hall in more than 30 years.

Among other international orchestras: Music Director Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla brings the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for two performances, the orchestra’s first Carnegie Hall appearances in 28 years, collaborating with violinist Gidon Kremer and cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason; Sir Antonio Pappano returns with the Orchestra dell’Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia; Gustavo Dudamel returns to the Hall’s podium in February leading the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra; Lü Jia conducts the China NCPA Orchestra; and Valery Gergiev returns with his Mariinsky Orchestra, including a tour-de-force program with all four Rachmaninoff piano concertos and the composer’s Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini featuring pianist Denis Matsuev.

Also featured in the season will be a fall return by the Sphinx Virtuosi; concerts by Orchestra of St. Luke’s under the baton of Principal Conductor Bernard Labadie; and the Hall’s traditional December concerts with New York String Orchestra with Jamie Laredo.

The English Concert and Artistic Director Harry Bicket return in spring 2021 as part of their multi-year Handel opera/oratorio project at Carnegie Hall, presenting a concert performance of Handel’s Tamerlano with countertenor Bejun Mehta singing the title role.

An array of the world’s leading pianists appear in recital, including Leif Ove Andsnes, Emanuel Ax, Hélène Grimaud (in her first Carnegie Hall recital since her 2006 recital debut), Yefim Bronfman, Marc-André Hamelin, Evgeny Kissin, Gabriela Montero, Maurizio Pollini, Sir András Schiff, Daniil Trifonov, plus many more.

Also next season, among a wide variety of vocal and instrumental recitals and chamber concerts: the Carnegie Hall recital debut of soprano Lise Davidsen in Zankel Hall and the Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage recital debut of soprano Christine Goerke; performances by Ensemble Connect and Decoda; piano trios performed by pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, violinist Lisa Batiashvili, and cellist Gautier Capuçon as well as by pianist Evgeny Kissin, violinist Joshua Bell, and cellist Steven Isserlis; and the launch of a multi-season “Doppelgänger” project by the Danish String Quartet performing Schubert alongside new works written in response to these works, commissioned by Carnegie Hall.

World and popular music highlights include Not Our First Goat Rodeo featuring cellist Yo-Yo Ma reuniting with Chris Thile, Edgar Meyer, Stuart Duncan, and vocalist Aoife O’Donovan, creating a singular sound last heard on their Grammy Award-winning album; a Lunar New Year performance by the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra; the return of powerhouse performer Youssou NDOUR; four concerts by singer-songwriter Michael Feinstein including a big band show in Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage; Ray Chew’s A Night of Inspiration; a special Carnegie Hall edition of Chris Thile’s radio program Live from Here; and Steven Reineke and The New York Pops with their remarkable five-concert series celebrating America’s popular music from Broadway to film scores, dance music, and holiday classics.
A special highlight of the season: superstar violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and legendary composer-conductor John Williams will present Across the Stars: The Music of John Williams, a gala evening of Williams's beloved film music performed by The Philadelphia Orchestra in a special one-night-only January performance benefitting Carnegie Hall.

In addition, for the first time in many years, concertgoers will be offered a new setting in which to experience music at Carnegie Hall when Zankel Hall—the Hall’s flexible underground concert venue—will be reconfigured over the course of seven days in January 2021 to an in-the-round format for a select number of Zankel Hall Center Stage concerts. Performances spanning genres, all specifically programmed with the center stage format in mind, will provide a unique vantage point and intimate space in which performers and audience members can interact. Concerts presented in this format include performances by yMusic; Third Coast Percussion with choreographers and movement artists Jon Boogz & Lil Buck; jazz vocalist Jazzmeia Horn; pianist Gabriela Montero; new music with Caroline Shaw and Friends; Rhiannon Giddens with pianist Francesco Turrisi performing songs from their album, there is no Other; as well as a special participatory Violin Weekend event with PUBLIQuartet and 200 local violinists coming together for a “play-in,” presented by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute.

Looking beyond the walls of the building and into the community, Carnegie Hall Citywide, a free concert series of roughly thirty performances offered at venues in all five boroughs of New York City continues all season 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 will partner for a tenth consecutive year to produce Carnegie Hall Live, an engaging live radio broadcast and digital series featuring performances from throughout Carnegie Hall’s season. This year’s series launches on October 7 with Carnegie Hall’s Opening Night Gala performance featuring the Los Angeles Philharmonic under the baton of Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel. The full 2020–2021 broadcast schedule will be announced at a later date.

Playlists curated by Carnegie Hall inspired by artists and programming themes in the 2020–2021 season are also exclusively available to stream on Apple Music at apple.co/carnegiehall. They join 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 with musical selections handpicked to complement artistic initiatives in the coming year, inviting music lovers to explore.

DETAILS OF CARNEGIE HALL’S 2020–2021 SEASON

Carnegie Hall Festival: Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression

From March-May 2021, Carnegie Hall presents Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, a citywide festival that honors the life-affirming power of music and the arts. Voices of Hope examines the role of artists during times of injustice, exploring the works they felt compelled to create despite—and often because of—appalling circumstances.

With 16 concerts at the Hall by leading artists—ranging from orchestral and chamber music to folk and contemporary jazz—the festival features music that inspires change and raises the human spirit. Concerts at Carnegie Hall include Rhiannon Giddens and Friends: Songs of Our Native Daughters, which shines new light on African American women’s stories of struggle, resistance, and hope (Mar. 12, SA/PS); a program of symphonic works written under dictatorship, including compositions by Shostakovich, Prokofiev, and Casella, performed by the National Symphony Orchestra, led by Gianandrea Noseda (Mar. 13, SA/PS); and acclaimed clarinetist Kinan Azmeh, appearing alongside his
Cityband, with works written in response to conflicts in his native Syria and in the Middle East, including a world premiere by Azmeh, commissioned by Carnegie Hall (Mar. 16, ZH).

The echoes of war will resonate when Kronos Quartet performs one of its signature pieces, George Crumb’s Black Angels, written in response to the Vietnam War (Mar. 19, ZH); while Decoda pairs Steve Reich’s Different Trains, recalling episodes from the composer’s childhood and of Jews being transported by railroad to concentration camps in 1940s Europe, with Messiaen’s transcendent Quartet for the End of Time, written while the composer was a prisoner of war (Mar. 24, WRH).

Vocalist Magos Herrera and the daring Brooklyn Rider join forces to pay homage to the “Dreamers,” poets and songwriters who prevailed during oppressive regimes in Latin America and Spain (Mar. 25, ZH); and acclaimed chanteuse Ute Lemper offers an evening, sung in German and Yiddish, that highlights the inspiring courage of composers and poets who created music despite the horrors of the ghettos and concentration camps during the Holocaust (Apr. 7, ZH).

