



BOSTON  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

2021•22 SEASON ANDRIS NELSONS MUSIC DIRECTOR



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Thursday, January 13, 2022

**CONDUCTOR ELIM CHAN MAKES HER BSO DEBUT, JANUARY 20–22, ON A PROGRAM WITH PIANO SOLOIST IGOR LEVIT AND A RECENT WORK BY BRIAN RAPHAEL NABORS**

**BSO ARTISTIC PARTNER THOMAS ADÈS RETURNS, JANUARY 27–29, FOR REPRISE PERFORMANCES OF HIS CONCERTO FOR PIANO AND ORCHESTRA WITH SOLOIST KIRILL GERSTEIN;  
BSO.ORG**



*Elim Chan, Igor Levit, Brian Raphael Nabors, Thomas Adès, Kirill Gerstein*

In Her BSO Debut, **Elim Chan** Leads the Orchestra in **Brian Raphael Nabors'** *Pulse* and Tchaikovsky's Second Symphony; Making his BSO Subscription Series Debut, **Igor Levit** Performs Brahms' Second Piano Concerto

*Thursday and Saturday, January 20 and 22, at 8 p.m.; Friday, January 21, at 1:30 p.m.*

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BSO Artistic Partner **Thomas Adès** is Joined by Pianist **Kirill Gerstein** in Repeat Performances of Adès' own Concerto for Piano and Orchestra (2019) as well as Ravel's Piano Concerto for Left Hand; Works by Berg (Three Pieces for Orchestra) and Ravel (*La Valse*) Complete the Program

*Thursday and Saturday, January 27 and 29, at 8 p.m.; Friday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m.*

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Second **Boston Symphony Chamber Players** concert of the season on January 23 to feature works by Bartók, Dvořák, and a **world premiere piece** by **Michael Gandolfi**; a listing with complete program and personnel information appears at the end of this press release

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TICKETS FOR THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON, STARTING AT \$25, ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE THROUGH [BSO.ORG](http://BSO.ORG) OR BY CALLING 888-266-1200

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[Click here](#) to view a press kit, including downloadable photos, video, and bios

To request interviews or press tickets, contact Grace Munns at [gmunns@bso.org](mailto:gmunns@bso.org) or call 617-638-9286

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**Program Details for BSO Concerts with Elim Chan and Igor Levit, January 20-28**

Hong Kong-born conductor Elim Chan, chief conductor of the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra, makes her BSO debut and acclaimed Russian-German pianist Igor Levit makes his BSO subscription series debut in these concerts. Mr. Levit performs Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 2, a work of grand scope and widely varying character and requiring great virtuosity. The young Alabama-born composer (and 2021 Tanglewood Music Center Fellow) Brian Raphael Nabors' orchestral work *Pulse* aims to suggest, in several contrasting episodes, the unifying energy of many different facets of life on earth. The nickname of Tchaikovsky's colorful and dynamic *Little Russian* Symphony refers not to his homeland, but to a part of the Ukraine then known as "Little Russia"; the nickname comes from the Ukrainian folk melodies used in the piece.



On Thursday, January 20 at 10:30 a.m., there is an open rehearsal for this program.

**Program Details for BSO Concerts with Thomas Adès and Kirill Gerstein, January 27-29**

BSO Artistic Partner Thomas Adès is joined by pianist Kirill Gerstein in reprise performances of Adès' own Concerto for Piano and Orchestra, a BSO-commissioned work written for Gerstein and premiered at Symphony Hall in 2019. Gerstein and Adès have since performed the concerto worldwide to great acclaim, and the BSO's recording of it was nominated for a Grammy Award.



*Thomas Adès leads Kirill Gerstein and the BSO in the March 2019 premiere of Adès' Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*  
(Photo by Winslow Townson)

Gerstein also performs Ravel's Piano Concerto for the Left Hand, which Ravel completed in 1930 for the pianist Paul Wittgenstein, who lost his right arm due to an injury in World War I. Ravel's fascination with jazz shows up in the concerto's syncopated rhythms and energy. Exhibiting stark differences as well as fascinating similarities, both Ravel's *La Valse* and Berg's *Three Pieces for Orchestra*—written a few years apart during and after World War I—seem to be modern commentaries, both admiring and critical, of the music and society of a bygone 19th-century Europe.

COVID-19 pandemic protocols for Symphony Hall performances and events are available at [bso.org/safety](https://www.bso.org/safety).

### **BSO NOW Concert Streaming in 2021–22 Season**

Current BSO NOW concert streams now available at [bso.org/now](https://www.bso.org/now) include last month's Holiday Pops program with the Boston Pops and conductor Keith Lockhart, available through January 16; the "Concert for Very Young People: Circle Round Edition," presented by WBUR's Circle Round and the BSO at Tanglewood's Linde Center and featuring BSO musicians Cindy Meyers (piccolo), Suzanne Nelsen (bassoon), and Rachel Childers (horn), available through January 22; and available through February 5, archival performances of Seiji Ozawa leading Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 with soloist André Watts (from April 18, 1974) and two works by Ravel: *Valses nobles et sentimentales* and *La Valse* (April 19, 1975).



