



Kansas City Symphony Unveils 2015-16 Classics Uncorked Series, Announces Extra Concerts

Tickets for all individual concerts available Monday, July 27 at 10 a.m.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. | July 14, 2015 — The Kansas City Symphony is squeezing more fizz and sparkle into its already-brimming 2015-16 schedule.

The popular Classics Uncorked Series returns for a fourth season, plus the Symphony has found creative ways to add more exciting concerts featuring big-name performers and unique programs into its increasingly full schedule.

Single tickets for all of the Symphony's 2015-16 concerts — including the Classics Uncorked Series as well as newly added extra performances of holiday, pops and classical programs — go on sale Monday, July 27 at 10 a.m. Tickets are available for purchase through the Symphony Box Office at (816) 471-0400 or online at kcsymphony.org.

Classics Uncorked Series

The ever-popular Classics Uncorked Series is back with four delightfully-themed concerts for the 2015-16 season.

- **Classics Uncorked: Made in America**
Friday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **Classics Uncorked: Winter's Dream**
Wednesday, Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **Classics Uncorked: If It Ain't Baroque**
Tuesday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **Classics Uncorked: Morning, Noon & Night in Vienna**
Wednesday, June 8 at 7 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

Sponsored by BMO Private Bank, these one-hour casual concerts are programmed and led by Associate Conductor Aram Demirjian. All tickets are only \$25 or \$35, and include a complimentary glass of wine or champagne in the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts' Brandmeyer Great Hall following the performance, where guests have an opportunity to mingle with Kansas City Symphony musicians.

"I'm looking forward to this year's Classics Uncorked series, which covers a vast variety of genres and styles, from as early as 1673 all the way to 1995," Demirjian says. "There will be hits

such as Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from *West Side Story* and Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, plus the great finale to Brahms' Second Symphony. Other selections might be new to a lot of our audience members, like John Adams' *Lollapalooza* — and as the title suggests, it's quite a party — and Biber's *Battalia à 10*, which is an actual musical battle within the strings. But no matter whether something is unfamiliar or well-loved, each piece will be presented in a way that will maximize your enjoyment."

New Added Concerts

To accommodate increased demand, the Symphony is adding extra performances of certain concerts.

Added Holiday Performances

- **Handel's *Messiah***
Dec. 3-6 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
For the first time, the Symphony will present four performances of Handel's *Messiah* alongside the Independence Messiah Choir and Symphony Chorus. The extra performance will be on Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. in addition to Friday, Saturday and Sunday concerts. Tickets start at \$25 for adults and \$13 for children.
- **Christmas Festival**
Dec. 17-20 and 22 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
The Symphony will present seven performances of its annual Christmas Festival. The additional concert falls on Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. The other performances of Christmas Festival occur Dec. 17-20. Tickets start at \$30 for adults and \$15 for children.
- **Doc Severinsen's "Jingle Bell Doc" Tour**
Dec. 11 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
The Symphony has just added a special holiday-themed concert featuring former "Tonight Show" bandleader and trumpet legend, Doc Severinsen, who appears alongside the Kansas City Symphony and Symphony Chorus on Friday, Dec. 11. Tickets start at \$49.

Added Pops Series Performances

- **The Magical Music of John Williams: Star Wars & More**
Jan. 21-23, 2016 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
As one of the most famous film composers of all time, John Williams has made lasting memories with his recognizable scores from movies such as "Star Wars," "Raiders of the Lost Ark," "Harry Potter," "Jurassic Park," "Schindler's List" and more. In anticipation of sell-out crowds, the Symphony has added a third performance on Thursday, Jan. 21, 2016, to supplement Pops Series presentations on Friday, Jan. 22 and Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016.
- **Amy Grant with the Kansas City Symphony**
Feb. 12-14, 2016 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
The six-time Grammy® Award-winning pop vocalist makes an extra appearance on

Valentine's Day, Sunday, Feb. 14, 2016, at 7 p.m. following performances on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12-13, 2016. Tickets start at \$40.

