

SF SYMPHONY

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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](#).)

THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY PRESENTS THREE HALLOWEEN-INSPIRED PROGRAMS, OCTOBER 20–29, 2022 AT DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL

October 20–22, Esa-Pekka Salonen leads a program including Modest Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain*; Hector Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*; and Franz Liszt's *Totentanz*, featuring pianist Bertrand Chamayou in his Orchestral Series debut

October 27–29, Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Orchestra in HK Gruber's *Frankenstein!!*, featuring baritone Christopher Purves in his Orchestral Series debut; Bernard Herrmann's Suite from *Psycho*; and Béla Bartók's Suite from *The Miraculous Mandarin*

October 25, Sarah Hicks conducts a performance of Disney's *Hocus Pocus*—Film with Live Orchestra

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—In October, Music Director Esa-Pekka Salonen and the San Francisco Symphony present two weeks of programs at Davies Symphony Hall dedicated to myth, magic, and horror in the lead-up to Halloween. The programs feature two SF Symphony Orchestral Series debuts: pianist Bertrand Chamayou joins the Orchestra for Franz Liszt's *Totentanz* on October 20–22 and baritone Christopher Purves performs HK Gruber's *Frankenstein!!*, October 27–29.

Continuing this celebration of the macabre, the San Francisco Symphony also presents Disney's classic Halloween film, *Hocus Pocus*, with Sarah Hicks leading the Orchestra in John Debney's score, October 25.

October 20-22: Esa-Pekka Salonen leads Hector Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique*

October 20–22, Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Orchestra in music exploring mystical and supernatural themes, beginning with Modest Mussorgsky's *Night on Bald Mountain*, which evokes a witches' sabbath on St. John's Eve. Following are two works featuring the haunting and familiar Dies irae chant: Franz Liszt's *Totentanz*, a virtuosic work for piano and orchestra featuring pianist Bertrand Chamayou in his Orchestral Series debut; and Hector Berlioz's revolutionary *Symphonie fantastique*, a vaguely autobiographical symphony in which Berlioz morbidly imagines poisoning himself with opium and, in a psychedelic haze, envisions himself killing his beloved and being sentenced to death.

The October 21 performance takes place at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall, presented by Cal Performances.

October 27-29: *Frankenstein & Psycho*

October 27–29, Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Orchestra in a program of music exploring the darker facets of human experience. Opening the program is HK Gruber's *Frankenstein!!*, a playful and raucous work for orchestra and vocalist featuring baritone Christopher Purves as the "chansonnier" in his SF Symphony Orchestral Series debut. Gruber's *Frankenstein!!* is based on menacing children's rhymes by HC (Hans Carl) Artmann that shine their focus not only on Frankenstein, but other well-known figures in popular culture like Dracula, James Bond, John Wayne, Superman, and Batman. The work merges genres from jazz to Viennese cabaret and features the orchestra's musicians performing on toy instruments alongside their traditional instruments. Salonen also conducts the suite from Bernard Herrmann's iconic score to Alfred Hitchcock's film *Psycho* and Béla Bartók's Suite from *The Miraculous Mandarin*, a lurid tale of prostitution, fraud, theft, and murder.

October 25: *Hocus Pocus*—Live in Concert

On October 25, as part of the San Francisco Symphony's Film Series, conductor Sarah Hicks leads the Orchestra in Disney's classic Halloween film, *Hocus Pocus*, featuring a score by John Debney. Released in July 1993 and directed by Kenny Ortega, the film follows the Sanderson sisters—three witches who are accidentally brought back to life in Salem, Massachusetts on Halloween night—as they attempt to steal the life-essence from the town's children so they can have eternal life. The film stars Bette Midler (Winifred), Sarah Jessica Parker (Sarah), Kathy Najimy (Mary), Omri Katz (Max), Thora Birch (Dani), and Vinessa Shaw (Allison).

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

Tickets

Tickets for concerts at Davies Symphony can be purchased via 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. Based on the advice of the San Francisco Symphony's Health and Safety Task Force, a face covering is strongly recommended but not required for entry into Davies Symphony Hall beginning with the start of the Orchestra's 2022–23 season. The San Francisco Symphony requires proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 for everyone entering Davies Symphony Hall ages 12 and up who's eligible—including patrons, performers, volunteers, and staff. "Full vaccination" is defined as two weeks after completion of the two-dose regimen of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, one dose of Johnson &

Johnson vaccine, or other WHO authorized COVID-19 vaccine. At this time, proof of booster shots is not required. Patrons under age 12 must show proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test (PCR test taken within 2 days of event entry or antigen [rapid] test taken within 1 day of event entry). These policies are subject to change. Visit [sfsymphony.org/safety](https://www.sfsymphony.org/safety) for the San Francisco Symphony's complete up-to-date health and safety protocols.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Symphonie fantastique

[Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 10am](#) [Open Rehearsal]

[Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Friday, October 21, 2022 at 7:30pm](#) [Cal Performances]

[Saturday, October 22, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Esa-Pekka Salonen](#) conductor

[Bertrand Chamayou](#) piano [Orchestral Series Debut]

San Francisco Symphony

MODEST MUSSORGSKY *Night on Bald Mountain*

FRANZ LISZT *Totentanz*

HECTOR BERLIOZ *Symphonie fantastique*

Tickets: \$20–165.

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2022-23/Symphonie-Fantastique>

Broadcast / Archived Stream: A broadcast of these performances will air Tuesday, November 1 at 8pm on Classical KDFC 90.3 San Francisco, 104.9 San Jose, 89.9 Napa, and [kdfc.com](https://www.kdfc.com) where it will be available for on-demand streaming for 21 days following the broadcast.

FILM SERIES

Hocus Pocus—Film with Live Orchestra

[Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 2pm](#)

[Sarah Hicks](#) conductor

San Francisco Symphony

Hocus Pocus

JOHN DEBNEY composer

KENNY ORTEGA director

Tickets: \$50–181.

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2022-23/Hocus-Pocus>

Presentation licensed by Disney Concerts.

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRAL SERIES

Frankenstein & Psycho

[Thursday, October 27, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Friday, October 28, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 7:30pm](#)

[Esa-Pekka Salonen](#) conductor

[Christopher Purves](#) baritone [Orchestral Series Debut]

San Francisco Symphony

BÉLA BARTÓK Suite from *The Miraculous Mandarin*

BERNARD HERRMANN Suite from *Psycho*

HK GRUBER *Frankenstein!!*

Tickets: \$20–135.

Ticket link: <https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2022-23/Frankenstein-Psycho>

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

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Bertrand Chamayou's appearance is generously supported by the Shenson Young Artist Fund.

Open rehearsals are endowed by a bequest from The Estate of Katharine Hanrahan.

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