

*Darienite*

*News for Darien*

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## **Stamford Symphony Announces Its 2019-2020 Season: 'Beethoven250'**

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Stamford Symphony President and CEO, Russell Jones announces *Beethoven250, the 2019-2020 Season* during the continuation of the symphony's music director search. The symphony is now accepting renewed memberships for the upcoming season.

— *an announcement from* [Stamford Symphony](#)

Three additional guest conductors are scheduled to take the podium at the orchestral concerts: Michael Stern on March 9 and 10; Vladimir Kulenovic on April 13 and 14; and José Luis Domínguez on Oct. 19 and 20.

“In the spring of 2019, our current subscribers will begin renewing their subscriptions for the 2019-2020 season,” said Russell Jones. “Like many orchestras seeking a new music director, we wanted to present a

program that everyone could explore.

“Taking part in a worldwide celebration of Beethoven’s 250<sup>th</sup> will provide a bedrock of inspiring music for all our Fairfield County concert-goers to enjoy, plus some significant first time performances of great repertoire,” he said.

## **Learn More About Beethoven Here**

*Here are three videos from a lecture series by Gil Harrel on Beethoven last year at Darien Library:*

—Second lecture: [The "Heroic" Beethoven](#)

—Third lecture: [Fate Knocking at the Door: Beethoven's Symphony No. 5](#)

## **Highlights of the 2019-2020 Season**

Beethoven250 season will celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday Ludwig van Beethoven.

- You will hear beloved works by Beethoven including Symphonies No. 2 and No. 7 and the Violin Concerto and Piano Concerto No. 5, *Emperor*.
- To contrast with Beethoven works, the season will also include popular works: Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 4, Dvorak Symphony No. 7 and the epic Piano Concerto No. 2 by Rachmaninoff performed by Stamford Symphony favorite, Steven Hough, *piano*.
- Seven premieres! There are seven works that will be Stamford Symphony premieres including two works by living American composers, Tania Leon, and from Yale and Hannah Lash.
- Experience concertos for guitar and marimba and an appearance by the Orchestra’s Principal Harp, Amy Berger, playing Debussy.
- Stamford Symphony listened to your feedback! *Noel!*, the holiday family concert, will return at St. John’s Episcopal Church featuring the brass of the Stamford Symphony. You can expect sonorous brass, and great holiday sing-alongs. This event is for all the family to enjoy, but you do not need to have children in order to attend!

### **New this season!**

- **One Singular Sensation – Marvin Hamlisch 75** An evening to celebrate the genius of the legendary composer. Featuring music from **A Chorus Line** to **Sophie’s Choice** including iconic songs, *The Way We Were*, *What I Did for Love* and more! hosted by Terre Blair-Hamlisch and featuring the **Kevin Cole Trio** with **Melissa McGowan** (*Kiss Me Kate*)
- **Chamber music in a farmhouse:** Warm up with chamber music in a unique location featuring the principal strings of the Stamford Symphony. We celebrate Beethoven’s 250<sup>th</sup> birthday with his String

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Quartet No 3, Op 18 at the Knobloch Family Farmhouse at Stamford Museum and Nature Center in January

- **Have a say in the program of an innovative Piano Recital: David Kaplan**, pianist, will play three sonatas from Beethoven's early, middle and late periods. Before the concert, *the audience will have an opportunity to vote on their favorite Beethoven Sonata*. The most requested sonata chosen will be included as one of three sonatas performed

## **BEETHOVEN250**

### **2019-2020 Season At-a-Glance:**

#### *Epic Rachmaninoff*

Oct. 19 & 20, 2019

José Luis Dominguez *conductor*

**Tania León** *Acana\**

**Beethoven** Symphony No. 2

**Rachmaninoff** Piano Concerto No. 2 with **Stephen Hough**, *piano*

#### *A Dance with Spanish Guitar*

Nov. 16 & 17, 2019

**Mozart** Overture to *The Magic Flute\**

**Rodrigo** *Concierto de Aranjuez* with **Thomas Flippin**, *guitar*

**Dvorak** Symphony No. 7

#### *Three Places in New England*

Feb. 22 & 23, 2020

**Ives** *Three Places in New England\**

**Beethoven** Piano Concerto No. 5 *Emperor* with **Mark Bebbington**, *piano*

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony No. 4

#### *Romantic Marimba*

March 21 & 22, 2020

**Hannah Lash** *Chaconnes\**

**Emmanuel Séjourné** Concerto for Marimba and String Orchestra\* with **Jisu Jung**, *marimba*

**Debussy** *Danse sacrée et danse profane*, for harp and strings\* with **Amy Berger**, *harp*

**Dvorak** *Serenade for Strings\**

#### *Happy Birthday, Herr Beethoven*

April 18 & 19, 2020

**Beethoven** Overture to *Coriolan*

**Beethoven** Violin Concerto with **Elena Urioste**, *violin*

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Beethoven Symphony No. 7

### *Limited Engagement Concerts*

**Saturday, Sept. 28, 2019**

***One Singular Sensation - Marvin Hamlisch 75 at 20197pm***

An evening to celebrate the genius of the legendary composer. Featuring music from *A Chorus Line* to *Sophie's Choice* including iconic songs, *The Way We Were*, *What I Did for Love* and more!

