



Celebrity Series of Boston
Engaging • Entertaining • Enriching

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High resolution photos: http://www.celebrityseries.org/CS_aboutus/press.htm

CELEBRITY SERIES OF BOSTON ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 SEASON

Highlights of the 73rd season include:

- **The Opening Night with Broadway vocalist Audra McDonald in Concert on October 2 at Symphony Hall**
- **Pianist Lang Lang in recital on October 30 at Symphony Hall**
- **Terence Blanchard and Poncho Sanchez perform *Cubano Be! Cubano Bop!*, a tribute to Chano Pozo and Dizzy Gillespie on November 6 at Berklee Performance Center**
- **Radio personality and author Garrison Keillor on November 13 at Symphony Hall**
- **Violinist Itzhak Perlman on November 20 at Symphony Hall**
- **Pianist Lise de la Salle in her Celebrity Series debut on January 28 at NEC's Jordan Hall**
- **Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company *Oyster* February 3-4 at the Paramount Theatre**
- **Circa's *Circa* February 29-March 4 at the Paramount Theatre**
- **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis March 18 at Symphony Hall**
- **Bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff and tenor Michael Schade on March 23 at Jordan Hall**
- **Academy of St. Martin in the Fields with Joshua Bell, director and solo violinist on April 15 at Symphony Hall**
- **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater from April 26-29 at Citi Wang Theatre**
- **David Sedaris on May 6 at Symphony Hall**

(Boston) The Celebrity Series of Boston announced the 2011-2012 season today; its 73rd year of bringing the world's greatest performing artists to Boston and the first season under the leadership of Gary Dunning, the President-Elect, who assumes the post July 1. **The season opens on Sunday, October 2, 2011 with Broadway star Audra McDonald. The Opening Night Celebration follows the October 2 performance and welcomes Celebrity Series President and Executive Director, Gary Dunning.** In total, the 2011-2012 season will include 41 music, dance, and entertainment events.

The 2011-2012 season offers three orchestras, five piano recitals, three vocal recitals with four singers total, three string quartets and one trio, two violinists, one cellist and one guitarist in recital, five dance companies, eight jazz and popular song performances, two spoken word performances, and several popular artists. Rob Kapilow will host two *What Makes It Great?*[®] programs. Celebrity Series events in the 2011-2012 season will take place in NEC's Jordan Hall, Symphony Hall, Berklee Performance Center, Sanders Theatre, Tsai Performance Center, Cutler Majestic Theatre, the Paramount Theatre and the Citi Wang Theatre.

Celebrity Series Debuts

Making their Celebrity Series debuts in 2011–2012 are: the Hagen String Quartet; countertenor Andreas Scholl; soprano Sandrine Piau; tenor Michael Schade; pianist Lise de la Salle; dance companies Aszure Barton and Artists and the Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company; jazz trumpeter Terence Blanchard and Latin jazz bandleader Poncho Sanchez; Béla Fleck and the Flecktones; jazz pianist Vijay Iyer; jazz vocalist Jane Monheit; Hungarian-Gypsy violinist Roby Lakatos; and the Australian contemporary circus company Circa.

Boston Premieres

Among the works receiving their Boston premieres in 2011–2012 include a Celebrity Series co-commission of *Clarinet Quintet* by composer Marc Neikrug (performed by clarinetist David Shifrin and the Orion String Quartet; choreographers Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak's *Oyster*; and Aszure Barton's *Busk* and *Blue Soup*.

Vocalists

The 2011-2012 season features three recitals highlighting four vocalists. On November 11, **mezzo-soprano Angelika Kirchsclager and pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet** will perform vocal and piano solos by Liszt and Brahms at NEC's Jordan Hall. On March 23, 2012, **bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff and tenor Michael Schade** will present a recital works by Mozart, Schubert, Schumann and more at NEC's Jordan Hall. **Soprano Sandrine Piau** makes her Celebrity Series debut with a recital of songs from her new disc "Après un rêve" on April 21 at NEC's Jordan Hall.

Celebrity Series Friends of Vocal Music

The vocal performances in the 2011-2012 season are supported in part by the Celebrity Series Friends of Vocal Music.

