

Cleveland Orchestra announces its 2017-2018 Centennial Season

by Daniel Hathaway



Some 1,200 patrons gathered at Severance Hall on Friday evening, March 17 to hear details of The Cleveland Orchestra's 100th-anniversary season in 2017-2018.

The evening began with a sumptuous reception in the lobbies accompanied by string music from members of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra playing alongside Cleveland Orchestra musicians.

Moving to the main auditorium, the crowd heard remarks from executive director André Gremillet and newly-elected Musical Arts Association president Richard K. Smucker, and reflections from Orchestra musicians Massimo La Rosa, Martha Baldwin, and Joshua Smith on their experiences. Three videos related the history of the Orchestra and its relationship to the community.





Elegantly introduced by COYO principal bass Redd Ingram, music director Franz Welser-Möst gave the audience a charmingly informal introduction to the Centennial Season, full of dry humor and personal anecdotes.

He spoke about the Orchestra's commitment to education and young audiences, and gave a philosophical backstory to mini-series in the 2017-2018 lineup like "The Ecstasy of Tristan and Isolde" and "The Prometheus Project." Welser-Möst also spoke about his special relationship with the Orchestra and the unique quality of its Cleveland audience — referring to the community as perhaps

one of the most sophisticated on the planet.

Then he said, "It's time to party," inviting the audience to enjoy champagne, desserts, and music from the Cleveland Bluegrass Orchestra, made up of TCO members Trina Struble (fiddle), Mark Dumm (banjo), Jeffrey Zehngut (mandolin), Henry Peyrebrune (guitar), and Derek Zadinsky (bass) — all but Zadinsky taking up instruments they don't normally perform on during their day jobs.

Highlights of the 100th-anniversary season include the revival of Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*; Haydn's oratorio *The Seasons* with soprano Golda Schultz, tenor Maximilian Schmitt, and baritone Thomas Hampson; a full concert performance of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* featuring tenor Gerhard Siegel and soprano Nina Stemme; Messiaen's *Turangalîla-Symphonie*; and all nine of Beethoven's Symphonies.



The distinguished list of guest conductors will include (in order of appearance) Vladimir Ashkenazy, Nicholas McGegan, Giancarlo Guerrero, Fabio Luisi, music director laureate Christoph von Dohnányi, Bernard Labadie, Charles Dutoit, Nikolaj Znaider, Michael Tilson Thomas, Alan Gilbert, Stéphane Denève, and Jakub Hrůša.

Among the instrumental soloists will be pianists Emanuel Ax, Marc-André Hamelin, Jonathan Biss, Richard Goode, Mitsuko Uchida, Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Yefim Bronfman, and Daniil Trifonov, violinists Isabelle Faust and Sergey Khachatryan, cellist Alisa Weilerstein, harpsichordist Jory Vinikour, organist Paul Jacobs, and ondes Martenot player Cynthia Millar.

New works include the Cleveland premieres of Johannes Maria Staud's *Stromab*, a new piano concerto by Salvatore Sciarrino, Julian Anderson's *Incantesimi*, and Stephen Paulus's *Grand Concerto for Organ and Orchestra*.

The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus and Children's Chorus will take part in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and COC will be featured in Haydn's *The Seasons*, Ravel's *Daphnis and Chloé*, works by Gabrieli, Bach's *Cantata*, BWV 170, and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The men of the chorus will participate in Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*.

The complete schedule follows:

Saturday, September 23, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 24, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

Cleveland Orchestra Children's Chorus

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

JANÁČEK *The Cunning Little Vixen*

Opera with digital animation

(Sung in Czech with English supertitles)

Martina Janková, *soprano* (Vixen)

Jennifer Johnson Cano, *mezzo-soprano* (Fox)

Alan Held, *baritone* (Forester)

Andrew Foster-Williams, *bass-baritone* (Harašta)

David Cangelosi, *tenor* (Schoolmaster/Mosquito)

