



FWSO ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 SEASON

Programs to include world premieres, Itzhak Perlman, an appearance at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the introduction of new Artistic Partner Augustin Hadelich, the final installment of the Classical Masters Festival, and much more

FORT WORTH, TX—March 31, 2017—The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra announces the details of the 2017-2018 Symphonic Series and Pops concerts.

This will be Harth-Bedoya's 18th year at the artistic helm of the 105-year-old orchestra. The new season comprises 30 performances of 10 Symphonic programs, 21 performances of 7 Pops programs, 5 special one-night-only concerts, and a two-concert Classical Masters Festival, all to take place at Bass Performance Hall. Additionally, the Orchestra will perform in the **2018 SHIFT: Festival of American Orchestras** in Washington, D.C. in April 2018 as well as numerous community engagement and educational performances in the DFW area.

"I am excited for the 2017-2018 season, which includes a fantastic array of repertoire and some truly wonderful guest artists," said Harth-Bedoya. "We are looking forward to sharing this music with our community. We are especially honored to be participating in the 2018 SHIFT Festival at the Kennedy Center as one of only four orchestras to have been selected. It's a huge testament to our artistic quality."

Symphonic Season Overview

During the 2017-2018 season, the FWSO will perform a mix of classical favorites including Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade*, Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, Beethoven's *Symphony No. 7*, Stravinsky's Suite from *The Firebird*, Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, selections from Grieg's *Peer Gynt*, and Rachmaninoff's *Symphony No. 3*.

Guest soloists for the season include Joachin Achucarro, William Hagen, Adam Golka and Itzhak Perlman. Artists making their FWSO debuts include pianist Behzod Abduraimov, tenor Paul Appleby, harpist Maria Luisa Rayan, and cellist Raphaela Gromes, who is also making her U.S. debut with the FWSO.

The FWSO is pleased to name violinist Augustin Hadelich as the orchestra's new Artistic Partner. In 2017-2018, Hadelich will begin a one-year partnership with the orchestra during which he will perform on the Classical Masters Festival, the Symphonic Series, and in recital.

Two FWSO musicians will be featured in 2017-2018. Principal flute Jake Fridkis will perform Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp during the Classical Masters Festival. Principal Horn, Molly Norcross will perform Britten's Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings in March, 2018.

The FWSO will welcome a number of stellar guest conductors to Bass Performance Hall including Teddy Abrams, Nicholas Carter, Andrew Gourlay, and Ward Stare.

"The great majority of the repertoire that we are playing next year is made up of pieces that we have never played together in Fort Worth," said Miguel Harth-Bedoya. "Pieces like Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 3, Strauss's *Ein Heldenleben* ("A Hero's Life"), and Debussy's *Iberia*—These are pieces that I may have conducted elsewhere or that the orchestra may have played with a different conductor, but we haven't done them together. Even if it's music that you've heard before, the dynamic will be quite new."

Additionally, the season includes works by three visiting composers: *Anthology of Fantastic Zoology* by Mason Bates, who is in the midst of a residence with the National Symphony Orchestra; *RIFT: A Symphonic Ballet for Orchestra* with Texas Ballet Theater by Anna Clyne, who has had works premiered by the Chicago and Los Angeles symphonies as well as the BBC Symphony Orchestra; and *Bel Canto: A Symphonic Canvas*, a work co-commissioned for the SHIFT Festival by the FWSO and other orchestras from Jimmy López, whose opera *Bel Canto* was premiered by the Chicago Lyric Opera and was selected to appear on PBS in January 2017.

2017-2018 Symphonic Series

- **September 8-10, 2017:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya conductor; Augustin Hadelich, violin (ELGAR's *Pomp and Circumstance*, Op. 39, March No. 1 in D Major; MENDELSSOHN's Violin Concerto; RACHMANINOFF's Symphony No. 3)
- **October 6-8, 2017:** Teddy Abrams, conductor/pianist (MICHAEL TILSON-THOMAS's AGNEGRAM; RAVEL's Piano Concerto in G major; PROKOFIEV's Symphony No. 5)
- **October 27-29, 2017:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor (GRIEG's Selections from *Peer Gynt* and STRAUSS *Ein Heldenleben*)
- **November 10-12, 2017:** Nicholas Carter, conductor; Behzod Abduraimov, piano (VAUGHAN WILLIAMS's Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis; SHOSTAKOVICH's Piano Concerto No. 1; ELGAR's Enigma Variations)
- **January 12-14, 2018:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Joaquín Achúcarro, piano (FALLA's Nights in the Gardens of Spain; ALBÉNIZ's/Arr. HALFFTER Rapsodia Española; GRANADOS's Intermezzo from *Goyescas*; DEBUSSY's *Ibérica* from *Images*)
- **February 2-4, 2018:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Raphaela Gromes, cello (SCHUBERT's Overture to *Alfonso and Estrella*; SCHUMANN's Cello Concerto; MUSSORGSKY's/Orch. GORCHAKOV *Pictures at an Exhibition*)
- **February 23-25, 2018:** Andrew Gourlay, conductor; William Hagen, violin (BRAHMS's Violin Concerto; RACHMANINOFF's *The Isle of the Dead*; STRAVINSKY's Suite from *The Firebird* (1919 revision))

