

The 2013/2014 Seattle Symphony subscription season at a glance



Raymond Chen

For many years, I've put together a little pocket guide to the Seattle Symphony subscription season for my symphony friends to help them decide which ticket package they want. In the years that have passed since I started doing this, nearly all of the members of the group have started families, and we tried things like splitting tickets, but even that became difficult to maintain, and last year, we ended up not ordering any tickets at all. (Well, no tickets for adults. We did buy tickets to kids concerts.)

I compiled the at-a-glance season guide for the 2013/2014 season anyway, but I didn't bother adding my comments since we know we're not ordering any tickets. Moreover, the Seattle Symphony created online playlists where you can listen to the pieces in the upcoming season, so you can decide for yourself whether you like them or not!

Here is the official brochure for those who want to read the details, and you can see what The Seattle Times thinks of it. To access the playlists, go to www.naxosmusiclibrary.com and log on with userid `SymphonySubs` with password `20132014`. Once you've logged in, click *Playlists* in the navigation bar and choose the concerts you want to hear.

```
function filter(c) { var rows =
document.getElementById("schedule").getElementsByTagName("TR"); for (var i = 0; i !=
rows.length; i++) { var row = rows[i]; var className = row.className; if (className != "") {
if (c == 'all' || className.indexOf(c) >= 0) { row.style.display = ""; } else { row.style.display =
"none"; } } } }
```

Week	Program	21	13	7E 7F	7G	4A

09/19 2013	Ravel: <i>Alborada del gracioso</i> Ravel: Concerto for Left Hand in D Ravel: <i>Rapsodie espagnole</i> Ravel: <i>Pavane pour une infante défunte</i> Ravel: Piano Concerto in G Ravel: <i>Boléro</i>				
10/03 2013	Beethoven: <i>Triple Concerto</i> Schubert: Symphony #9 in C <i>The Great</i>				
10/10 2013	Purcell: Suite Mozart: Piano Concerto #23 in A Vaughan Williams: Symphony #5				
10/18 2013	Mozart: Divertimento for String in D Dittersdorf: Sinf. concertante for Double Bass & Viola Mozart: <i>Exsultate jubilate</i> K.65 Mozart: Symphony #29				
10/24 2013	Elgar: Serenade Haydn: Cello Concerto in C Mozart: Symphony #37 Tchaikovsky: Serenade for Strings				
11/07 2013	Boulez: <i>Notation</i> Mahler: Symphony #6				
11/13 2013	Sibelius: <i>Tapiola</i> Pascal Dusapin: Violin Concerto Beethoven: Symphony #6 <i>Pastoral</i>				
11/21	Verdi: Requiem				
12/13	Vivaldi: <i>The Four Seasons</i>				
12/20	Handel: <i>Messiah</i>				
12/23	Christmas carols (Northwest Sinfonia)				
12/31 2013	Gershwin: <i>Rhapsody in Blue</i> Tchaikovsky/Ellington: <i>Nutcracker</i> excerpts Williams: <i>Star Wars</i> excerpts other amusements				
01/02 2014	Brahms: <i>Variations on a Theme by Haydn</i> Beethoven: Symphony #9 <i>Choral</i>				
01/23 2014	Prokofiev: Symphony #1 <i>Classical</i> Haydn: Piano Concerto in D Prokofiev: Piano Concerto #4 Mozart: Symphony #35 <i>Haffner</i>				

01/30 2014	John Adams: <i>The Chairman Dances</i> Shostakovich: Piano Concerto #2 Liszt (arr John Adams): <i>The Black Gondola</i> Shostakovich: Symphony #9					
02/13 2014	Schumann: Cello Concerto Berlioz: <i>Symphonie fantastique</i>					
03/06 2014	R. Strauss: <i>Don Juan</i> R. Strauss: <i>Burleske</i> R. Strauss: Divertimento R. Strauss: Suite from <i>Der Rosenkavalier</i>					
03/13 2014	Dvořák: <i>The Noonday Witch</i> Bartók: Violin Concerto #2 Mozart: Symphony #38 <i>Prague</i>					
03/20 2014	Rimsky-Korsakov: Suite from <i>The Snow Maiden</i> Alexander Raskatov: Piano Concerto Tchaikovsky: Symphony #6 <i>Pathetique</i>					
03/27 2014	Dvořák: Cello Concerto Varèse: <i>Déserts</i> Debussy: <i>La Mer</i>					
04/03 2014	Haydn: Symphony #100 <i>Military</i> Orff: <i>Carmina burana</i>					
04/17 2014	James MacMillan: <i>The Death of Oscar</i> Beethoven: Piano Concerto #3 Rachmaninoff: Symphony #2					
04/24 2014	Martinů: <i>Memorial to Lidice</i> Brahms: Violin Concerto Dvořák: Symphony #7					
06/05 2014	Dutilleux: Symphony #2 <i>Le double</i> Ravel: <i>Daphnis et Chloé</i> complete ballet					
06/12 2014	J. Strauss: <i>Emperor Waltzes</i> Schoenberg: Piano Concerto Brahms: Symphony #2					
06/19 2014	Stravinsky: <i>The Firebird</i> Stravinsky: <i>Petrushka</i> Stravinsky: <i>The Rite of Spring</i>					
Week	Program	21	13	7G	4A	HS

Legend:

21	Masterworks 21-concert series (Choice of Thursdays or Saturdays)
13	Masterworks 13-concert series (Choice of Thursdays or Saturdays)
7A	Masterworks 7-concert series A (Thursdays)
7B	Masterworks 7-concert series B (Saturdays)
7C	Masterworks 7-concert series C (Thursdays)
7D	Masterworks 7-concert series D (Saturdays)
7E	Masterworks 7-concert series E (Thursdays)
7F	Masterworks 7-concert series F (Saturdays)
7G	Masterworks 7-concert series G (Sunday afternoons)
4A	Masterworks 4-concert series A (Friday afternoons)
HS	Holidays at the Symphony
SU	Symphony Untuxed (Fridays, reduced program)
WG	<u>WolfGang</u> (Various evenings), see notes below

For those not familiar with the Seattle Symphony ticket package line-ups: Most of the ticket packages are named *Masterworks nX* where *n* is the number is the number of concerts in the package, and the letter indicates which variation. Ticket packages have been combined if they are identical save for the day of the week. For example, 7C and 7D are the same concerts; the only difference is that 7C is for Thursday nights, while 7D is for Saturday nights.

The *WolfGang* series is available only to members of the WolfGang club. It also includes two concerts not listed above (Opening Night and Sonic Evolution).

This chart doesn't include "one-off" concert series such as the Mainly Mozart or Distinguished Artists series. A "one-off" series is a concert series which shares no concerts with any other series. This year, the *Beyond the Score* multimedia concerts fell into that category.

According to the *Seattle Times* article, the new music director has "always dreamed of spending a whole evening with a composer," and he went big this year, with three concerts consist of multiple works by a single composer.

Symphony trivia: The audience for the Sunday afternoon concerts (series 7G) leans toward what we in the United States euphemistically call *senior citizens*. I find it interesting to see what those sweet old ladies get put through every year. For example, this year, they get a

performance of *Carmina burana*, which will probably offend half of the audience and delight the other half.



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