- **Screenland at the Symphony: Pixar in Concert**
April 15-17, 2016 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
Audiences can look forward to an additional, third performance of Pixar in Concert on Sunday, April 17, 2016, which is part of this season's Pops Series lineup on the preceding Friday and Saturday. The presentation includes visually stunning clips from and memorable scores from Pixar's movies, such as "Toy Story," "The Incredibles," "Up" and "Monster's University." Tickets start at \$40 for adults; \$25 for children.

Added Classical Performance

- **Beethoven's Ninth Symphony**
June 16-19, 2016 | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
The Symphony has added a Thursday, June 16, 2016, performance of its season finale program featuring Beethoven's epic Symphony No. 9 complete with 160-voice Symphony Chorus. The program is also repeated June 17-19, 2016. Tickets start at \$35.

Free Happy Hour Series

The musicians of the Kansas City Symphony program and present free, casual chamber music concerts throughout the season. Due to the high interest in these free concerts, the Symphony has added a seventh Happy Hour to its 2015-16 season schedule, allowing more people the chance to hear Symphony musicians and experience the sublime acoustics of Helzberg Hall.

- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Brasstacular!**
Wednesday, Oct. 14 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Jan Kraybill's Organ Extravaganza**
Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Appalachian Spring**
Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Songs and Dances**
Wednesday, March 2 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Gypsies, Tangos and Lullabies**
Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: Modern Romance**
Wednesday, May 11 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts
- **FREE Symphony Happy Hour: The Boulez/Cage Correspondence**
Tuesday, June 7 at 6 p.m. | Helzberg Hall | Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts

To learn more about all the 2015-16 concert offerings, including Classical, Pops, Family, Holiday and special programs, visit kcsymphony.org or call the Symphony Box Office at (816) 471-0400.

All season ticket holders are able to purchase tickets to many individual concerts now, at a discount of \$5 per adult ticket. For the general public, single tickets go on sale Monday, July 27 at 10 a.m. and may be purchased through the Symphony Box Office at (816) 471-0400 or online at kcsymphony.org.

For photo requests, interviews or other media inquiries, please contact Beth Buchanan at (816) 218-2621, bbuchanan@kcsymphony.org.

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About the Kansas City Symphony and Chorus

Founded in 1982, the Kansas City Symphony has established itself as a major force in the cultural life of the community. Praised for performances of uncompromising standard, the orchestra is the largest in the region and enjoys a national reputation under the artistic leadership of Music Director Michael Stern. The Kansas City Symphony Chorus is a volunteer, 160-member ensemble led by multi-Grammy® award-winning conductor, Charles Bruffy, that continues its long tradition of excellence as the choral voice of the Kansas City Symphony. The Kansas City Symphony performs more than 100 concerts each year, while also serving as the orchestra for the Kansas City Ballet and Lyric Opera of Kansas City, and it often welcomes guests of international acclaim as part of its Classical and Pops Series.

Complementing its full schedule of concerts, the Symphony enriches the lives of Kansas City residents by providing music education opportunities for children and adults, such as KinderKonzerts, Young People's Concerts, an instrument petting zoo and concert comments. Highlights each season include a range of free masterclasses, events and concerts reaching more than 200,000 community members, including the annual Bank of America Celebration at the Station concert each Memorial Day weekend and Symphony in the Flint Hills every summer.

Additionally, the Symphony has released five CDs with Reference Recordings — *Shakespeare's Tempest*, the Grammy®-winning *Britten's Orchestra*, an Elgar/Vaughan Williams project, *Miraculous Metamorphoses* that highlights composers Hindemith, Prokofiev and Bartók, and most recently, the Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3, "Organ." Two additional projects have been recorded and slated for future release, including the music of contemporary composer Adam Schoenberg (recorded June 2014) and Holst's *The Planets* (recorded January 2015). The Symphony and Michael Stern also have recorded for the Naxos label. Kansas City Symphony performances can be heard locally each week on KCUR 89.3 FM, Kansas City's NPR affiliate. More information on the Kansas City Symphony is available at kcsymphony.org.