[Click here](#) to view the conclusion of André Watts' 1974 performance of the Liszt Piano Concerto No. 2 with the BSO

[Click here](#) for further details about the 2021–22 BSO NOW online performance series.

**NEW:** Please note that as of January 6, the season pass price for BSO NOW access is reduced to \$50 for the remainder of season (through the April 21 release which expires on May 21). Donors and subscribers will still receive 15% off (\$42.50). As an added bonus, all new \$50 pass holders will also be able to access the Holiday Pops video-on-demand. For more information or to purchase a BSO NOW pass, please go to [bso.org/bso-now](https://www.bso.org/bso-now). (Members of the press may access BSO NOW content by emailing [merikson@bso.org](mailto:merikson@bso.org).)

In addition, CRB Classical 99.5, a GBH station—celebrating their 70th anniversary of presenting Boston Symphony Orchestra concerts—will feature live BSO radio broadcasts and online audio streams ([bso.org/broadcast](https://www.bso.org/broadcast) and [classicalwcrb.org](https://www.classicalwcrb.org)) of Saturday-evening concerts from Symphony Hall at 8 p.m., October 2-April 30.

**Artist Websites:**

[Elim Chan](#), [Igor Levit](#), [Brian Raphael Nabors](#), [Thomas Adès](#), [Kirill Gerstein](#), [Boston Symphony Orchestra](#)

**Ticket Information, Discounted Programs, and the BSO's Website and Social Media Channels**

Tickets for the 2021–22 BSO season, starting at \$25, are available for purchase through [bso.org](#) or by calling 888-266-1200. [Click here](#) for additional ticketing information, including details on the BSO's discounted ticket programs—the High School and College Cards, \$25 tickets for patrons under 40, Rush Tickets, EBT Card to Culture, and Group Sales—as well as access information for patrons with disabilities.

Further details about the BSO's many activities and ticketing options are available at [bso.org](#). Patrons can also interact with the Boston Symphony Orchestra on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bostonsymphony>); Twitter (<https://twitter.com/BostonSymphony>); Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/bostonsymphony/>); and LinkedIn (<https://linkedin.com/company/boston-symphony-orchestra/mycompany>).

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**SPONSORSHIP DETAILS**

Longstanding major corporate partner **Bank of America** returns as the BSO Lead Season Sponsor for the 2021–22 season.

The BSO is proud to announce that the **Arbella Insurance Foundation**, a longtime sponsor, is continuing its major sponsorship for the 16th season with its support of new audience development initiatives. The BSO is also delighted to have **Fairmont Copley Plaza** in its 20th season as the Official Hotel of the BSO.

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**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON:**

[Complete 2021-22 Season Listing](#)

[Andris Nelsons-Led Programs in 2021-22 season](#)

[Narrative Description of the 2021-22 Season](#)

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**LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2021–22 BSO SEASON**

[BSO Media Center](#)

[BSO Youth and Community Programs](#)

## CONCERT PROGRAM LISTINGS, JANUARY 20-29

### **Boston Symphony Orchestra Program Listing, January 20-22, 2022**

Thursday, January 20, 10:30 a.m. (open rehearsal)

Thursday, January 20, 8 p.m.

Friday, January 21, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 22, 8 p.m.

Elim Chan, conductor\*

Igor Levit, piano^

BRAHMS Piano Concerto No. 2

Brian Raphael NABORS *Pulse*

TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 2, *Little Russian*

\* *BSO debut*

^ *BSO subscription debut*

### **Boston Symphony Chamber Players Program Listing, January 23, 2022**

Sunday, January 23, 3 p.m.

Jordan Hall at the New England Conservatory

BARTÓK *Contrasts*, for clarinet, violin, and piano

William R. Hudgins, clarinet; Haldan Martinson, violin; Vivian Choi, piano

Michael GANDOLFI Cantata, *Where can I go from your spirit?*, for soprano, baritone, and ensemble (**world premiere**; BSO commission)

Sophia Burgos, soprano; John Brancy, baritone; Elizabeth Rowe, flute; John Ferrillo, oboe; James Sommerville, horn; Haldan Martinson and Alexander Velinzon, violin; Steven Ansell, viola; Blaise Déjardin, cello; Edwin Barker, bass; Tim Genis, timpani; Jessica Zhou, harp

DVOŘÁK String Quintet in G, Op. 77

Haldan Martinson and Alexander Velinzon, violin; Steven Ansell, viola; Blaise Déjardin, cello; Edwin Barker, bass

### **Boston Symphony Orchestra Program Listing, January 27-29, 2022**

Thursday, January 27, 8 p.m.

Friday, January 28, 1:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 29, 8 p.m.

Thomas Adès, conductor

Kirill Gerstein, piano

BERG Three Pieces for Orchestra

RAVEL Piano Concerto in D for the Left Hand

Thomas ADÈS Concerto for Piano and Orchestra  
RAVEL *La Valse*

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