Dashon Burton, *bass-baritone* (Parson/Badger)
Marian Vogel, *soprano* (Chief Hen/Mrs. Pásek/Blue Jay)
Sandra Ross, *mezzo-soprano* (Forester's Wife/Woodpecker)
Daryl Freedman, *mezzo-soprano* (Lapák)
Clarissa Lyons, *mezzo-soprano* (Rooster/Owl)
Brian Keith Johnson, *baritone* (Pásek)
Miranda Scholl, *soprano* (Franzl/Grasshopper)

Production by Yuval Sharon

Animation by Walter Robot Studios – Bill Barminski and Christopher Louie

Projection and Lighting Design by Jason Thompson

Costume Design and Makeup by Ann Closs-Farley

Mask Design by Cristina Waltz

Thursday, September 28, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 30, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst *conductor*

BEETHOVEN *Quartet No. 15 in a minor*, Op. 132 (adapted for string orchestra)

STRAVINSKY *The Rite of Spring* (Le sacre du printemps)

Friday, September 29, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst *conductor*

BEETHOVEN *Quartet No. 15 in a minor*, Op. 132 (adapted for string orchestra)

BEETHOVEN *Leonore Overture No. 3*

Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 6, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

MAHLER *Symphony No. 6* ("Tragic")

Gala: Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

VERDI Ballet Music from *Don Carlo*

RESPIGHI *The Birds*

STRAUSS JR. *Rosen aus dem Süden* (Roses from the South)

STRAUSS *The Carnival of Venice, Fantasy*, Op. 126

TCHAIKOVSKY *Capriccio Italien*

Friday, November 3, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 4, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 5, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Vladimir Ashkenazy, *conductor*

Emanuel Ax, *piano*

ELGAR *Serenade in E minor for String Orchestra*

BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 1*

ELGAR *Enigma Variations* (Variations on an Original Theme)

Thursday, November 9, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, November 10, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 11, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

William Preucil, *leader and violin*

VIVALDI *Violin Concerto in E minor* ("Il Favorito")

HAYDN *Symphony No. 88*

MENDELSSOHN *Symphony No. 3* ("Scottish")

Friday, November 17, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Nicholas McGegan, *conductor*

RAMEAU Suite from *Dardanus*

GLUCK Suite from *Don Juan*

MOZART *Symphony No. 36* ("Linz")

Friday, November 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Nicholas McGegan, *conductor*

Marc-André Hamelin, *piano*

RAMEAU Suite from *Dardanus*

MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 9* ("Jeunehomme")

MOZART *Symphony No. 36* ("Linz")

Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Nicholas McGegan, *conductor*

Marc-André Hamelin, *piano*

RAMEAU Suite from *Dardanus*

MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 9* (“Jeunehomme”)
GLUCK Suite from *Don Juan*
MOZART *Symphony No. 36* (“Linz”)

Friday, November 24, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 25, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 26, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Giancarlo Guerrero, *conductor*

Paul Jacobs, *organ*

COPLAND *El Salón México*

PAULUS *Grand Concerto for Organ and Orchestra*

TCHAIKOVSKY *Symphony No. 4*

Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 2, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Fabio Luisi, *conductor*

Jonathan Biss, *piano*

SCIARRINO *New work*

BRUCKNER *Symphony No. 4* (“Romantic”)

Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 8, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Christoph von Dohnányi, *conductor*

Richard Goode, *piano*

ANDERSON *Incantesimi*

MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 18* (“Paradis”)

BRAHMS *Symphony No. 1*

Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, January 12, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

STAUD *Stromab*

MAHLER *Symphony No. 9*

Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 20, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

Golda Schultz, *soprano*

Maximilian Schmitt, *tenor*

Thomas Hampson, *baritone*

Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

HAYDN *The Seasons (Die Jahreszeiten)*

Friday, January 19, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

BEETHOVEN *Overture to The Creatures of Prometheus*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 1*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 3 ("Eroica")*

Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 9, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Mitsuko Uchida, *conductor and piano*

William Preucil, *concertmaster and leader*

MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 5*

HANDEL *Selections from Water Music*

MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 27*

Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 16, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 17, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Bernard Labadie, *conductor*

Isabelle Faust, *violin*

RIGEL *Symphony No. 4*

MENDELSSOHN *Violin Concerto*

MOZART *Symphony No. 40*

Friday, February 16, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Bernard Labadie, *conductor*