Dendê Macêdo and his band—joined by the music, dance, and martial arts ensemble Ologundê—celebrate Afro-Brazilian culture developed and inspired by African slaves as a way to keep their traditions and cultures alive (Apr. 9, ZH). Another musical dialogue brought about by conquest, oppression, and conflict—that of the Balkans, and the Roma and Armenian diasporas—is the focus of Bal-Kan: Honey and Blood, Music in the Ottoman Empire, featuring Jordi Savall and his early-music ensemble Hespèrion XXI (Apr. 13, SA/PS). Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra present a concert performance of Shostakovich’s enthralling Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, the work that threatened to silence the prolific composer in Stalinist Russia (Apr. 14, SA/PS).

Drummer and composer Terri Lyne Carrington blends jazz, indie rock, and hip-hop with her multi-talented sextet Social Science in songs that examine social justice, racial equality, and ongoing sociopolitical concerns (Apr. 17, ZH), while the Jerusalem Quartet returns to Carnegie Hall with works by three twentieth-century masters—Prokofiev, Shostakovich, and Bartók—written in the midst of war, exile, and oppression (Apr. 28, ZH). Soulful vocalist Aynur brings her unique blend of Kurdish and Western music to Carnegie Hall, revealing the life and suffering of Kurdish people, especially women (May 7, ZH).

Extraordinary jazz vocalist Somi shares selections from her critically acclaimed recordings and new music written in response to postcolonial African literature in a program commissioned by Carnegie Hall (May 8, ZH). The all-star trio of Evgeny Kissin, Joshua Bell, and Steven Isserlis performs works that reinforce Jewish music and culture, created during times of anti-Semitism (May 15, SA/PS); and, for the final Carnegie Hall festival concert, Samora Pinderhughes leads world-class artists in The Healing Project—the pianist-composer’s new multidisciplinary work that explores the daily realities of violence, incarceration, policing, and detention in US communities. Making its world premiere, The Healing Project is co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall and produced by Anna Deavere Smith and Glenn Ligon (May 22, ZH).

Through workshops created by Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute, songwriters of all ages from across New York City will also explore the festival theme, showcasing their original music at In Response, a special Zankel Hall concert in April. Leading artists will join the songwriters on stage for a vibrant celebration of New York City’s voices (Apr. 25, ZH).

The Voices of Hope festival will extend across New York City through events at more than 40 prestigious partner organizations, including exhibitions, performances, talks, film screenings and more to further explore how the arts have been used as a tool for activism, solidarity, and hope. Among the dozens of participating organizations are: the Africa Center; American Indian Community House; Americas Society; Apollo Theater; Battery Dance; Brooklyn Museum; China Institute; numerous departments and research institutes at Columbia University, New York University, and the City University of New York; the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; Japan Society, in association with the Mid-Manhattan Performing Arts Foundation; Jazz at Lincoln Center; the Joyce Theater; the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center; the Metropolitan Museum of Art; the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts; Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, and many more.
A complete schedule for *Voices of Hope* will be announced later this year. For the most up-to-date information on festival performances and events at Carnegie Hall and partner institutions, visit carnegiehall.org/voicesofhope over the coming months.

**Perspectives: Rhiannon Giddens**

Renowned singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and speaker Rhiannon Giddens curates a five-concert Perspectives series throughout Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 season. Ms. Giddens’s spectacular banjo and fiddle playing, passionate vocals, and perceptive songwriting are all wedded to a boundless musical curiosity that explores untold stories and reclaims American musical traditions for our time. A recipient of the 2017 MacArthur Foundation grant for exceptional creativity, her collaborative projects with the Carolina Chocolate Drops, Our Native Daughters, and multi-instrumentalist Francesco Turrisi, as well as a string of award-winning solo albums among other projects, have made Ms. Giddens one the most vibrant musicians of our time.

Ms. Giddens’s Perspectives reveals the full range of her remarkable talents, shedding a light on the shared history of a variety of musical traditions around the world. Beginning in October, she is joined by Mr. Turrisi on piano for two back-to-back recitals on the same evening in Weill Recital Hall. The duo comes together again in January with songs from their critically praised album *there is no Other*. In March, Ms. Giddens is one of four banjo-playing African American women who collaborate as part of Songs of Our Native Daughters—the opening concert of Carnegie Hall’s citywide Voices of Hope festival—taking audiences on a musical journey from the days of slavery to the present through an exploration of love, loss, and hope in the face of cruelty and oppression. Her residency culminates in April with *Mr. Bones Need to Leave Me Alone*, an evening that looks at the complex history of minstrelsy in American music and how it relates to music of today. (Oct 23, WRH; Jan 14, ZH; Mar. 12, SA/PS; Apr 23, ZH)

**Perspectives: Jordi Savall**

Viola da gamba virtuoso, conductor, musicologist, and visionary Jordi Savall presents a four-concert Perspectives in the 2020–2021 season, celebrating pillars of the early-music repertoire and wide-ranging programs of his own creation. The series kicks off in November with two performances focused on works by Monteverdi—the composer’s *Vespro della Beata Vergine* and *Madrigals of Love and War*—featuring Le Concert des Nations and singers from La Capella Reial de Catalunya, both groups founded by Mr. Savall. He returns in April as part of Carnegie Hall’s festival Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, highlighting the dialogue and music of the peoples of the Balkans, and the Roma and Armenian diasporas. The concert, titled *Bal-Kan: Honey and Blood, Music in the Ottoman Empire*, features Mr. Savall leading his Hespèrion XXI ensemble while playing the vielle and rebec, joined by guest musicians from Hungary, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Serbia, Turkey, Romania, and beyond. Mr. Savall’s final performance reveals the expanse of Mediterranean musical traditions from Europe to the Islamic world. The program will be presented in four parts with Mr. Savall on viella and rebab, Hakan Gungör on kanun, and Dimitri Psonis on oud, santur, saz, and percussion. (Nov. 5, SA/PS, Nov 9, ZH; Apr. 13, SA/PS; Apr. 14, WRH)

