The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County Announces the

2020-2021 KNIGHT MASTERWORKS SEASON – CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES

Four-Concert Series Features Three Extraordinary Orchestras, Plus a Recital by and Multimedia Tribute to the Brilliant Itzhak Perlman

MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Pavel Kogan, music director & chief conductor
Blake Pouliot, violin
January 16, 2021

MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA
Valery Gergiev, conductor
February 6, 2021

THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA
Sir Andrew Davis, conductor
February 18, 2021
AN EVENING WITH ITZHAK PERLMAN
Itzhak Perlman, violin
Rohan De Silva, piano
March 7, 2021
Four-show subscriptions start at $182
John S. and James L. Knight Concert Hall

2020-2021 Knight Masterworks Season Classical Music Series

MIAMI, FL June 23, 2020 – The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County (@arshtcenter) is proud to announce the 2020-2021 KNIGHT MASTERWORKS SEASON CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES - an extraordinary lineup of some of the greatest orchestras and musicians of our time programmed for the Arsht Center’s 15th season.

The season opens in January 2021 with the MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, and closes in March 2021 with AN EVENING WITH ITZHAK PERLMAN, a new multimedia experience with Perlman sharing stories of his life and career and performing with his longtime pianist Rohan De Silva.

The four anticipated evenings of classical music feature three internationally celebrated orchestras:

- **MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** spotlights violinist Blake Pouliot in Bruch’s beloved Violin Concerto, plus Tchaikovsky’s magisterial Symphony No. 6, led by music director and chief conductor Pavel Kogan.
- **MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA** led by artistic and general director Valery Gergiev, plays masterworks by Schubert and Bruckner.
- **THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA** plays symphonies by Mozart and Brahms, led by the prolific Sir Andrew Davis.

“We are thrilled to be able to open our doors again and welcome our community to share the joy of live classical music in the Knight Concert Hall,” said Liz Wallace, vice president of programming at the Arsht Center. “To bring to our audiences these four spectacular programs featuring some of the most thrilling artists anywhere in the world will be a much-needed life-affirming celebration.”

**FREE PRE-CONCERT TALKS presented by Steinway & Sons Miami**
To complete the musical experience, Miami-based classical music experts will offer free pre-concert lectures in the Arsht Center’s Peacock Foundation Education Center (inside the Knight Concert Hall) prior to every concert in the series.

The 2020-2021 Knight Masterworks Season Classical Music Series is funded with leadership support from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, with additional support from Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Miami Health System; Funding Arts Network; Steinway Piano Gallery of Miami; Caring Friends Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Co-Trustee; and Encore Circle members.

“Great art connects people to place and one another,” said Victoria Rogers, Knight Foundation vice president of arts. “These performances, presented by the Arsht Center, are part of what makes Miami a world-class city with a powerful sense of community.”
TICKETS:
Subscriptions for the four-concert KNIGHT MASTERWORKS CLASSICAL MUSIC SERIES range from $182 - $630* and are on sale now. Payment plans for subscriptions are available. Subscriptions can be purchased or renewed at arshtcenter.org or by phone at (305) 949-6722. Priority group seating for 15 or more guests may be arranged by calling the Adrienne Arsht Center at (786) 468-2326.

Arsht Center Commitment to Safety
Before the curtain rises once again, we will implement a series of new measures for your safety and peace of mind. They include reinforced hygiene practices with Arsht Center staff, enhanced cleaning protocols and, likely, requiring guests to follow additional safety practices. Your safety and well-being continue to be our top priority. We will share additional details as we get closer to welcoming guests to the Arsht Center once again. Please visit here for updates and details.

CONCERT INFORMATION:

MOSCOW STATE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Pavel Kogan, music director and chief conductor
Blake Pouliot, violin
January 16, 2021, at 8 p.m.

PROKOFIEV Overture on Hebrew Themes
BRUCH Violin Concerto No. 1
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 6

“The level of talent in the orchestra was utterly astonishing.” –Louisville.com

Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 6, known as the “Pathétique,” was, in the composer’s own words, “the best thing I wrote.” It was also his last, his farewell to his beloved Russia and to the world, and a beautiful affirmation of life. The program opens with the Overture on Hebrew Themes, written by Prokofiev during his stay in the United States 1918-1920, a magical score that evokes the Jewish shtetl (or smalltown) culture and the klezmer clarinet’s laughter through tears. Bruch’s beloved Violin Concerto No. 1, with its soaring melodies and fiendish flights of virtuosity, completes the stunning program.

