

# Symphony Tacoma Announces 2019-2020 Season

Season tickets on sale now; single ticket sales begin Aug. 1

By **Tacoma Weekly Staff** -  
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*This year marks Tacoma Symphony's 73rd birthday, and with it comes a whole slate of performances in a wide variety of musical excellence. Credit: Dane Meyers*

Symphony Tacoma's 73rd season will present eight dynamic programs – six classics and two holiday concerts – that span 300 years of captivating classical music. Featuring major

works by Mozart, Mahler, Rachmaninoff and Gershwin, the season will also be punctuated by three prominent works by Beethoven in recognition of his 250<sup>th</sup> birthday.

“I selected Symphony No. 3 “Eroica” (February), The Creatures of Prometheus (March), and “Choral Fantasy” (March) because these works collectively demonstrate the breadth of talent that is Beethoven,” says Music Director Sarah Ioannides. “I think our audience will really enjoy the diversity of the pieces.”

Works by contemporary composers – including one world premiere and two U.S. premieres – will complement the classics to amplify the theme of each concert. “We programmed this season to be an exciting representation of today’s classical music genre,” says Ioannides. “There is so much new and diverse material to draw from – compositions by women, works accompanied by multimedia and works that feature artists who play non-traditional orchestral instruments. We have incorporated a touch of each of these into our season.”

Guest artists who are masters of instruments ranging from violin and piano to electric guitar will join the orchestra throughout the season, from the Tacoma Youth Chorus and

Tacoma School of the Arts, to masters with world-renowned acclaim.

Also this season, Symphony Tacoma welcomes David Serkin Ludwig as the inaugural artist in the new Composer in Residence program. The grandson of pianist Rudolf Serkin and nephew of pianist Peter Serkin, Ludwig serves as chair of the composition faculty at the Curtis Institute of Music. He is a recipient of the prestigious Pew Center for Arts and Heritage Fellowship in the Arts and was named as one of the "Top 100 Composers Under Forty" in 2012.

Ludwig will bring three pieces to the season, including *Bleeding Pines*, a new work commissioned for Symphony Tacoma, which will debut in March. Ludwig's wife Bella Hristova will perform his *Violin Concerto* in April, and *Fanfare for Sam*, a work dedicated to composer Samuel Barber, will open the November concert. "We are excited to introduce our Composer in Residence program this year with David as the inaugural artist," says Ioannides. "Sometimes when you hear just one piece of music you don't get a full picture of the composer. David is an incredible talent and I really believe in him as a composer."

Season tickets are on sale through the Tacoma Arts Live Box Office at [www.TacomaArtsLive.org](http://www.TacomaArtsLive.org). Packages range from four to eight concerts at up to 25 percent off single ticket prices. Single concert tickets will go on sale on Aug. 1. Prices range from \$24 to \$85. To subscribe, call (253) 591-5894 or visit [symphonytacoma.org](http://symphonytacoma.org).