**Perspectives: Yannick Nézet-Séguin**

Conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin returns for the continuation of his two-year Perspectives series at Carnegie Hall, curating seven concerts during the 2020–2021 season. His Perspectives includes performances with The Philadelphia Orchestra and The MET Orchestra as well as the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and Westminster Choir. It also features collaborations with some of the finest soloists today, including violinist Lisa Batiashvili, pianist Mitsuko Uchida, and opera stars Piotr Beczała, Karen Cargill, Joyce DiDonato, Rodrick Dixon, Christine Goerke, Günther Groissböck, Ekaterina Gubanova, Brandon Jovanovich, Eric Owens, and Jennifer Rowley. His programs explore a wide range of repertoire from Beethoven to recent works by Mason Bates and Missy Mazzoli, and include a rare opportunity to hear him conduct choral works in the intimate setting of Zankel Hall.
Mr. Nézet-Séguin launches year two of his Perspectives in October, leading The Philadelphia Orchestra in Beethoven’s Missa solemnis with soprano Jennifer Rowley, mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill, tenor Rodrick Dixon, bass-baritone Eric Owens, and the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir. In November, he conducts a program of choral music, collaborating with the Westminster Choir in Zankel Hall. Mr. Nézet-Séguin and The Philadelphia Orchestra return in March with Debussy’s La mer and Mahler’s Das Lied von der Erde, featuring mezzo-soprano Ekaterina Gubanova and tenor Piotr Beczala. The following week, he takes to the podium with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe in its first performance at Carnegie Hall in seventeen years with an all-Brahms program that features violinist Lisa Batiashvili. In May, he leads The Philadelphia Orchestra again in the New York premiere of a suite from Mason Bates’s opera The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs and Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G Major with Mitsuko Uchida. His two-season Perspectives series concludes in June with two performances with The MET Orchestra. He is joined for the first concert by frequent collaborator mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, presenting an all-Berlioz program that includes selections from Les Troyens. For his final Perspectives event, the program includes Act I from Wagner’s Die Walküre with soprano Christine Goerke as Sieglinde, tenor Brandon Jovanovich as Siegmund, and bass Günther Groissböck as Hunding. (Oct. 14, SA/PS; Nov. 22, ZH; Mar. 2, 10, May 7, Jun. 17, and 24, SA/PS)

The Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair: Andrew Norman

Andrew Norman has been appointed holder of the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair at Carnegie Hall for the 2020–2021 season. One of the most sought-after voices in American classical music and named Musical America’s 2017 Composer of the Year, his music surprises, delights, and thrills with its visceral power and intricate structures. Fascinated by how technology has changed the ways in which we think, feel, act, and perceive, Mr. Norman writes music that is both a reflection of—and refuge from—our fast and fragmented world. Striking colors, driving energy, and underlying lyricism are all present in the work of a composer who defies traditional labels.

During his nine-concert residency that kicks off in October, Mr. Norman’s Violin Concerto (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall) receives its New York premiere with Leila Josefowicz and the Los Angeles Philharmonic conducted by Gustavo Dudamel. Mr. Norman’s music will also be performed by the Berliner Philharmoniker led by Kirill Petrenko, the Louisville Orchestra led by Teddy Abrams, pianist Emanuel Ax, Ensemble Connect, yMusic, and the American Composers Orchestra. Committed to the development of new work by emerging composers, Mr. Norman will also curate a program for the LA Phil New Music Group, conducted by John Adams, and participate in the Weill Music Institute’s All Together: A Global Ode to Joy project as part of his residency. (Oct. 8, SA/PS; Oct 10, ZH; Oct 19, WRH; Nov. 5, ZH; Nov. 18 & 20, SA/PS; Jan. 7, ZH; Feb. 20, Mar. 31, SA/PS; Apr. 5, ZH)

Additional 2020–2021 Season Programming Highlights

Orchestras

Carnegie Hall presents concerts by 9 American orchestras and 12 international orchestras during the 2020–2021 season. Orchestral highlights include:

- The 2020–2021 season opens with Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel leading the Los Angeles Philharmonic in the orchestra’s first appearances at Carnegie Hall in 30 years. The Opening Night program begins with John Adams’s Tromba Lontana, and continues with Grieg’s Piano Concerto featuring Lang Lang as well as selections from Grieg’s Peer Gynt with soprano Liv Redpath. Mr. Dudamel and the orchestra return on two consecutive evenings. They present the New York premieres of Carnegie Hall Debs Composer’s Chair Andrew Norman’s Violin Concerto with Leila Josefowicz and Gabriella Smith’s Tumblebird Contrails, followed by Ginastera’s Estancia, Op. 8, with narration by Gustavo Castillo. For their final performance in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage, Mr. Dudamel conducts the orchestra in Mahler’s Symphony No. 6. (Oct. 7–9, SA/PS)
Yannick Nézet-Séguin launches the second half of his two-year Perspectives series leading The Philadelphia Orchestra in Beethoven's Missa solemnis with soprano Jennifer Rowley, mezzo-soprano Karen Cargill, tenor Rodrick Dixon, bass-baritone Eric Owens, and the Philadelphia Symphonic Choir. He returns with the orchestra in a performance of Debussy’s La mer and Mahler’s Das Lied von der Erde featuring mezzo-soprano Ekaterina Gubanova and tenor Piotr Beczala. Unique to this season, guest conductor-composer John Williams leads the orchestra and violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter for a gala performance of music from Williams’s film scores. For their final performance of the season, Mr. Nézet-Séguin and the orchestra present the New York premiere of a suite from Mason Bates’s opera The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs along with Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 8, and Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G Major with Mitsuko Uchida. (Oct. 14, Mar. 2, Jan. 27, May 7, SA/PS)

The Sphinx Virtuosi, a chamber orchestra comprising alumni of the renowned Sphinx Competition, return to Carnegie Hall with Land of the Free, a program featuring two works by Jessie Montgomery (including the New York premiere of Divided, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), as well as pieces by Xavier Foley, Perkinson, Barber, Kodály, and Dvořák. (Oct. 15, SA/PS)

Music Director Mirga Gražinytė-Tyla brings the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for two performances, the orchestra’s first Carnegie Hall appearances in 28 years. Gidon Kremer is featured in the Violin Concerto by Mieczysław Weinberg, a composer whose music has long been championed by both conductor and soloist, as well as the New York premiere of Thomas Adès’s Angel Symphony (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall). The following evening includes Elgar’s Cello Concerto with Sheku Kanneh-Mason along with Tippett’s A Child of Our Time featuring Talise Trevigne, Felicity Palmer, Joshua Stewart, Matthew Brook, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra Chorus. (Oct. 23–24, SA/PS)

Music Director Andris Nelsons leads the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO) in three concerts. In October, Mr. Nelsons and the BSO present Haydn’s Symphony No. 26, “Lamentatione;” Stravinsky’s The Rite of Spring; and Britten’s Violin Concerto with Augustin Hadelich. In April, as part of the Voices of Hope festival, they bring a concert performance of Shostakovich’s Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk featuring Kristine Opolais, Brandon Jovanovich, Sergei Skorokhodov, Vladimir Vaneyev, Sir Willard White, and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus. The following evening, they are joined by Paul Lewis for Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 27 in B-flat Major, K. 595, the New York premiere of a work by Julia Adolphe, and Dvořák’s Symphony No. 7. (Oct. 26, Apr. 14–15, SA/PS)