The Moscow State Symphony Orchestra (MSSO) was founded in 1943 by the Kremlin and is one of the oldest symphony orchestras in Russia. One highlight in the history of the MSSO has been to present the cycles of complete symphonic works from leading composers: Brahms, Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, R. Strauss, Mendelssohn, Mahler, Bruckner, Sibelius, Dvorak, Tchaikovsky, Glazunov, Rachmaninoff, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Scriabin, Berlioz, Debussy and Ravel. The orchestra’s wide-ranging programs combine great orchestral, operatic, and choral classics with equally significant music of the 21st century, including many forgotten or neglected works. The MSSO became renowned around the globe under the leadership of Pavel Kogan. In 1989, he was engaged as music director and chief conductor and immediately enriched the orchestra with European and American classical repertoire, earning the orchestra an enviable reputation for high standards of artistic excellence, imaginative programming and community engagement. Maestro Kogan’s career has spanned over 40 years and five continents and has led him to becoming one of the most respected and widely known Russian
Violinist Blake Pouliot has joined the upper echelons of brilliant soloists, establishing himself as a consummate 21st century artist with the rigor and passion to shine for a lifetime. At only 26-years-old, the tenacious violinist has been praised by the *Toronto Star* as "one of those special talents that comes along once in a lifetime."

**MARIINSKY ORCHESTRA**

Valery Gergiev, artistic and general director
February 6, 2021, at 8 p.m.

**SCHUBERT** Symphony No. 8 “Unfinished”

**BRUCKNER** Symphony No. 8

“The performance was as precise and urgent at the end as at the beginning, leaving only the audience wrung out by a superabundance of passion.” – *Chicago Tribune*

Schubert left us only two movements of his Symphony No. 8, but it is difficult to imagine what more he could have done. The “Unfinished” is a majestic score of heartbreaking pathos that remains a challenge to any great orchestra and an immensely satisfying experience for audiences everywhere. Bruckner’s Symphony No. 8 was the last the German master completed, a vast and gorgeous musical tapestry that elicited this comment from the composer himself “Hallelujah! The finale is the most significant movement of my life." In this one concert, audiences will experience the beginning and end of the great 19th century German Romantic orchestral movement.

The Mariinsky Orchestra enjoys a long and distinguished history as one of the oldest musical institutions in Russia. Its history dates back to the first orchestra of the St. Petersburg Imperial Opera Orchestra, covering a period of more than 200 years. Housed in St. Petersburg's famed Mariinsky Theatre since 1860, the orchestra now also performs in its superb 21st-century Concert Hall (2006) and its second opera house, Mariinsky II (2013), built for modern stage technologies. Valery Gergiev is a vivid representative of the St. Petersburg conducting school. His debut at the Mariinsky (then Kirov) Theatre came in 1978 with Prokofiev's *War and Peace*.

In 1988 Valery Gergiev was appointed music director of the Mariinsky Theatre, and in 1996 he became its artistic and general director. Gergiev's leadership and the success of the orchestra's frequent tours have enabled the Mariinsky Theatre to forge important relationships for the Mariinsky Ballet and Opera to appear in the world's greatest opera houses and theaters, among them the Metropolitan Opera; the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC; the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden; the San Francisco Opera; the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris; the Salzburg Festival; and La Scala in Milan. Additionally, Gergiev has led the Philharmonic Orchestras of Berlin, Paris, Vienna, New York and Los Angeles, the Symphony Orchestras of Chicago, Cleveland, Boston and San Francisco, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra (Amsterdam) and many other ensembles. From 1995 to 2008 Valery Gergiev was Principal Conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic (of which he remains an honorary conductor to this day), and from 2007 to 2015 of the London Symphony Orchestra. Since autumn 2015 the maestro has headed the Munich Philharmonic.

**THE PHILADELPHIA ORCHESTRA**

Sir Andrew Davis, conductor
February 18, 2021, at 8 p.m.
WEBER: Overture to Oberon
MOZART: Symphony No. 39
BRAHMS: Symphony No. 2

“No American orchestra sounds more alive!” - The New York Times

Dramatic in its original theatrical context and exhilarating by any standard, the overture to Weber's Shakespearean opera Oberon is a gripping score in its own right and one of the most successful blends of flights of fantasy and sheer virtuosity. Surprising and often breathtaking, the Symphony No. 39 is the first of the 32-year-old Mozart's final trio of orchestral masterpieces. To close the program, the Philadelphians bring their unique sound to Brahms' majestic Symphony No. 2, one of the glories of Romantic music.