Isabelle Faust, *violin*

MENDELSSOHN *Violin Concerto*

MOZART *Symphony No. 40*

Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 23, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Charles Dutoit, *conductor*

Jean-Yves Thibaudet, *piano*

Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

RAVEL Suite from *Ma Mère l'Oye* (Mother Goose)

RAVEL *Piano Concerto for the Left Hand*

RAVEL *Daphnis and Chloé* (complete ballet music)

Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 4, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Nikolaj Znaider, *conductor*

Yefim Bronfman, *piano*

BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 5* ("Emperor")

ELGAR *Symphony No. 2*

Friday, March 2, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Nikolaj Znaider, *conductor*

ELGAR *Symphony No. 2*

Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, March 9, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Michael Tilson Thomas, *conductor*

Daniil Trifonov, *piano*

STRAVINSKY *Scènes de ballet*

PROKOFIEV *Piano Concerto No. 2*

TCHAIKOVSKY *Symphony No. 6* ("Pathétique")

Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 18, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Alan Gilbert, *conductor*
Alisa Weilerstein, *cello*
DVOŘÁK *The Watersprite*
BARBER *Cello Concerto*
DVOŘÁK *Symphony No. 8*

Friday, March 16, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra
Alan Gilbert, *conductor*
Alisa Weilerstein, *cello*
BARBER *Cello Concerto*
DVOŘÁK *Symphony No. 8*

Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 24 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra
Stéphane Denève, *conductor*
Jory Vinikour, *harpsichord*
POULENC *Concert champêtre* (Concerto for Harpsichord)
RACHMANINOFF *Symphony No. 2*

Friday, March 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra
Stéphane Denève, *conductor*
RACHMANINOFF *Symphony No. 2*

Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra
Jakub Hrůša, *conductor*
Sergey Khachatryan, *violin*
BRAHMS *Violin Concerto*
SUK *Symphony No. 2* ("Asrael")

Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra
Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*
BEETHOVEN *Overture to Coriolan*
BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 8*
BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 5*

Friday, April 13, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

WAGNER Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan and Isolde*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 3* ("Eroica")

Saturday, April 21, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 29, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Men of the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

WAGNER *Tristan and Isolde*

(opera in concert, sung in German, with English supertitles)

Gerhard Siegel, *tenor* (Tristan)

Nina Stemme, *soprano* (Isolde)

Okka von der Damerau, *mezzo-soprano* (Brangäne)

Ain Anger, *bass* (King Marke)

Markus Eiche, *baritone* (Kurwenal)

Sean Michael Plumb, *baritone* (Melot)

Matthew Plenk, *tenor* (Young Sailor/Shepherd)

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

Jean-Yves Thibaudet, *piano*

Cynthia Millar, *ondes Martenot*

MESSIAEN *Turangalîla-Symphonie* for Piano, Ondes Martenot, and
Orchestra

Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

Iestyn Davies, *countertenor*

Paul Jacobs, *organ*

Cleveland Orchestra Chorus

GABRIELI and others Selected choral and brass works

J.S. BACH Cantata No. 170 ("Vergnügte Ruh', beliebte Seelenlust")

LISZT *Fantasy and Fugue on the chorale "Ad nos, ad salutarem undam"*
(for solo organ)

THE PROMETHEUS PROJECT

Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

BEETHOVEN Overture to *The Creatures of Prometheus*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 1*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 3* ("Eroica")

Friday, May 11, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

BEETHOVEN Overture to *Egmont*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 4*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 7*

Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

BEETHOVEN Overture to *Coriolan*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 8*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 5*

Sunday, May 13, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 6* ("Pastoral")

BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 2*

BEETHOVEN *Leonore Overture No. 3*

Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, May 18, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 19, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.

The Cleveland Orchestra

Franz Welser-Möst, *conductor*

Erin Wall, *soprano*

Jennifer Johnston, *mezzo-soprano*

Norbert Ernst, *tenor*

Dashon Burton, *bass-baritone*
Cleveland Orchestra Chorus
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 9 (“Choral”)

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