Chief Conductor Lü Jia leads the China NCPA Orchestra in the New York premiere of a work by Bright Sheng (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), Ravel’s Piano Concerto in G Major featuring Behzod Abduraimov, and Dvořák’s Symphony No. 9, “From the New World.” (Oct. 29, SA/PS)

Lahav Shani makes his Carnegie Hall debut in his inaugural season as music director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, conducting Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7 and Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 4. (Nov. 2, SA/PS)

Artistic Director Teodor Currentzis and musicAeterna make their Carnegie Hall debut following acclaimed concerts at the Salzburg Festival in summer 2019 and their North American debut at The Shed last November. Their program includes the Adagio from Mahler’s Symphony No. 10 and Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 6, “Pathétique.” (Nov. 4, SA/PS)
• Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko leads the Berliner Philharmoniker for the first time at Carnegie Hall in three concerts. The first program includes Unstuck by Andrew Norman (holder of Carnegie Hall’s Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair), Brünnhilde’s Immolation Scene from Wagner’s Götterdämmerung sung by soprano Nina Stemme, and Richard Strauss’s Ein Heldenleben, with this program repeated on the final evening. For their second concert, Mr. Petrenko and the orchestra present Webern’s Passacaglia, Op. 1; Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 1, Op. 11; and Brahms’s Symphony No. 4. (Nov. 18–20, SA/PS)

• Orchestra of St. Luke’s appears three times with Principal Conductor Bernard Labadie, beginning with an all-Mendelssohn program that includes the Violin Concerto with Isabelle Faust and A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Op. 61, with soprano Lauren Snouffer, mezzo-soprano Cecelia Hall, the women of the Westminster Symphonic Choir, and narrator David Hyde Pierce. Also this season, the orchestra is joined by Emanuel Ax for Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 17 in G Major, K. 453, and Schubert's Symphony No. 9, “Great.” The final concert features soprano Amanda Forsythe, tenor Samuel Boden, bass-baritone Matthew Brook, and La Chapelle de Québec in a program titled Music for Royals with works by Handel and Bach. (Dec. 3, Jan. 28, Mar. 18, SA/PS)

• The Galilee Chamber Orchestra makes its Carnegie Hall debut with Music Director Saleem Abboud Ashkar in a program that features soprano Renée Fleming and pianist Daniil Trifonov, including music by Haydn, Beethoven, and Shostakovich. The orchestra was co-founded in 2012 by Nabeel Abboud Ashkar, a music educator from Nazareth, Israel and former violinist with the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra. The ensemble is a program of the Polyphony Foundation, a US-based organization whose work aims to bridge the divide between Arab and Jewish youth in Israel through classical music education, performance, and cultural dialogue. (Dec. 7, SA/PS)

• The New York String Orchestra returns for its annual concerts conducted by Jaime Laredo, beginning with an all-Mozart program that features Piano Concerto No. 13 in C Major, K. 415, with Jonathan Biss; and Symphony No. 40. The orchestra’s second concert includes Ellen Taaffe Zwilich’s Prologue and Variations, Beethoven’s Violin Concerto with Pamela Frank, and Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3, “Scottish.” (Dec. 24 and 28, SA/PS)

• Music Director Valery Gergiev leads the Mariinsky Orchestra in two performances next season. The first includes music by Schubert and Bruckner. The orchestra is joined by pianist Denis Matsuev for the second concert, a tour-de-force program to include all four Rachmaninoff piano concertos as well as the composer’s Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini. (Feb. 10 and 11, SA/PS)

• Conductor Muhai Tang and the Shanghai Chinese Orchestra ring in the lunar new year with The Grand Chinese New Year Concert, performed on traditional Chinese instruments. (Feb. 12, SA/PS)

• Music Director Teddy Abrams makes his Carnegie Hall debut conducting the Louisville Orchestra in its first performance at the Hall in more than 30 years. The program opens with Sacred Geometry by Andrew Norman (holder of the Debs Composer’s Chair), followed by Copland’s Appalachian Spring, performed with dancers of the Louisville Ballet. Another program highlight will be Jim James’s song cycle The Order of Nature (orchestrated by Mr. Abrams) and featuring Jim James, lead singer of My Morning Jacket. (Feb. 20, SA/PS)

• Gustavo Dudamel returns to Carnegie Hall to lead the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra in three concerts that feature music by Schubert, Ravel, Stravinsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Tchaikovsky, Haydn, and Prokofiev. (Feb. 26–28, SA/PS)

• Perspectives artist Yannick Nézet-Séguin leads the Chamber Orchestra of Europe in an all-Brahms program that includes the Violin Concerto with Lisa Batiashvili and Symphony No. 3. (Mar. 10, SA/PS)
• Music Director Gianandrea Noseda returns with the National Symphony Orchestra, performing selections from Prokofiev’s War and Peace, Shostakovich’s Piano Concerto No. 1 with Seong-Jin Cho, and Casella’s Symphony No. 3, presented as part of Carnegie Hall’s Voices of Hope festival. (Mar. 13, SA/PS)

• Pianist Mitsuko Uchida continues her multi-year exploration of Mozart’s piano concertos with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, this season leading the ensemble from the keyboard in performances of the composer’s Piano Concerto No. 18 in B-flat Major, K. 456, and Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major, K. 457. The orchestra also performs Janáček’s Mládí. (Mar. 26, SA/PS)

• Sir Antonio Pappano and the Orchestra dell’Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia return to Carnegie Hall with rarely heard works by Ponchielli and Tchaikovsky. Maxim Vengerov is featured as soloist in Shostakovich’s Violin Concerto No. 1. (Apr. 12, SA/PS)

• The MET Orchestra performs three times in June 2021. Semyon Bychkov leads the first concert, featuring mezzo-soprano Waltraud Meier in Wagner’s Wesendonck Lieder and Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 7, “Leningrad.” Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin concludes his Perspectives series conducting two performances, including an all-Berlioz program with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato. The final program features Act I of Wagner’s Die Walküre with soprano Christine Goerke as Sieglinde, tenor Brandon Jovanovich as Siegmund, and bass Günther Groissböck as Hunding; also on the program is Missy Mazzoli’s Sinfonia (for Orbiting Spheres) and Richard Strauss’s Don Juan. (Jun. 10, 17, 24, SA/PS)

New & Contemporary Music

Throughout the 2020-2021 season, Carnegie Hall continues its longstanding commitment to the music of tomorrow, commissioning 19 works and presenting 8 world and 24 New York premieres. This includes daring new solo, chamber, and orchestral works by established and emerging composers as well as thought-provoking performances that cross musical genres.