Orchestras

Celebrity Series presents the baroque orchestra, **The English Concert, with Harry Bicket, conductor and harpsichordist, and Andreas Scholl, countertenor**, on October 23 at NEC's Jordan Hall performing "*Scenes from King Arthur and Fairy Queen*" with works by Purcell, Biber, and Muffatt. Chamber orchestra **Academy of St. Martin in the Fields with Joshua Bell** will perform an all-Beethoven program at Symphony Hall on April 15, 2012; Bell serves as director from the concertmaster's chair as well as solo violinist. The **European Union Youth Orchestra** rounds out the orchestral concerts on April 20 at Symphony Hall with **Vladimir Ashkenazy, conductor**, and **Yefim Bronfman, piano soloist**; sponsored by the D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical.

Pianists

The Aaron Richmond Recital series begins with pianist **Lang Lang** at Symphony Hall on October 30. On December 2, the Celebrity Series will present Canadian pianist **Angela Hewitt** in recital at NEC's Jordan Hall; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical. French pianist **Lise de la Salle** makes her Celebrity Series debut at NEC's Jordan Hall on January 28, 2012. **Maurizio Pollini** returns to the Series for a solo piano recital on April 22 at Symphony Hall; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical. Pianist **Emanuel Ax** will give a recital on May 11 at NEC's Jordan Hall to round out the season's piano recital series; sponsored by Foley & Lardner LLP; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical.

The Aaron Richmond Recitals include all of the piano recitals and the concerts by violinist Sarah Chang, cellist Pieter Wispelwey and guitarists Sérgio and Odair Assad. These recitals are generously endowed by Nancy Richmond Winsten and the late Dr. Joseph Winsten in memory of Aaron Richmond, founder of the Celebrity Series.

Solo Recitals

Sarah Chang returns to the Series with a solo violin recital on October 16 at Symphony Hall; an Aaron Richmond Recital; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical. Violin virtuoso **Itzhak Perlman** comes to Symphony Hall on November 20. Dutch cellist **Pieter Wispelwey** presents a recital at NEC's Jordan Hall on February 3, 2012, and duo guitarists **Sérgio and Odair Assad** come to Jordan Hall on February 10; Aaron Richmond Recitals; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical.

Chamber Music

The chamber music season begins on November 12, when the **Orion String Quartet** performs at NEC's Jordan Hall; sponsored by the D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC. They will be premiering **Marc Neikrug's Clarinet Quintet with David Shifrin, clarinet**, which was co-commissioned by the Celebrity Series. On November 18, **Rob Kapilow** explores **Dvořák's Piano Quintet No. 2 in A major with the Borromeo Quartet and pianist Lukas Vondracek** at NEC's Jordan Hall as part of **What Makes It Great?®**; sponsored by Amy and Joshua Boger; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical. On February 19, 2012, at NEC's Jordan Hall **cellist David Finckel, pianist Wu Han and violinist Philip Setzer** will perform an all-Mendelssohn program; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical. On February 26, the **Hagen Quartet** makes their Boston debut at NEC's Jordan Hall. **Emerson String Quartet** will end the chamber music season on April 27 at NEC's Jordan Hall; media partner is WGBH 99.5 All Classical.

Celebrity Series Friends of Chamber Music

The chamber music performances in the 2011-2012 season are supported in part by the Celebrity Series Friends of Chamber Music.

Dance Series

Aszure Barton and Artists begins the dance series with their Boston debut on November 4 and 5 at the Tsai Performance Center. **Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company perform Oyster** in their Boston debut on February 3 and 4, 2012, at the Paramount Theatre. **Ballet Hispanico** comes to the Cutler Majestic Theatre for a three-show engagement March 9-11. **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** returns under the new leadership of Artistic Director Robert Battle from April 26-29 for five performances at the Citi Wang Theatre, sponsored by Tufts Health Plan. To wrap up the dance series, **Mark Morris Dance Group** returns to the Cutler Majestic Theatre from May 17-20 for a four-performance engagement and will include three Boston premieres.

The 2011-2012 Dance Series is sponsored by The Little Family Foundation and the John S. and Cynthia Reed Foundation, with additional support from the Celebrity Series Friends of Dance. Media partner for the Dance Series is WGBH.

