



BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

2022–23 SEASON • ANDRIS NELSONS MUSIC DIRECTOR

For immediate release

March 27, 2023

MUSIC DIRECTOR **ANDRIS NELSONS** LEADS THE FINAL FOUR **BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** 2022–23 SEASON PROGRAMS—ON APRIL 13–MAY 6, AT SYMPHONY HALL

The BSO programs feature American premieres of works by **Thomas Adès** and **Thierry Escaich**, and music by Britten, Mozart, Rachmaninoff, Ravel, Caroline Shaw, Shostakovich, Sibelius, and Stravinsky

Joining Maestro Nelsons and the BSO for these four spring programs are cellist **Gautier Capuçon**, pianist **Seong-Jin Cho**, violinist **Augustin Hadelich**, violinist **Anne-Sophie Mutter**, and soprano **Golda Schultz**, as well as German bass-baritone **Matthias Goerne** and the tenors and basses of the **Tanglewood Festival Chorus** and **New England Conservatory Symphonic Choir** in Shostakovich's Symphony No. 13, *Babi Yar*, the culmination of the BSO's Grammy-winning Shostakovich symphonic cycle

The season's final **Thursday Morning Open Rehearsal** (April 13 at 10:30 a.m.) and "**Casual Friday**" performances (April 28 at 8 p.m.) offer a different kind of concert experience with reduced ticket prices.

Thursday, April 13, 10:30 a.m. (Open Rehearsal) and 7:30 p.m.; Friday, April 14, 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 15, 8 p.m.

Highlighting this program is the American premiere of French composer/organist **Thierry Escaich's** *Les Chants de l'Aube*, for cello and orchestra, a BSO co-commission. The soloist is Escaich's countryman, acclaimed cellist **Gautier Capuçon**, who performed the world premiere in Leipzig this month with Andris Nelsons leading the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra. Opening the program is

Ravel's *Alborada del gracioso*, tinged with flamenco rhythms and Spanish flavor, and closing it is Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2, by turns lush and exuberant.

BSO Thursday Morning Open Rehearsals give patrons the opportunity to experience the creative dynamic between conductor and orchestra as they refine their performance in the final rehearsal before the concert. The last Open Rehearsal of the season takes place on April 13.

Thursday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 22, 8 p.m.

The following week brings the American premiere of another BSO co-commission, **Thomas Adès'** Sibelius-inspired *Air*, for violin and orchestra, led by **Andris Nelsons**, with superstar soloist **Anne-Sophie Mutter**, for whom Adès wrote this work. Ms. Mutter also performs Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 1, the composer's first surviving original concerto for any instrument. Rounding out the program are two works by Sibelius: *Luonnotar*, the dramatic tone poem based on Finnish creation myth, with the young South African soprano **Golda Schultz** in her BSO debut; and the Fifth Symphony, which the composer revised extensively following its 1915 premiere, to make it "more down-to-earth, more vivid," as he himself commented.

Friday, April 28, 8 p.m. (Casual Friday); Saturday, April 29, 8 p.m.

Andris Nelsons leads the BSO in Ravel's Piano Concerto in G, with the dynamic South Korean pianist **Seong-Jin Cho** as soloist. In this entertaining work, the composer intended to highlight "the soloist's virtuosity, without seeking to show profundity." Closing the program is the 1947 version of Stravinsky's ballet score *Petrushka*, which depicts the hapless living puppet title character in scenes from a carnival fair. The concert opener for Saturday only is Pulitzer Prize-winning American composer **Caroline Shaw's** *Punctum*, a BSO-commissioned orchestral arrangement of a J.S. Bach-inspired work originally composed for string quartet.

BSO Casual Friday Concerts: On April 28, the orchestra performs the last of this season's four Casual Friday concerts. These concerts offer a shorter program (the Ravel and Stravinsky works only) with no intermission, reduced pricing, remarks from the stage by an orchestra member, "conductor cam" seating, and post-concert Casual Conversation.

Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, May 5, 1:30 p.m., Saturday, May 6, 8 p.m.