Contemporary music offerings include:

• Composer John Adams conducts the LA Phil New Music Group in a program curated by Andrew Norman (holder of this season’s Debs Composer’s Chair). (Oct. 10, ZH)

• Silkroad Ensemble presents the New York premiere of Osvaldo Golijov’s Falling Out of Time (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), based on David Grossman’s book of the same name. (Oct. 22, ZH)

• American Composers Orchestra (ACO), led by Music Director George Manahan, returns for two programs. The first includes world premieres of new works by George Lewis and Jane Meenaghan, as well as the New York premieres of Andrew Norman’s Begin and a new work by 2019 Pulitzer Prize winner Ellen Reid. ACO’s spring concert includes the New York premieres of Christopher Cerrone’s Violin Concerto, “Breaks and Breaks,” and Lisa Bielawa’s Sanctuary (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall)—both featuring Jennifer Koh—and the world premiere of a new work by Carlos Bandera. (Nov. 5, Apr. 20, ZH)

• The Spektral Quartet performs the New York premiere of Enigma, a multimedia work by composer Anna Thorvaldsdottir and video artist Sigurður Guðjónsson (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), along with works by Debussy and Dutilleux. (Nov. 17, ZH)

• Chamber ensemble yMusic performs in the Zankel Hall Center Stage configuration. The sextet’s program includes the New York premiere of a Carnegie Hall co-commission: Difference by Andrew Norman, holder of the 2020–2021 Debs Composer’s Chair. (Jan. 7, ZH)
Grammy Award–winning ensemble Third Coast Percussion is joined by Movement Art Is featuring co-founders, choreographers, and movement artists Jon Boogz and Lil Buck for the New York premieres of works by Tyondai Braxton and Jlin (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), and selections from Philip Glass’s Aguas da Amazonia (arranged by Third Coast Percussion). This concert will be performed in the Zankel Hall Center Stage configuration. (Jan. 8, ZH)

Danish vocal ensemble Ars Nova Copenhagen, led by Artistic Director Paul Hillier, performs the New York premiere of a new work by Caroline Shaw (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall). The program also features Ms. Shaw as a performer with her acoustic quartet The Hands Free (James Moore on guitar and banjo, Ms. Shaw on violin, Nathan Koci on accordion, and Eleonore Oppenheim on bass). This concert will be performed in the Zankel Hall Center Stage configuration. (Jan. 13, ZH)

Kronos Quartet plays George Crumb’s Black Angels, a piece that celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2020. Violinist David Harrington credits Black Angels as one of his inspirations to form Kronos after he hearing the highly unorthodox and mesmerizing work composed, in part, as a response to the Vietnam War. The program also features new works by Aleksandra Vrebalov and Vladimir Martynov (both co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), composed in the spirit of Crumb’s masterwork. This concert is part of the citywide Voices of Hope festival. (Mar. 19, ZH)

Vocalist Magos Herrera and string quartet Brooklyn Rider are joined by percussionist Mathias Kunzli for a program titled Dreamers that features poetry and music from Latin America and Spain as part of the citywide festival Voices of Hope. (Mar. 25, ZH)

Composer Andrew Norman is holder of the Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair for the 2020–2021 season. In addition to performances by the LA Phil New Music Group (Oct. 10, ZH), American Composers Orchestra (Nov. 5, ZH), and yMusic (Jan. 7, ZH), Mr. Norman’s music will be performed by violinist Leila Josefowicz with the Los Angeles Philharmonic (Oct. 8, SA/PS), Ensemble Connect (Oct. 19, WRH), Berliner Philharmoniker (Nov. 18 and 20, SA/PS), Louisville Orchestra (Feb. 20, SA/PS), and pianist Emanuel Ax (Mar. 31, SA/PS).

Early Music / Baroque

The 2020–2021 season features music drawn from the Renaissance through Baroque eras, performed by renowned artists who have championed this repertoire. Among the highlights:

Early-music performer, scholar, and curator Jordi Savall presents a four-concert Perspectives series, celebrating pillars of the early-music repertoire and wide-ranging programs of his own creation. The series kicks off with two concerts focused on works by Monteverdi—the composer’s Vespro della Beata Vergine and Madrigals of Love and War—featuring Le Concert des Nations and singers from La Capella Reial de Catalunya. Mr. Savall returns for another performance in the spring as part of Carnegie Hall’s festival, Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, highlighting the dialogue and music of the peoples of the Balkans, and the Roma and Armenian diasporas. The concert, titled Balkan: Honey and Blood, Music in the Ottoman Empire, features Mr. Savall leading his Hespèrion XXI ensemble while playing the vielle and rebec, joined by guest musicians from across central Europe. The final performance of his series features music from the Mediterranean region, spanning Europe to the Islamic world, presented in four parts with Mr. Savall on viella and rebab, Hakan Gungor on kanun, and Dimitri Psonis on oud, santur, saz, and percussion. (Nov. 5, Apr. 13, SA/PS; Nov. 9, ZH; Apr 14, WRH)

French violist Antoine Tamestit is joined by Masato Suzuki on harpsichord for an all-Bach program. (Nov. 20, WRH)
• Artistic Director Lars Ulrik Mortensen leads Concerto Copenhagen from the harpsichord in the ensemble’s Carnegie Hall debut, offering an all-Bach program that features soprano Joanne Lunn, tenor Karim Sulayman, and baritone Peter Harvey. (Mar. 2, ZH)

• Artistic Director and theorist Christina Pluhar returns with L’Arpeggiata, leading a program that features Handel arias sung by soprano Céline Scheen and countertenor Valer Sabadus, as well as Vivaldi’s Concerto in G Minor for Strings and Continuo, RV 157, and an improvisation by the ensemble. (Mar. 23, ZH)

• As part of their multi-year Handel project at Carnegie Hall, Artistic Director Harry Bicket conducts The English Concert in Tamerlano with countertenor Bejun Mehta singing the title role, joined by tenor Michael Spyres (Bajazet), soprano Sophie Bevan (Asteria), countertenor Jakub Józef Orlinski (Andronico), and contralto Avery Amereau (Irene). (Apr. 25, SA/PS)

• Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti is joined by Richard Egarr on harpsichord for a program of works by Vivaldi and Corelli. (May 4, WRH)

Chamber Music

Chamber music highlights of Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 season include performances by a number of celebrated ensembles, string quartets, and leading musicians in new collaborations.