Jazz and Popular Song

Tony Award-winner **Audra McDonald** opens the season on October 2 at Symphony Hall performing with a live ensemble; media partner is WGBH 89.7. **Terence Blanchard and Poncho Sanchez** perform ***Cubano Be! Cubano Bop!***, as a tribute to Chano Pozo and Dizzy Gillespie in their Celebrity Series debuts at the Berklee Performance Center on November 6; sponsored by Charlesbank Capital Partners, LLC. On December 9, **the Vijay Iyer Trio and the Miguel Zenon Quartet** perform in a double bill at Berklee Performance Center. On March 18, 2012, the **Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis** perform at Symphony Hall; sponsored by Foley and Lardner LLP; media partner is WGBH 89.7. On April 1, **Rob Kapilow** brings his ***What Makes It Great?® The Music of Richard Rodgers*** program to NEC's Jordan Hall for a look at Rodgers and Hammerstein, and Rodgers and Hart's most famous and beloved songs; sponsored by Amy and Joshua Boger. Jazz vocalist **Jane Monheit** makes her Celebrity Series debut on May 4 at Sanders Theatre.

Music of the World

Vienna Choir Boys liven up the holiday season with a performance on December 4 at NEC's Jordan Hall; sponsored by the D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC. On January 27, the **Roby Lakatos Ensemble** brings an evening of Hungarian gypsy music to Sanders Theatre in their Celebrity Series debut; sponsored by Susan Pravda and Gabor Garai, Honorary Consul General of Hungary, and the Hungarian Society of Massachusetts. South African gospel group, **Soweto Gospel Choir**, bring their inspirational repertoire to Symphony Hall on February 12, 2012; sponsored by the D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC; media partner is WGBH 89.7. **Max Raabe and Palast Orchester**, his 12-member band, come to Symphony Hall on March 4 with their musical interpretations of the 20s and 30s. Irish musical group **The Chieftains**, return to Symphony Hall on March 14; sponsored by Tufts Health plan; media partner is WGBH 89.7.

Theatre and Entertainment

American author and radio host of *A Prairie Home Companion*, **Garrison Keillor**, comes to Symphony Hall on November 13; media partner is WGBH 89.7. **Béla Fleck and the Flecktones** make their Celebrity Series debut on November 18 at Sanders Theatre; sponsored by Tufts Health Plan. Grammy-winning singer **Kathy Mattea** will perform in concert at Sanders Theatre on January 21, 2012; sponsored by the D.L. Saunders Companies and The Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC. Australian troupe **Circa** makes their Boston debut and will present their show, ***Circa***, at the Paramount Theatre for six performances from February 29-March 4; sponsored by Amy and Joshua Boger. Author and humorist **David Sedaris** returns to Symphony Hall on May 6 for a one-night-only reading; media partner is WGBH 89.7.

The Opening Night Celebration

The Opening Night Gala Celebration will take place at Symphony Hall at 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, following the **October 2 performance by Audra McDonald**. Proceeds will benefit the Walter Pierce Annual Performance Fund and the Harris A. Berman Fund for After-School Arts.

Subscription Sales

Subscription sales, both online and by mail, will begin on April 29, 2011. Online subscriptions will be available beginning at 12:01am on April 29 at www.celebrityseries.org. Subscription

brochures with ticket order forms, will be mailed the week of April 25 to current Celebrity Series of Boston subscribers. Persons who wish to receive a copy of the new brochures should call (617) 482-2595 or write to Celebrity Series of Boston, 20 Park Plaza, Suite 1032, Boston, MA 02116. Visit the Celebrity Series of Boston website, www.celebrityseries.org, for more information.

About Celebrity Series of Boston

The Celebrity Series of Boston is New England's leading presenter of music, dance, and the performing arts from around the world. Now approaching its 73rd season, the Celebrity Series brings performances by instrumental and vocal soloists, orchestras and chamber ensembles, dance companies, jazz, folk and ethnic artists and ensembles to Boston's major concert halls, reaching an audience of some 100,000 each year. Through the Arts, Education and Community Program the Celebrity Series reaches thousands of youngsters annually with opportunities to experience and participate in the performing arts through concerts, workshops and the award-winning AileyCamp Boston, an intensive six-week summer dance program for Boston middle school students. For more information on Celebrity Series of Boston, call (617) 482-2595 or visit us online at www.celebrityseries.org.

The Celebrity Series receives generous support from; The Little Family Foundation; Tufts Health Plan; Foley & Lardner LLP; Charlesbank Capital Partners; Comcast; Parametric Technology Corporation; The D.L. Saunders Companies & Boston Park Plaza Hotel, LLC; Massachusetts Cultural Council; New England Foundation for the Arts.

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