



2021•22 SEASON ANDRIS NELSONS MUSIC DIRECTOR



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS,
MARCH 31–APRIL 16

BSO MARKS THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BRITTEN'S *WAR REQUIEM*, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANTONIO PAPPANO (3/31–4/2); BSO ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR ANNA RAKITINA MAKES HER FORMAL SYMPHONY HALL DEBUT (4/7–9); ALAN GILBERT LEADS WORLD PREMIERE OF BERNARD RANDS WORK AND BEETHOVEN'S VIOLIN CONCERTO WITH SUPERSTAR VIOLINIST JOSHUA BELL (4/14–16); BSO.ORG



Antonio Pappano, Anna Rakitina, Alan Gilbert, Joshua Bell

The **Tanglewood Festival Chorus** Returns to Formal Concertizing with Performances of Britten's Powerful *War Requiem*, Also Featuring Soprano **Amanda Majeski**, Tenor **Ian Bostridge**, Baritone **Matthias Goerne**, and the **Britten Children's Choir**, Under the Direction of **Antonio Pappano**

Thursday and Saturday, March 31 and April 2, at 8 p.m.; Friday, April 1, at 1:30 p.m.

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French Pianist **Alexandre Kantorow** Makes his BSO Debut with Tchaikovsky's Second Piano Concerto, Led by BSO Assistant Conductor **Anna Rakitina** Who Herself Conducts Her First Formal Symphony Hall Program with Works by **Ellen Reid** and Sibelius

Thursday and Saturday, April 7 and 9, at 8 p.m.; Friday, February April 8, at 1:30 p.m.

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A Favorite and Frequent Guest of the BSO, **Joshua Bell** Plays Beethoven's Popular Violin Concerto, with Conductor **Alan Gilbert** Who Also Leads the Orchestra in the World Premiere of **Bernard Rands'** Symphonic Fantasy and Debussy's *La Mer*

Thursday, April 14, at 10:30 a.m. (Open Rehearsal); Thursday and Saturday, April 14 and 16, at 8 p.m.; Friday, April 15, at 8 p.m.

Through April 8, **BSO NOW** features free archival video concert stream of the orchestra's 1963 American premiere of Britten's *War Requiem*, available at [bso.org/now](https://www.bso.org/now); additional info about featured *BSO NOW* concert streams appears below



From the American premiere of Britten's War Requiem on July 27, 1963, the concluding selection "Let Us Sleep," conducted by Erich Leinsdorf at Tanglewood; [click here](#) to view

Final **Boston Symphony Chamber Players** concert of the season on **April 10** includes pianist **Inon Barnatan** in Shostakovich's Piano Quintet; a listing with complete program appears at the end of this press release

TICKETS FOR THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON, STARTING AT \$25, ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH BSO.ORG OR BY CALLING 888-266-1200

[Click here](#) to view a press kit, including downloadable photos, video, and bios

To request interviews or press tickets, contact Grace Munns at gmunns@bso.org or call 617-638-9286

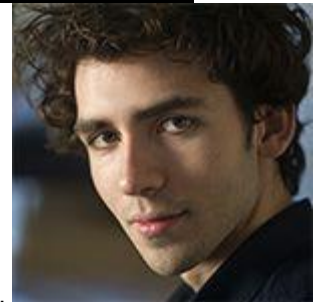
Program Details for BSO Concerts with Antonio Pappano, Amanda Majeski, Ian Bostridge, Matthias Goerne, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and Britten Children's Choir, March 31-April 2



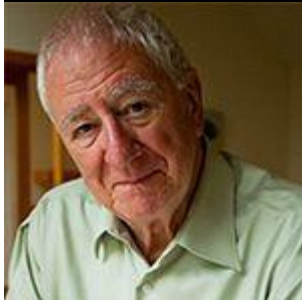
2022 marks the 60th anniversary of Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*, which was commissioned to mark the consecration of the rebuilt Coventry Cathedral, destroyed during a bombing raid in World War II. Britten's piece takes a firm pacifist stance, setting World War I-era poetry by Wilfred Owen—sung by the two male soloists—interleaved with his setting of the traditional Latin mass for the dead. The Boston Symphony Orchestra gave the American premiere of this great work at Tanglewood in 1963 under Erich Leinsdorf. British-Italian conductor **Antonio Pappano** conducts this concert also featuring the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, American soprano **Amanda Majeski**, British tenor **Ian Bostridge**, German baritone **Matthias Goerne**, and the Britten Children's Choir. This is the first BSO concert by the TFC since March 2020.