- **March 16-18, 2018:** Ward Stare, conductor; Paul Appleby, tenor; Molly Norcross, horn (ARNOLD's Four Scottish Dances, Op. 59; BRITTEN's Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings; BEETHOVEN's Symphony No. 7)
- **April 6-7, 2018:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Augustin Hadelich, violin; Texas Ballet Theater; Anna Clyne, visiting composer; Jimmy López, visiting composer; Kitty McNamee, choreographer (ANNA CLYNE's *RIFT: A Symphonic Ballet*; BERNSTEIN's Serenade; JIMMY LÓPEZ's *Bel Canto: A Symphonic Canvas* (FWSO Co-Commission))
- **May 18-20, 2018:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Mason Bates, visiting composer: (MASON BATES's Anthology of Fantastic Zoology; RIMSKY-KORSAKOV's Scheherazade)

Classical Masters Festival

This year is the final in the Classical Masters Festival's three-year cycle. The festival features the musical genius of the three greats in classical music: Mozart, Haydn, and Beethoven.

The Festival begins with a free screening of the Academy Award-winning film *Amadeus* on Sundance Square. Soloists include pianist and local favorite Adam Golka for Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 27, and FWSO Principal Flutist Jake Fridkis and harpist Maria Luisa Rayán in Mozart's Concerto for Flute and Harp.

The Festival Concerts:

- **August 25, 2017:** *Amadeus* on Sundance Square Plaza
- **August 26, 2017:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Jake Fridkis, flute; Maria Luisa Rayán, harp (HAYDN's Symphony No. 104, "London;" MOZART's Concerto for Flute and Harp; BEETHOVEN's *Wellington's Victory*)
- **August 27, 2017:** Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Adam Golka, piano (HAYDN's Toy Symphony; MOZART's Concerto for Piano No. 27; BEETHOVEN's Symphony No. 4)

Pops Season Overview

The 2017-2018 Pops Season captures a variety of musical genres, styles, and ages, beginning with a concert dedicated to the music of the baby boomers, continuing with a screening of clips from the movies *FANTASIA* and *FANTASIA 2000* while the FWSO performs the soundtrack live and wrapping up with the band Pink Martini. Additionally, FWSO Music Director Miguel Harth-Bedoya will conduct this season's Home for the Holidays performances for the first time in more than five years.

The Pops Concerts:

- **September 1-3, 2017:** "The Beat Goes On: Music of the Baby Boomers" - Stuart Chafetz, conductor (featuring music from TV and movies, including hits by Burt Bacharach, Simon & Garfunkel, and Frankie Valli.)
- **October 13-15, 2017:** "I Love a Piano!" - Tony DeSare, piano and vocals (featuring iconic piano music that spans more than a century and includes favorites by Elton John, Ray Charles, John Lennon, Billy Joel, and Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*)

- **November 3-5, 2017:** “Hollywood Hits” - Brian Byrne, conductor; Kelly Levesque, vocalist (featuring Golden Globe-nominated composer and conductor Brian Bryne in an evening of Hollywood films that includes hits by John Williams, the James Bond films, Korngold, and other favorite movie themes)
- **November 24-26, 2017:** “Home for the Holidays” - Miguel Harth-Bedoya, conductor; Arlington High School Chamber Singers; Lone Star Youth Chorus of Fort Worth; Paschal High School Panther Chorale; Summit High School Jaguar Chorale (featuring all of your favorite seasonal songs and a special visit by a man in a red and white suit)
- **January 26-28, 2018:** “Let’s Dance!” - William Waldrop, conductor; dancers: Ted Louis Levy, Eva Lucero, Chandraea Roettig, Stephen Sayer, Melissa Shahin, Patricio Touceda, and Forrest Walsh; vocalists: Julie Jo Hughes and Michael Lynche (featuring a range of popular dance styles including waltz, tango, swing, ’50s pop, cha-cha, and “dirty dancing.” A team of seven professional dancers and two vocalists will join the musicians onstage.)
- **March 9-11, 2018:** “Disney FANTASIA: Live in Concert” - Ted Sperling, conductor (featuring a high-definition screening of scenes from Walt Disney’s immortal films *FANTASIA* and *FANTASIA 2000* as the FWSO performs the soundtrack live)
- **April 13-15, 2018:** Pink Martini (featuring the band performing their multilingual, genre-defying hits, backed by members of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra string section)