For the final concert of the BSO's 2022-23 season, **Andris Nelsons** and the BSO conclude their multi-year survey of Shostakovich symphonies with a performance of his Symphony No. 13, *Babi Yar*, featuring German bass-baritone **Matthias Goerne** and the tenors and basses of the **Tanglewood Festival Chorus** (James Burton, conductor) and **New England Conservatory Symphonic Choir** (Erica J. Washburn, conductor). A five-movement denunciation of Stalinism completed in 1962, this intense, dark work is based on poems by Yevgeny Yevtushenko. One movement memorializes a Nazi massacre of Ukrainian Jews

and the remaining movements depict “gallows humor,” the perseverance of Soviet women, suppression (“Fears are dying out in Russia”), and the hypocrisy of bureaucrats. Also on the program is Britten’s Violin Concerto with soloist **Augustin Hadelich** returning to the Symphony Hall stage. This early work represents the composer’s reaction to the tragedy of the Spanish Civil War

*Please note: Bass **Ildar Abdrazakov**, who was originally scheduled to perform in Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 13, has withdrawn from these concerts for family reasons.*

The 2022–23 season is Andris Nelsons’ ninth as the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s Ray and Maria Stata Music Director. The fifteenth music director in the BSO’s history, Andris Nelsons made his debut with the orchestra at Carnegie Hall in March 2011, his Tanglewood debut in July 2012, and his Symphony Hall debut in January 2013. [Click here](#) for a complete bio of **BSO Music Director Andris Nelsons**.

[Click here for photos and bios related to these programs](#)

PROGRAM LISTINGS

Thursday, April 13, 10:30 a.m. (Open rehearsal)

Thursday, April 13, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 14, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 15, 8 p.m.

Andris Nelsons, conductor

Gautier Capuçon, cello

RAVEL *Alborada del gracioso*

Thierry ESCAICH *Les Chants de l’Aube*, for cello and orchestra (American premiere)

RACHMANINOFF Symphony No. 2

Thursday, April 20, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, April 21, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 22, 8 p.m.

Andris Nelsons, conductor

Anne-Sophie Mutter, violin

Golda Schultz, soprano*

SIBELIUS *Luonnotar*

MOZART Violin Concerto No. 1

Thomas ADÈS *Air*, for violin and orchestra (American premiere)

SIBELIUS Symphony No. 5

* BSO Debut

Saturday, April 29, 8 p.m.

Andris Nelsons, conductor

Seong-Jin Cho, piano

Caroline SHAW *Punctum* (April 29 only)

RAVEL Piano Concerto in G

STRAVINSKY *Petrushka* (1947 version)

Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 5, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 6, 8 p.m.

Andris Nelsons, conductor

Augustin Hadelich, violin

Matthias Goerne*, bass-baritone

Tenors and Basses of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus,

James Burton, conductor

Tenors and Basses of the New England Conservatory Symphonic Choir

Erica J. Washburn, conductor

BRITTEN Violin Concerto

SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 13, *Babi Yar*

* Replacing Ildar Abdrazakov who withdrew for family reasons.

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How to Purchase Tickets

Tickets may be purchased through [bso.org](https://www.bso.org), by calling 888-266-1200, or by visiting the Symphony Hall Box Office.

Accessibility

Accessible seats and other accommodations are available for all patrons. Disability [accommodations](#) can be made by calling 617-638-9431 or email access@bso.org. For more information, visit [bso.org/accessibility](https://www.bso.org/accessibility).

Sponsorship Details

Longstanding major corporate partner **Bank of America** returns as the BSO Lead Season Sponsor for the 2022–23 season.

The BSO is proud to announce that the **Arbella Insurance Foundation**, a longtime sponsor, is continuing its major sponsorship for the 17th season as the Music [for](#) All Sponsor, supporting new audience development initiatives. The BSO is delighted to have **Fairmont Copley Plaza** return for its 21st season as the Official Hotel of the BSO.

The BSO is thrilled to welcome back **Genesis Motor America** as a season sponsor and the Official Vehicle of the BSO. The BSO is excited to have **Turkish Airlines** as a new season sponsor.

PRESS CONTACTS

Jan Devereux, Interim Senior Director of Public Relations & Communications, jdevereux@bso.org; Tel: 617-638-9283

Matthew Erikson, Senior Publicist, merikson@bso.org; Tel: 617-638-9284

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Tanglewood | 297 West Street | Lenox, MA 01240 | [Box Office Hours](#)

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