Program Details for BSO Concerts with Anna Rakitina and Alexandre Kantorow, April 7-9

Having made her Symphony Hall debut in the BSO's streamed concerts of 2020–21, Assistant Conductor **Anna Rakitina** conducts her first formal, live-audience Symphony Hall program featuring the BSO debut of French pianist **Alexandre Kantorow** (right). The grand prix winner in the 2019 Tchaikovsky Competition performs Tchaikovsky's rarely heard Piano Concerto No. 2, an attractive work long overshadowed by the composer's immensely popular Concerto No. 1. Tennessee-born composer **Ellen Reid** won the 2019 Pulitzer Prize in Music for her opera *p r i s m*. Her 2019 orchestral score *When the World as You've Known It Doesn't Exist* revels in energy and pure orchestral sound; the instrumental ensemble is enhanced by the earthy sounds of three soprano voices. Sibelius' one-movement Symphony No. 7, one of his last completed works, was an entirely personal reinvention of the genre that had occupied him for almost forty years and which was closely tied to the landscape and culture of Finland.



Program Details for BSO Concerts with Alan Gilbert and Joshua Bell, April 14-16



Violinist **Joshua Bell** joins conductor **Alan Gilbert** for Beethoven's expansive Violin Concerto, one of the most popular violin concertos of all time. Composed almost simultaneously with his opera *Leonore*, the concerto features some of the composer's warmest and most lyrical music. Pulitzer Prize-winning composer **Bernard Rands**' (left) music has been championed by the BSO over the course of his career; the orchestra most recently premiered his Concerto for Piano with soloist Jonathan Biss in 2014. The Symphonic Fantasy, which the BSO premieres this weekend, is another BSO co-commission. Completing the program is Claude Debussy's picturesque, symphony-like masterpiece *La Mer*, in which the composer paints a musical picture of the sea's many moods and colors. The BSO gave the American premiere of *La Mer* in 1907.

COVID-19 pandemic protocols for Symphony Hall performances and events are available at [bso.org/safety](https://www.bso.org/safety).

BSO NOW Concert Streaming in 2021–22 Season

The **Anna Rakitina** and **Alexandre Kantorow** BSO program will be available as a *BSO NOW* livestream on Saturday, April 9 at 8 p.m., and for video-on-demand viewing, April 21–May 21.



Current broadcasts include February 19's BSO concert with guest conductor **Herbert Blomstedt** and pianist **Martin Helmchen**, available on-demand through April 2; March 5's BSO concert with BSO Music Director **Andris Nelsons** and violinist **Leonidas Kavakos**, available on-demand through April 16; and March 13's Tanglewood Learning Institute chamber music program with BSO violinists **Victor Romanul** and **Xin Ding**, violist **Daniel Getz**, cellist **Mickey Katz**, and pianist **Randall Hodgkinson**, available on-demand March 31–April 30.

In addition, the BSO will present for free viewing through April 8 an archival video concert stream of the orchestra's 1963 American premiere of Britten's *War Requiem*, conducted by then-Music Director **Erich Leinsdorf** at Tanglewood. The historic recording features vocalists **Phyllis Curtin**, **Nicolas di Virgilio**, and **Tom Krause**, as well as **Chorus Pro Musica** and **Columbus Boy Choir**. One of the most powerful artistic statements about the effects of war and power of pacifism—and imbued with timeless meaning—Britten's *War Requiem* is being offered in a spirit of peace and unity, with hopes for an end to the ongoing tragic conflict in Ukraine and throughout the world.

[Click here](#) for further details about the 2021–22 *BSO NOW* online performance series.

