



PUBLIC RELATIONS & MEDIA CONTACT

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The Boulder Philharmonic Announces 60th Anniversary Season

Highlights for 2017-2018 season include a new Philip Glass concerto with pianist Simone Dinnerstein, the debut of violinist Stefan Jackiw, and West Side Story with Central City Opera celebrating the 100th birthday of Leonard Bernstein

The Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra's 2017-2018 season is packed with a creative combination of world-renowned artists, regional collaborations, and the Colorado premieres of two works by major American composers co-commissioned by the Boulder Phil.

"I'm excited to celebrate the Boulder Phil's 60th anniversary in a community that's known for its creativity and innovation," said Michael Buttermann, who begins his 11th season with the orchestra in September. "Featuring dynamic artists, championing accessible new music while performing some of the greatest orchestral works in the repertory, and collaborating with a wide variety of arts organizations, has become a successful formula for our season programming."

The 60th anniversary season opens on September 24, 2017, with a nod to the breadth and vitality of orchestral music today: a nationwide project dubbed "Made in America," in which orchestras from all 50 states came together to commission a new work from one of our country's leading composers, Christopher Theofanidis. This "Boulder Phil at 60" concert also includes the return of Boulder favorite and Van Cliburn Gold Medalist Jon Nakamatsu.

The October 14, 2017, concert spotlights Michael Buttermann's interest in performances that explore the world of ideas, in this case composers inspired by resistance to political oppression. The concert also highlights the Boulder Phil's ties to the CU College of Music, featuring internationally known pianist David Korevaar performing Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, joined by the combined choirs from CU Boulder and Western Illinois University.

The concert on January 13, 2018, champions music both new and old. The centerpiece will be a new piano concerto written by the preeminent American composer Philip Glass, co-commissioned by the Boulder Phil with a consortium of international orchestras. Soloist will be Simone Dinnerstein, for whom the work was written and who will also perform the Bach concerto that inspired it.



Cirque de la Symphonie, one of the Boulder Phil's biggest successes in introducing new people of all ages to classical music, returns on February 3, 2018, for two performances. This new show, *Cirque Goes to the Movies*, features some of the most popular and familiar film scores of our time. Audiences will be wowed by contortionists, jugglers, and other acrobats, including aerial violinist Janice Martin in her first Boulder appearance.

Stefan Jackiw, one of the leading violinists of the younger generation, makes his debut with the Boulder Phil on April 7, 2018, in Prokofiev's Violin Concerto No. 2. The remainder of the program continues the Boulder Phil's "Nature & Music" programmatic thread, featuring concertmaster Charles Wetherbee in Vaughan Williams's *The Lark Ascending*, accompanied on stage by dancers. Sibelius's Symphony No. 5 will be preceded by guided musical hikes with Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks to see and hear migrating swans, as depicted in the music.

The season finale on April 28, 2018, marks the 100th anniversary of Leonard Bernstein with a concert performance of *West Side Story*, in another landmark collaboration with Central City Opera and a third collegiate group of the season, the Metropolitan State University of Denver choirs.

"There's no better way to bring our season to a close than to build on our successful Central City collaboration from last year and present perhaps the greatest score in American musical theater in its original orchestration. It will be a fitting tribute to the legacy of an American musical giant," said Buttermann.

Additional events throughout the 2017-2018 season include the return of the Discovery Concerts at Macky Auditorium for thousands of local elementary school students, in-school performances by Boulder Phil musicians, "sensory-friendly" concerts at Boulder Public Library for families living with autism and other disabilities, the perennial holiday favorite "The Nutcracker" with Boulder Ballet, Events of Note featuring recitals by guest artists in intimate venues, pre-concert talks, and the popular "Nature & Music" guided hikes with Dave Sutherland, naturalist with Boulder Open Space & Mountain Parks.

The announcement of the Boulder Phil's 60th anniversary season comes as the organization is preparing to travel to Washington, D.C., where it was selected to open the inaugural SHIFT Festival of American Orchestras at the Kennedy Center on March 28, 2017. As a further reflection of the orchestra's artistry and innovative community engagement initiatives, the Boulder Phil has been selected for a prestigious residency with the legendary violinist Midori, which will feature concerto performances, community activities, and master classes with the Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras in a future season.

Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra 2017-2018 Season at a Glance

All concerts at Macky Auditorium, CU Boulder. Additional outreach events and repeat performances of selected programs in other metro Denver locations will be announced.

September 24, 2017—Opening Night: Boulder Phil at 60

Theofanidis *Dreamtime Ancestors*
(Colorado premiere and Boulder Phil co-commission)
Schumann Piano Concerto in A minor, with Jon Nakamatsu, piano
Dvořák Symphony No. 7

October 14, 2017—Music of Resistance

Beethoven *Choral Fantasy*, with David Korevaar, piano
CU Boulder and Western Illinois University Choirs
Britten *Ballad of Heroes*
CU Boulder and Western Illinois University Choirs
Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

November 24 through November 26, 2017: *The Nutcracker* with Boulder Ballet

January 13, 2018—Bach Transfigured

C.P.E. Bach Symphony in C Major, Wq 182
J.S. Bach Keyboard Concerto in G minor, BWV 1068, with Simone Dinnerstein, piano
Glass Piano Concerto No. 3, with Simone Dinnerstein, piano
(Colorado premiere and Boulder Phil co-commission)
Schoenberg *Transfigured Night*

February 3, 2018—Cirque Goes to the Movies (2 performances – matinee and evening)

Cirque de la Symphonie, with Janice Martin, aerial violinist
Featuring film scores that include *Harry Potter*, *Mission Impossible*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *On the Town*, and more.

April 7, 2018—A Song for Swans

Vaughan Williams *The Lark Ascending* with dancers; Charles Wetherbee, violin
Sibelius Symphony No. 5
Prokofiev Violin Concerto No. 2, with Stefan Jackiw, violin

April 28, 2018—*West Side Story*: Bernstein at 100

Bernstein *West Side Story* in Concert with Central City Opera
and Metropolitan State University of Denver Choirs

Tickets and more information: Five- and six-concert subscription packages are now available. New subscribers save 50% off single ticket prices. Call 303-449-1343 or visit www.BoulderPhil.org. Single tickets go on sale June 1, 2017.