**The Kevin Cole Trio**

**Marissa McGowan** (*Kiss Me Kate*)

Special Guests from the Stamford Symphony

**Shari Hoffman**, clarinet and **Caroline Stinson**, cello

*Hosted by Terre Blair-Hamlisch*

Palace Theatre, 61 Atlantic St., Stamford

**Noel with Stamford Symphony Brass**

**Sunday, Dec. 15, 2019 at 4pm**

Sonorous brass of Gabrieli and Bach and seasonal sing-a-long favorites including *Sleigh Ride*, *O Come All Ye Faithful* and more. Fun for all the family!

St. John's Episcopal Church, 628 Main Street, Stamford

Kids come FREE

**Stamford Symphony String Quartet**

**Sunday, Jan. 19, 2020 at 3 p.m.**

Program to include: **Beethoven** String Quartet No. 3, Op. 18

**Deborah Buck** and **Sebu Sirinian**, *violins*

**Lois Martin**, *viola*

**Caroline Stinson**, *cello*

Knobloch Family Farmhouse at Stamford Museum and Nature Center, 39 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford

**Beethoven Sonatas: By Request**

**Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 4 p.m.**

**David Kaplan**, pianist will play three piano sonatas from Beethoven's early, middle and late periods. After purchasing tickets, you will vote on the Beethoven sonata you would most like to hear. The most-requested sonata will be included as one of the three sonatas performed.,

**David Kaplan**, *piano*

St. John's Episcopal Church, 628 Main Street, Stamford

## **Renewing Your Subscription or Getting a New One**

- We are currently accepting renewals of current subscriptions.
- If you do not have a subscription, you may call and pre-reserve a Subscription Packages by calling 203.325.1407 x10 or online at [www.stamfordsymphony.org](http://www.stamfordsymphony.org).
- Single Tickets will be available in July, 2019.

## **Attention All Concertgoers:**

- If you have not updated your account information on our new website, please do so now.
- Updating your account information will allow for easy purchasing online and special offers sent to you directly. **Please [click HERE](#) to update your account.**

Should you have any problems updating your account, please do not hesitate to call Patron Services at 203.325.1407 extension 10.

## **About the Stamford Symphony**

The Stamford Symphony is one of Connecticut's pre-eminent cultural institutions, championing the lifelong appreciation of classical music among all populations of Fairfield County through passionate, professional performances of the highest caliber, diverse and innovative programming, and inspirational education initiatives.

The Orchestra is comprised of professional musicians from the tri-state area, drawing its members from premiere ensembles including the Metropolitan Opera, New York City Ballet, the American Symphony Orchestra, the New York Pops, and the Orchestra of St. Luke's.

Originally formed in 1919, the Stamford Symphony thrived under the leadership of Clayton Hotchkiss, Music Director of the Stamford Public Schools, until after WWII, when many of its musicians returned to their homelands.

It languished until its rebirth in 1967 as a regional orchestra of amateur musicians. Skitch Henderson was appointed Music Director in 1974, and with the hiring of Barbara Smith-Sorooca as General Manager in 1979, the orchestra began its ascent to a fully professional orchestra and an integral part of the cultural fabric of Fairfield County.

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The year 1980 brought a new music director, Roger Nierenberg, who spent the next 24 years recruiting top musicians from the New York metro area and crafting a balanced ensemble of remarkable versatility.

Maestro Nierenberg expanded the Orchestra Classics Series and created new music and education programs, developing the Stamford Symphony as a valuable classical music resource for Stamford and its surrounding communities.

His successor, Eckart Preu was the most recent leader of the ensemble, appointed in October 2005, following an international search that attracted more than 250 applicants. Preu concluded his final season with Stamford Symphony in 2017.

The Stamford Symphony's home is at the Palace Theatre where most performances occur in the beautifully restored venue. Music Education programs serving 6,000 students have grown to include FREE tickets for kids under 18, Concerts for Students: The American Experience, The Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute Link-Up Program, Master Classes with students from the HARTT School of Music and more.