The Philadelphia Orchestra is one of the world’s preeminent orchestras. It strives to share the transformative power of music with the widest possible audience, and to create joy, connection, and excitement through music in the Philadelphia region, across the country, and around the world. Through innovative programming, robust educational initiatives, and an ongoing commitment to the communities that it serves, the ensemble is on a path to create an expansive future for classical music, and to further the place of the arts in an open and democratic society. The orchestra will be led by Sir Andrew Davis, music director and principal conductor of the Lyric Opera of Chicago since 2000. Through his prolific recordings, his many international tours, and his guest appearances and relationships with several of the finest orchestras and opera companies in Europe, North America, and Australia, Sir Andrew Davis is one of today's most recognized and acclaimed conductors.

AN EVENING WITH ITZHAK PERLMAN
Itzhak Perlman, violin
Rohan De Silva, piano
March 7, 2021, at 8 p.m.
Program to be announced.

“There is probably no more talented violinist in the world” – The New York Times

Join us for a special 75th birthday celebration of Itzhak Perlman, whose career is legendary since making his U.S. debut on The Ed Sullivan Show over 60 years ago. The program will be a new multi-media experience with Perlman sharing stories of his life and career and performing with his longtime pianist Rohan De Silva. This will be a unique and extraordinary event, not to be missed.

Undeniably the reigning virtuoso of the violin, Itzhak Perlman enjoys superstar status rarely afforded a classical musician. Having performed with every major orchestra and leading concert hall around the globe, he is treasured by audiences throughout the world who respond not only to his remarkable artistry, but also to his irrepresible joy for making music. Perlman’s recordings have garnered 16 GRAMMY® Awards and regularly appear on the best-seller charts. In 2008, Perlman was honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award for excellence in the recording arts.
Rohan De Silva has toured with Perlman in sold-out concerts throughout the United States, Asia and to Europe and returns to the Knight Concert Hall for this magnificent evening. De Silva’s partnerships with violin virtuosos also includes Pinchas Zukerman, Midori, Joshua Bell, Gil Shaham, and many more.

To download high-resolution versions of the photos above, click [here](#).

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*All programs, artists, ticket prices, availability, dates and times are subject to change without notice. Visit arshtcenter.org for up-to-date information.

_The Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is made possible by the public support of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners, the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Tourist Development Council and the City of Miami Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, as well as the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The Adrienne Arsht Center also receives generous support from individuals, corporations and local, state and national foundations._

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**About the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County**

Set in the heart of downtown Miami and designed by world-renowned architect Cesar Pelli, the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts of Miami-Dade County is one of the world’s leading performing arts organizations and venues. Since opening in 2006, the Arsht Center, a 501C3 non-profit organization, has emerged as a leader in presenting innovative programming that mirrors South Florida’s diversity as well as
a catalyst for billions of dollars in new development in the downtown area. Spotlighting legends and serving as a launch pad for local artists to make their mark on the international stage, the Center presents nearly 400 events each year across its flexible, state-of-the-art performance spaces. The Center programs several Signature Series, including the largest jazz series in South Florida, a major annual Flamenco Festival, and a robust program of new theatrical works as well as free programming for the community and an arts education program that serves nearly 60,000 children each year. As Miami’s new Town Square, the Arsht Center also houses BRAVA by Brad Kilgore, a fine dining restaurant; the Café at Books & Books in the historic Carnival Tower and a weekly Farmers Market. Visit arshtcenter.org for more information.

About John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
Knight Foundation is a national foundation with strong local roots. We invest in journalism, in the arts, and in the success of cities where brothers John S. and James L. Knight once published newspapers. Our goal is to foster informed and engaged communities, which we believe are essential for a healthy democracy. For more visit kf.org.

About Steinway Piano Gallery of Miami
The Steinway Piano Gallery of Miami is one of only 8 Steinway & Sons factory showrooms in the country. Steinway & Sons is dedicated to the ideal of hand-crafting the finest pianos in the world. As a result, the majority of the world's concert pianists of all genres perform exclusively on Steinway & Sons Pianos. In addition, Steinway & Sons pianos are found in the world's greatest homes and estates. In its 158th year, Steinway & Sons was founded in 1853 by German immigrant Henry Engelhard Steinway in a Manhattan loft on Varick Street. Henry and his sons, C. F. Theodore, Charles, Henry Jr., William, and Albert, developed the modern piano and to this day Steinway continues to perfect their instruments at their famed factory in Astoria, (Queens) New York. They build their pianos one at a time, applying skills that are handed down from master to apprentice, generation after generation. The result is instruments renowned worldwide for their unsurpassed sound and quality. Pianos with such superior sound and responsive touch they enchant not only the most legendary pianists to date, but the most discerning of music lovers.