• Decoda—a the affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall comprising alumni of the acclaimed Ensemble Connect—returns for two inventive concerts of classical and contemporary chamber works. The first program focuses on Beethoven’s Septet and composers influenced by Beethoven (including a piece to be composed with the audience). The second, part of Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, includes touchstone works of the 20th century by Steve Reich and Messiaen. (Oct. 8, Mar. 24, WRH)

• The musicians of Ensemble Connect perform a range of chamber works from the classical to the contemporary, including selections by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Vaughan Williams, Stravinsky, Andrew Norman’s The Companion Guide to Rome for String Trio, and the New York premiere of a new work by Kaija Saariaho (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall). (Oct. 19, Dec. 2, Feb. 16, Apr. 21, WRH)

• The Artemis Quartet gives the New York premiere of a new work by Lera Auerbach (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall) along with Mendelssohn’s String Quartet in A Minor, Op. 13. The quartet’s former cellist, Eckart Runge, joins the ensemble for Schubert’s String Quintet in C Major, D. 956. (Oct. 27, ZH)

• The Signum Quartet offers a program of works that include quartets by Haydn, Rainier, and Schubert, plus Matthijs van Dijk’s (rage) rage against the. (Nov. 6, WRH)

• Yannick Nézet-Séguin continues his Perspectives series leading the Westminster Choir in a performance of choral music. (Nov. 22, ZH)

• Musical America’s 2020 Ensemble of the Year, the Danish String Quartet (DSQ) performs the New York premiere of a new work by Bent Sørensen (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall) in addition to Schubert’s String Quartet in G Major, D. 887. This concert launches the quartet’s “Doppelgänger” project in which they will perform music by Schubert alongside new works written in response, co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, the DSQ, and others over the next four seasons in Zankel Hall. (Feb. 26, ZH)

• As part of the Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 citywide festival Voices of Hope, the Jerusalem Quartet offers a program that includes works by Prokofiev, Shostakovich, and Bartók. (Apr. 28, ZH)
Other chamber music concerts during the 2020–2021 season include Cuarteto Casals (Nov. 13, WRH), Tetzlaff Quartet (Dec. 10, ZH), Apollon Musagète Quartet (Feb. 12, WRH), Hagen Quartet (Feb. 20, ZH), Aizuri Quartet (Mar. 19, WRH), and Quartetto di Cremona (Apr. 23, WRH)

Recitals
Carnegie Hall presents a wide variety of recitals in 2020–2021, showcasing internationally-acclaimed and emerging artists on all three stages.

Vocal:
• Soprano Lise Davidsen, following her acclaimed performance as Lisa in Tchaikovsky's The Queen of Spades at the Metropolitan Opera, makes her Carnegie Hall recital debut, collaborating with pianist James Baillieu to present songs by Grieg, Mahler, Berg, and Wagner. (Nov. 12, ZH)
• After recent critically acclaimed performances at Carnegie Hall with The MET Orchestra and Boston Symphony Orchestra, soprano Christine Goerke makes her Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage recital debut with pianist Malcolm Martineau. (Mar. 4, SA/PS)
• Mezzo-soprano Anne Sofie von Otter returns to Zankel Hall with fortepianist Kristian Bezuidenhout to perform songs by Fanny Mendelssohn, Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann, Schubert, Lindblad, and Berwald. (Mar. 18, ZH)
• Egyptian soprano Fatma Said is joined by Spanish guitarist Rafael Aguirre in a program featuring repertoire that highlights both of their heritages as part of the Evenings of Song series. (Apr. 13, WRH)
• Tenor Mark Padmore returns to Zankel Hall with pianist Mitsuko Uchida in an all-Schumann program. (Apr. 16, ZH)
• Soprano Angel Blue, having recently sung the role of Bess in the Metropolitan Opera’s critically acclaimed Porgy and Bess, offers her first Carnegie Hall recital program, including songs by Richard Strauss, Rachmaninoff, Rimsky-Korsakov, Weill, and Bruce Adolphe with pianist James Baillieu. (Apr. 22, WRH)
• Among the other vocal highlights for 2020–2021 will be solo recitals by tenor Juan Diego Flórez (Nov. 9, SA/PS), mezzo-soprano Samantha Hankey (Jan. 14, WRH), soprano Diana Damrau (Apr. 10, SA/PS), and mezzo-soprano Elīna Garanča (May 13, SA/PS).

Instrumental:
• Pinchas Zukerman collaborates with pianist Yefim Bronfman, playing works for violin and viola by Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Franck for Carnegie Hall’s annual Isaac Stern Memorial Concert. (Oct. 20, SA/PS)
• German pianist Schaghajegh Nosrati offers a program of Haydn, Bach, and Alkan’s Concerto for Solo Piano from Twelve Studies in the Minor Keys as part of the Distinctive Debuts series. (Dec. 3, WRH)
• Pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, violinist Lisa Batiashvili, and cellist Gautier Capuçon perform piano trios by Shostakovich, Ravel, and Mendelssohn. Mr. Thibaudet returns with an all-Debussy recital program in the spring. (Dec. 9, Apr. 21, SA/PS)
• Pianist Gabriela Montero offers a recital of music by Schumann, Shostakovich, selections from Chick Corea’s Children’s Songs, and original works of her own, including Scenes from Childhood and Improvisations. This concert will be performed in the Zankel Hall Center Stage configuration. (Jan. 12, ZH)

• Latvian accordionist Ksenija Sidorova offers an eclectic program of Bach, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Piazzolla, Schnittke, Sofia Gubaidulina, Alexey Arkhipovsky, Efrem Podgaits, and Sergei Voitenko. (Feb. 3, WRH)

• Icelandic pianist Vikingur Ólafsson—named Artist of the Year at the 2019 Gramophone Awards and known for his critically acclaimed recordings of Bach and Philip Glass—makes his Carnegie Hall debut in Zankel Hall. (Feb. 4, ZH)

• Armenian cellist Narek Hakhnazaryan, who won the gold medal for cello at the 2011 International Tchaikovsky Competition, is joined in recital by pianist Daniil Trifonov, performing Arvo Pärt’s Fratres, and cello sonatas by Shostakovich and Rachmaninoff. Mr. Trifonov offers a solo recital of sonatas by Szymanowski, Weber, and Brahms. (Feb. 24, ZH; Oct. 28, SA/PS)

• Pianist Hélène Grimaud gives her first Carnegie Hall recital since her 2006 recital debut. Her program includes Schumann’s Kreisleriana, and works by Brahms and Valentin Silvestrov. (Mar. 11, SA/PS)

