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(High-resolution images of the San Francisco Symphony and guest artist headshots are available for download from the [Online Photo Library](#).)

**CONDUCTOR PERRY SO MAKES HIS ORCHESTRAL SERIES DEBUT LEADING  
THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL,  
FEBRUARY 11 & 12, 2022**

**Program features five San Francisco Symphony premieres, including works by Texu Kim,  
Younghi Pagh-Paan, Takashi Yoshimatsu, Zhou Long, and Lou Harrison**

**Pipa virtuoso Wu Man makes her Orchestral Series Debut performing Lou Harrison’s Concerto  
for Pipa and String Orchestra**

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA**—Conductor Perry So makes his Orchestral Series debut leading the San Francisco Symphony in a program featuring five SF Symphony premieres of works by Texu Kim, Younghi Pagh-Paan, Takashi Yoshimatsu, Zhou Long, and Lou Harrison, February 11 & 12 at Davies Symphony Hall. Pipa virtuoso Wu Man makes her Orchestral Series debut performing Lou Harrison’s Concerto for Pipa and String Orchestra, which Harrison composed for her in 1997. It was the first concerto for the pipa by a western composer and the last large-scale work Harrison composed before his death. Wu Man comments, “This concerto has been such an important and cherished part of my artistic life and I am so pleased to perform it in a city that Lou loved, and where the Chinese community had such a formative influence on him.”

Texu Kim's *Bounce!!* is one of several works by Kim inspired by everyday experiences and observations about the physical world. Texu Kim explains the idea that generated *Bounce!!*, "To me, summer 2013 is rather special in that I went to the gym almost every day. The first thing I heard getting into the gym is the sound of bouncing basketballs on the floor, mixed with sound of shoes squeaking and occasional huff and puff. 'It would be fun,' I thought, 'to write a piece about this.' And I did." *Bounce!!* was commissioned by the Mizzou International Composers Festival and premiered in 2014.

Younghi Pagh-Paan's *NIM*—commissioned by the public broadcasting company SWR Baden-Baden and first performed in 1987 at the Donaueschinger Musiktage Festival—is based on a text by the Korean poet Mun Byung-Lan entitled 'Love Poem to the Earth.' Pagh-Paan writes, "The lyrics of this poem made a deep impression on me. The metaphors of the abused, tortured, and trodden soil clung to me." These are the first SF Symphony performances of any work by Younghi Pagh-Paan.

These performances of Takashi Yoshimatsu's *The Age of Birds*, written and premiered in 1986, also mark the first SF Symphony performances of any work by the composer. "This work is the final work in my 'Bird Trilogy,' following *Threnody to Toki* and *Chikap*, and is special to me as it was my first orchestral commission," said Yoshimatsu about *The Age of Birds*. "With my mind's eye, I see a sky with transparent birds. With sad eyes they quietly look down on the human beings crawling around in an artificial forest below them. This image has led me to continue writing works with birds as their theme. At the same time, it has presented me with the task of searching for new wings with which to fly from the chaotic woods/world of contemporary atonal music."

The program closes with Zhou Long's *The Rhyme of Taigu*, co-commissioned by the Barlow Endowment for Music Composition (Brigham Young University) and the Singapore Symphony Orchestra and composed in 2003. The work explores the energy and spirit behind the unique art form of Japanese taiko, or "fat drum" ("taigu" in Chinese), in which organized rhythmic cells generate dramatic and powerful music.

## CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

### Tickets

Tickets for concerts at Davies Symphony can be purchased via [sfsymphony.org](https://sfsymphony.org) or by calling the San Francisco Symphony Box Office at 415-864-6000.

### Location

Davies Symphony Hall is located at 201 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco.

### Health & Safety Information

Davies Symphony Hall is currently operating at full audience capacity. The San Francisco Symphony requires proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 for everyone ages 12 and up entering Davies Symphony Hall—including patrons, performers, volunteers, and staff. Full vaccination is defined as completion of the two-dose regimen of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or one dose of Johnson & Johnson vaccine or other WHO authorized COVID-19 vaccine administered two weeks or more in advance of the concert. For those eligible, proof of a COVID-19 booster—received at least one week prior to each event—is required for entrance into Davies Symphony Hall beginning February 1. Audience members between the ages of 5 and 11 must show proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or a negative COVID-19 test (PCR test within 48 hours of the event, or antigen [rapid] test within 24 hours of the event). Audience members under age 5 must show proof of a negative COVID-19 test (PCR test within 48 hours of the event, or antigen [rapid] test within 24 hours of the event). Based on health and safety recommendations from the City and County of San Francisco and due to the transmissibility of the Omicron variant, all patrons are required to wear a non-vented respirator, such as a N95, KN95, KF94, or equivalent face

mask while inside Davies Symphony Hall. Details about health and safety protocols at Davies Symphony Hall can be found [here](#).

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## SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

### Perry So & Wu Man

[Friday, February 11, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Perry So](#) conductor [Orchestral Series Debut]

[Wu Man](#) pipa [Orchestral Series Debut]

### San Francisco Symphony

TEXU KIM *Bounce!!* [San Francisco Symphony Premiere]

LOU HARRISON Concerto for Pipa with String Orchestra [San Francisco Symphony Premiere]

YOUNGHI PAGH-PAAN *NIM* [San Francisco Symphony Premiere]

TAKASHI YOSHIMATSU *The Age of Birds* [San Francisco Symphony Premiere]

ZHOU LONG *The Rhyme of Taigu* [San Francisco Symphony Premiere]

**Tickets:** \$20–125.

**Ticket link:** <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2021-22/Perry-So-and-Wu-Man>

**Pre-Concert Talk:** Laura Prichard will give an “Inside Music” talk from the stage one hour prior to the February 11 & 12 performances. Free to all concert ticket holders; doors open 15 minutes before.

**Off-The-Podium:** A post-concert audience Q&A session with moderator Laura Prichard will be presented from the stage immediately following the concert on February 12. Free to all ticket holders.

**Broadcast / Archived Stream:** A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, February 22 at 8 pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](http://kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

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