The season pass price for *BSO NOW* access is \$50 for the remainder of season (through the April 21 release which expires on May 21). Donors and subscribers receive 15% off (\$42.50). For more information or to purchase a *BSO NOW* pass, please go to bso.org/bso-now. (Members of the press may access *BSO NOW* content by emailing merikson@bso.org.)

In addition, CRB Classical 99.5, a GBH station—celebrating their 70th anniversary of presenting Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts—will feature live BSO radio broadcasts and online audio streams ([classicalwcrb.org](https://www.classicalwcrb.org)) of Saturday-evening concerts from Symphony Hall at 8 p.m., October 2-April 30.

Artist Websites:

[Antonio Pappano](#), [Amanda Majeski](#), [Ian Bostridge](#), [Matthias Goerne](#), [Anna Rakitina](#), [Alexandre Kantorow](#), [Alan Gilbert](#), [Joshua Bell](#) [Boston Symphony Orchestra](#)

Ticket Information, Discounted Programs, and the BSO's Website and Social Media Channels

Tickets for the 2021–22 BSO season, starting at \$25, are available for purchase through bso.org or by calling 888-266-1200. [Click here](#) for additional ticketing information, including details on the BSO's discounted ticket programs—the High School and College Cards, \$25 tickets for patrons under 40, Rush Tickets, EBT Card to Culture, and Group Sales—as well as access information for patrons with disabilities.

Further details about the BSO's many activities and ticketing options are available at bso.org. Patrons can also interact with the Boston Symphony Orchestra on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bostonsymphony>); Twitter (<https://twitter.com/BostonSymphony>); Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/bostonsymphony/>); and LinkedIn (<https://linkedin.com/company/boston-symphony-orchestra/mycompany>).

SPONSORSHIP DETAILS

Longstanding major corporate partner **Bank of America** returns as the BSO Lead Season Sponsor for the 2021–22 season.

The BSO is proud to announce that the **Arbella Insurance Foundation**, a longtime sponsor, is continuing its major sponsorship for the 16th season with its support of new audience development initiatives. The BSO is also delighted to have **Fairmont Copley Plaza** in its 20th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO.

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON:

[Complete 2021-22 Season Listing](#)

[Andris Nelsons-Led Programs in 2021-22 season](#)

[Narrative Description of the 2021-22 Season](#)

LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON

[BSO Media Center](#)

[BSO Youth and Community Programs](#)

[BSO Food and Beverage Services](#)

CONCERT PROGRAM LISTINGS, MARCH 31–APRIL 16

Boston Symphony Orchestra Program Listing, March 31–April 2, 2022

Thursday, March 31, 8 p.m.

Friday, April 1, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 2, 8 p.m.

Antonio Pappano, conductor

Amanda Majeski, soprano*

Ian Bostridge, tenor

Matthias Goerne, baritone

Tanglewood Festival Chorus and Britten Children’s Choir, James Burton, conductor

BRITTEN *War Requiem*

Boston Symphony Orchestra Program Listing, April 7–9, 2022

Thursday, April 7, 8 p.m.

Friday, April 8, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 8 p.m.

Anna Rakitina, conductor

Alexandre Kantorow, piano*

TCHAIKOVSKY Piano Concerto No. 2

Ellen REID *When the World as You've Known It Doesn't Exist*

SIBELIUS Symphony No. 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra Program Listing, April 14–16, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 10:30 a.m. (Open Rehearsal)

Thursday, April 14, 8 p.m.

Friday, April 15, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 19, 8 p.m.

Alan Gilbert, conductor

Joshua Bell, violin

Bernard RANDS Symphonic Fantasy (world premiere; BSO co-commission)

DEBUSSY *La Mer*

BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto

* *BSO debut*

Boston Symphony Chamber Players Program Listing

Sunday, April 10, 3 p.m.

Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory

With **Inon Barnatan, piano**

Anna Rakitina, conductor

GLINKA *Trio pathétique* in D minor for clarinet, bassoon, and piano

Sofia GUBAIDULINA Sonata for double bass and piano

Elena LANGER *Five Reflections on Water*, for ensemble

SHOSTAKOVICH Piano Quintet in G minor, Op. 57

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