• Pianist Emanuel Ax performs a program that pairs Brahms’s Klavierstücke, Op. 118, with the New York premiere of Andrew Norman’s Suspend (adapted for solo piano), which was inspired by a melodic motif by Brahms. The program also includes selections by Chopin. (Mar. 31, SA/PS)

• Pianist Evgeny Kissin offers a recital program—repeated on two evenings—that features music by Chopin, Berg, Khrennikov, and Gershwin. As part of the Hall’s citywide festival, Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, Mr. Kissin returns, joined by violinist Joshua Bell and cellist Steven Isserlis for Gnesin’s Piano Trio, Op. 63; Shostakovich’s Piano Trio No. 2 in E Minor; Bloch’s Schelomo and Baal Shem (Three Pictures of Chassidic Life); and Rosowsky’s Fantastic Dance on Hebrew Themes for Piano Trio. (Apr. 29, May 3, May 15, SA/PS)

• Young Swedish violinist Johan Dalene appears in recital with pianist Christian Ihle Hadland, performing works by Sinding, Stenhammar, Ravel, Lera Auerbach, Brahms, and Waxman. (May 20, WRH)

• Acclaimed pianists also returning in recital next season: Marc-André Hamelin (Nov. 12, SA/PS), Igor Levit (Nov. 17, SA/PS), Nobuyuki Tsujii (Dec. 8, SA/PS), Leif Ove Andsnes (Jan. 26, SA/PS), Denis Matsuev (Feb. 21, SA/PS), Sir András Schiff (Mar. 9, SA/PS), Murray Perahia (Apr. 6, SA/PS), Alexandre Tharaud (Apr. 18, ZH), and Maurizio Pollini (May 2, SA/PS).

• Additional violin recitals this season include performances: Anne-Sophie Mutter and Friends (Jan. 29, SA/PS), Janine Jansen with pianist Denis Kozhukhin (Apr. 8, SA/PS), and Maxim Vengerov with pianist Roustem Saitkoulov (Apr. 18, SA/PS).

Pop, Jazz, and World Music

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

- World-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma reunites with bluegrass luminaries Chris Thile, Edgar Meyer, and Stuart Duncan, as well as vocalist Aoife O’Donovan, for Not Our First Goat Rodeo. These exceptional artists create a singular sound that’s part composed, part improvised, and uniquely American—music so complex to pull off that the group likens it to a goat rodeo, airplane pilots’ nickname for a situation in which many different things need to go right to avoid disaster. The last time these musicians performed together, the result was the Grammy Award–winning album The Goat Rodeo Sessions. (Oct. 27, SA/PS)

- The legendary Shanghai Chinese Orchestra celebrates the Year of the Ox with a Lunar New Year performance that features invigorating traditional music as well as some exciting new arrangements. Concertgoers can hear the full spectrum of Chinese music on such instruments as the erhu (two-string bowed instrument), pipa (a plucked lute-like instrument), yangqin (a hammered dulcimer), thrilling percussion, and more. (Feb. 12, SA/PS)

- The Kinan Azmeh Cityband creates spellbinding music by blending classical and jazz idioms with music that reflects the traditional sounds of Syria, Azmeh’s homeland. Azmeh is featured on clarinet in a special program of works written in response to events in the Middle East as part of Carnegie Hall’s festival Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression, including a new work commissioned by Carnegie Hall. (Mar. 16, ZH)

- Grammy Award–winning singer-songwriter Youssou NDOUR has been named one of the world’s “50 Great Voices” by NPR and has captivated Carnegie Hall audiences with every appearance. The Senegalese superstar returns with his band Super Étoile de Dakar for an evening of mbalax, his country’s fusion of classic African praise-singing, percussion, and guitar-based pop. (Mar. 20, SA/PS)

- Afro-Brazilian percussionist Dendê Macêdo and his band are joined by Ologundê—a music, dance, and martial arts ensemble—for an exciting celebration of Afro-Brazilian culture. The evening, presented as part of the Hall’s Voices of Hope festival, includes capoeira, Candomblé, and samba de roda, developed by African slaves on the sugar plantations in Brazil. (Apr. 9, ZH)

- Part of the Voices of Hope festival lineup, Kurdish singer and composer Aynur blends Kurdish and Western music to reveal the life and suffering of Kurdish people, especially women. Drawing upon nearly 300 years of cultural history, she brings a freshness to this beautiful music. Yo-Yo Ma said, “To hear Aynur’s voice is to hear the transformation of all the layers of human joy and suffering into one sound. It reaches so deep into our soul.” (May 7, ZH)

Jazz:

- The eight dynamic musicians of the Jazz Gallery All-Stars are each outstanding soloists, bandleaders, and composers, equally skilled at shining a new light on the standards as they showcase their own daring music. This special concert celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Jazz Gallery, a beloved New York venue for music and art, and the place where these super talents honed their crafts. (Oct. 16, ZH)

- Grammy Award–nominated singer Jazzmeia Horn brings her “astounding technique” (DownBeat) to a performance in Zankel Hall that features swing, blues, bebop, and gospel music. This concert will be performed in the Zankel Hall Center Stage configuration. (Jan. 9, ZH)

- Performing as part of Carnegie Hall’s festival Voices of Hope, Grammy Award winner, drummer, and composer Terri Lyne Carrington blends jazz, indie rock, and hip-hop with her multi-talented sextet Social Science. Taking on such topics as social justice, racial equality, mass incarceration, and ongoing sociopolitical concerns, Ms. Carrington and Social Science inspire and elevate a deep regard for humanity and freedom. (Apr. 17, ZH)
• Influenced by her Ugandan and Rwandan heritage, Somi’s “New African Jazz” sound creates an emotional punch uniquely her own. In an evening commissioned by Carnegie Hall for the Voices of Hope festival, the talented songstress shares selections from her critically acclaimed recordings and new music composed in response to postcolonial African literature. (May 8, ZH)

• Pianist-composer Samora Pinderhughes leads world-class musicians, composers, poets, and others in a new multidisciplinary work that explores the daily realities of violence, incarceration, policing, and detention in US communities, presented as part of the Voices of Hope festival. Combining musical compositions with audio interviews and raw testimonials, The Healing Project is an artistic celebration of resilience, healing, and resistance. Presented in its world premiere, The Healing Project is co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall, and produced by Anna Deavere Smith and Glenn Ligon. (May 26, ZH)

Popular Music/Cabaret:

• The New York Pops and Music Director Steven Reineke kick off their 2020–2021 season in an all-new program with Tony Award nominee Norm Lewis, highlighting his career on stage, including leading roles in Les Misérables, The Phantom of the Opera, Porgy and Bess, and Sweeney Todd. Next in the series, the orchestra salutes the songs that have defined America in This Land Was Made for You and Me featuring special guests Denée Benton (Hamilton; Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812) and Corey Cott (Bandstand, Newsies). In December, Tony Award nominee Laura Osnes leads the orchestra's annual holiday festivities in Merry and Bright, ringing in the most wonderful time of the year with traditional carols and contemporary classics. Additional performances this season include Shall We Dance, exploring an array of song and dance styles with NYTB / Chamber Works—from classical to contemporary, from the jazz club to the Broadway stage—and The New York Pops Variety Hour, celebrating beloved moments from television history with guest artists Isaac Powell (Once on This Island, West Side Story), Ali Stroker (Oklahoma!), and more. (Oct. 16, Nov. 13, Dec. 18 and 19, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, SA/PS)

• Renowned singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, speaker and MacArthur Fellow Rhiannon Giddens curates a four-concert Perspectives series that showcases the full range of her remarkable talents. Beginning in October, she is joined by frequent collaborator Francesco Turrisi on piano for two back-to-back recitals on the same evening in Weill Recital Hall. The duo comes together again in January for a performance of songs from their critically praised album there is no Other. Next in the series, Ms. Giddens is one of four banjo-playing African American women who collaborate as part of Our Native Daughters, taking audiences on a musical journey from the days of slavery to the present through an exploration of love, loss, and hope in the face of cruelty and oppression—the opening concert of Carnegie Hall’s citywide festival, Voices of Hope: Artists in Times of Oppression. Ms. Giddens’s residency culminates in April with Mr. Bones Need to Leave Me Alone, an evening that looks at the complex history of minstrelsy in American music and how it relates to music of today. (Oct. 23, WRH; Mar. 12, SA/PS; Jan. 14, Apr. 23, ZH)

• Acclaimed composer, music director, and producer Ray Chew leads A Night of Inspiration with uplifting music from diverse traditions performed by exciting special guests, a 150-voice choir, and 64-piece orchestra. (Dec. 12, SA/PS)

• Chris Thile—holder of the Debs Composer’s Chair during the 2018–2019 season—brings his widely popular Live from Here radio program back to Carnegie Hall. The unforgettable event features several surprise guests and outstanding music. (Feb. 6, SA/PS)

• German chanteuse Ute Lemper—accompanied by an instrumental ensemble—performs songs of rebellion, hope, defiance, and life-affirming resilience that came out of the horrors of the ghettos and concentration camps during the Holocaust as part of the Voices of Hope festival. Sung in Yiddish and German, these songs offer stark testimony to the best and worst in humanity. (Apr. 7, ZH)
• Singer-songwriter Michael Feinstein and an all-star 17-piece jazz ensemble perform an evening of American song in Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage, featuring iconic and rare arrangements by Nelson Riddle, Johnny Mandel, Billy May, Neal Hefti and others—many originally created for Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Peggy Lee, Andy Williams, and countless others. His three-concert Standard Time with Michael Feinstein series—bringing his suave vocalism, charismatic stage presence, and great guests—also returns to the Zankel Hall stage. (May 14, SA/PS; Oct. 28, Feb. 10, Mar. 24, ZH)

**Season Highlights—Ensemble Connect**

Ensemble Connect—a program of Carnegie Hall, The Juilliard School, and the Weill Music Institute in partnership with the NYC Department of Education—welcomes a new class of fellows in 2020-2021. The ensemble kicks off its 14th season with an October performance in Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall featuring the New York premiere of *The Companion Guide to Rome* for String Trio by Andrew Norman, holder of Carnegie Hall’s 2020–2021 Richard and Barbara Debs Composer’s Chair. In addition to performances at Carnegie Hall, Ensemble Connect presents engaging concerts at The Juilliard School and other New York City venues along with regular residencies at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, offering master classes, lessons, class demonstrations, and interactive performances. Programs this season include the world premiere performance of a new work by Kaija Saariaho (co-commissioned by Carnegie Hall), along with music by Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Vaughan Williams, Stravinsky, and others.

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 an 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 partnerships culminate with a Partner School Performance Festival with more than 400 students participating in this celebratory event.

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 that include correctional facilities, senior-care centers, homeless shelters, and organizations working with special-needs populations.

Throughout the 13 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 135 alumni has developed as well. In 2011, Decoda—an ensemble exclusively comprising Ensemble Connect alumni—was formed and later named an affiliate ensemble of Carnegie Hall. Many other alumni are at the forefront of initiatives that use their art form to impact a variety of audiences around the world, including Notes with a Purpose in Las Vegas, Musicambia in New York, New Docta International Music Festival in Argentina, Scrag Mountain Music in Vermont, and Reveler in California. Many alumni also hold faculty and guest artist teaching positions at US universities and colleges.

For more information, visit [carnegiehall.org/ensembleconnect](http://carnegiehall.org/ensembleconnect).

### 2020–2021 Season—Carnegie Hall Partnerships

The following organizations will be artistic partners throughout the 2020–2021 season: Absolutely Live Entertainment LLC; Rosanne Cash; The Juilliard School; medici.tv; New York City Department of Education; New York City Department of Probation; Robert Browning Associates LLC; George Wein; and WQXR.
Partners for the Voices of Hope festival (as of January 2020) are: The Africa Center; American Indian Community House; Americas Society; Apollo Theater; Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University; Battery Dance; Brooklyn Institute for Social Research; Brooklyn Museum; Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute; Casa Italiana Zerilli-Marimò at New York University; Centro Primo Levi New York; China Institute; Cinema Tropical; Flushing Town Hall; Global Arts Corps Goldstein-Goren Center for American Jewish History at New York University; Harlem Stage; Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University; Japan Society; Jazz at Lincoln Center; Jazzmobile; The Jewish Museum; The Joyce Theater; Keyes Art Projects; Latin American Writers Institute of Hostos Community College and Hostos Center for Arts and Culture, CUNY; Leo Baeck Institute – New York | Berlin; The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Museum of Jewish Heritage-A Living Memorial to the Holocaust; Museum of the City of New York; National Black Theatre; Neue Galerie New York; The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts; New-York Historical Society; Orchestra of St. Luke’s; Read650; Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture; Smithsonian Folkways Recordings; Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities at Columbia University; Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum; Yiddish Book Center; and YIVO Center for Jewish Research.

TICKET INFORMATION

Carnegie Hall subscription packages for the 2020–2021 season are currently on sale. Single tickets for all 2020–2021 performances go on sale to Carnegie Hall subscribers and members on August 10 at 8:00 a.m., and to the general public on August 19 at 8:00 a.m.

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For complete 2020–2021 season information, including concert calendar, please visit carnegiehall.org/press.

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