Special Concerts and Gala

There are five stand-alone concerts including the Orchestra’s annual gala in the 2017-2018 season. These programs include celebrities, local talent, and two holiday-themed extravaganzas.

The Special Concerts:

- **September 23, 2017:** Trumpeter **Chris Botti** will grace the Bass Performance Hall stage in what promises to be a soulful, nuanced, and charming appearance.
- **November 30, 2017:** A holiday tradition, the FWSO will perform **Handel’s *Messiah***, featuring the Southwestern Seminary Master Chorale.
- **December 1, 2017:** The FWSO performs the soundtrack to the 1946 classic ***It’s a Wonderful Life*** in Bass Performance Hall while the film is projected overhead.
- **December 31, 2017:** Emmy Award-winning conductor Lee Musiker conducts “**New Year’s Eve: A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald**,” which will feature vocalist Carmen Bradford.
- **January 6, 2018:** Four-time GRAMMY Award-winners **Boyz II Men** join the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra for an evening of chart-topping hits.
- **February 10, 2018:** “A Gala Evening with **Itzhak Perlman**” with the distinguished violinist performing music from films including *Casablanca*, *Out of Africa*, *Far and Away*, and *Schindler’s List*, for which he performed the original solo in collaboration with John Williams himself.

SHIFT: Festival of American Orchestras

The FWSO is honored to have been selected as one of four orchestras to participate in the 2018 SHIFT: Festival of American Orchestras as the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. The festival is composed of mini-residencies of four selected orchestras, with each presenting education events, symposia, and community events in venues around Washington, D.C., along with full-orchestra

performances in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. The 2018 SHIFT festival takes place April 9-15, 2018.

“This is an important artistic milestone for our orchestra,” said President and CEO Amy Adkins. “To have been selected is a huge honor, and we’d like to invite our wonderful community to join us in Washington D.C. for these special performances.”

The FWSO will be joined by violinist Augustin Hadelich, Texas Ballet Theater, and visiting composers Anna Clyne and Jimmy Lopez for the performance at the Kennedy Center, which will take place on **Tuesday, April 10, 2018**. The program includes ANNA CLYNE’s *RIFT: A Symphonic Ballet*, BERNSTEIN’s *Serenade*, and JIMMY LÓPEZ’s *Bel Canto: A Symphonic Canvas*.

Ticket Information

All Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra regular season concerts take place at Bass Performance Hall near Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth unless otherwise noted.

Subscriptions for the 2017-2018 season go on sale Friday, March 31, 2017 and can be purchased by calling 817-665-6000 or online at fwsymphony.org. FREE parking in 777 Main Parking garage is available to all FWSO patrons on the night/day of their selected performance.

Symphonic subscriptions for the 2017-2018 season range in price from \$160 - \$638. Pops subscriptions range from \$182 - \$539. Classical Masters Festival subscriptions range from \$34 - \$136.

Single tickets will go on sale July 31, 2017.

Additionally, the FWSO will continue to offer discounted tickets to new symphonic listeners in the form of a New Listener voucher through which first-timers can purchase two tickets for only \$20.. Harth-Bedoya hopes to continue to expand the symphony’s footprint with these vouchers.

The FWSO’s Student Passport program, now in its fourth year, will offer discounted tickets for high school and college students. For only \$35, students can attend unlimited Symphonic concerts for one full year.

For tickets to all FWSO concerts, contact the FWSO Ticket Office at 817-665-6000 or visit www.fwsymphony.org

About the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

Since 1912, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra has educated, entertained and enhanced the cultural life of Cowtown. The Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra performs a broad range of symphonic and pops concerts from August through May. In addition to its own concert series, the Orchestra also collaborates with the Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, Southwestern Seminary Master Chorale, and the Children’s Education Program of Bass Performance Hall. Concerts In The Garden, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra’s summer music festival, was launched in 1990 and takes place each June - July at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. For more information about Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, visit www.fwsymphony.org.

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