

PREMIERE DECEMBER 19, 2021

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### PITTSBURGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SENSORY FRIENDLY HIGHMARK HOLIDAY POPS RECORDED LIVE DEC. 11, 2021 AT HEINZ HALL PREMIERE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 AT 7:30 P.M. THROUGH JANUARY 18 Byron Stripling, conductor, trumpet and vocalist Vanessa Campagna, vocalist Christopher Sanders, vocalist Tamir Hendelman, piano Jeffrey Grubbs, electric/acoustic bass Jim Rupp, drum set Paul O'Neill, Jon Oliva, "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24" Robert Kinkel (arr. Bob Phillips) Leroy Anderson "Sleigh Ride" Traditional "What Child is This?" (arr. Marty Robinson) Mr. Stripling Gillespie & Coot "Santa Claus is Comin' to Town" **Mr. Stripling** (arr. Cy Payne) Traditional "I Have a Little Dreidel" (arr. Finkel/Cook) Mr. Stripling Irving Berlin "White Christmas" (arr. Cy Payne) Ms. Campagna Mr. Stripling Adolphe Adam "O Holy Night" (arr. Bill Grimes) Ms. Campagna Various Sing Along (arr. Bill Grimes) "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" "Silent Night" "Jingle Bells" Ms. Campagna Mr. Sanders Mr. Stripling Traditional "Joy to the World" Mr. Hendelman (arr. Larry Cook) Mr. Stripling SUPPORTED IN PART BY The Edith L. Trees HIGHMARK 👰 🗑 🛛 🗇 AHN

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### BYRON STRIPLING

With a contagious smile and captivating charm, conductor, trumpet virtuoso, singer, and actor Byron Stripling has ignited audiences across the globe. Named Principal Pops conductor of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in January, 2020, his baton has led orchestras throughout the United States and Canada. As soloist with the Boston Pops Orchestra, Stripling has performed frequently under the baton of Keith Lockhart, as well as being featured soloist on the PBS television special, *Evening at Pops*, with conductors John Williams and Mr. Lockhart. Currently, Stripling serves as artistic director and conductor of the highly acclaimed Columbus Jazz Orchestra.

Since his Carnegie Hall debut with Skitch Henderson and the New York Pops, Stripling has become a pops orchestra favorite throughout the country, soloing with over 100 orchestras around the world including the Boston Pops, National Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Dallas Symphony, Cincinnati Pops, Seattle Symphony, Baltimore Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Toronto Symphony, and orchestras throughout Europe and Asia. He has been a featured soloist at the Hollywood Bowl and performs at festivals around the world.

An accomplished actor and singer, Stripling was chosen, following a worldwide search, to star in the lead role of the Broadway bound musical, *Satchmo*. Many will remember his featured cameo performance in the television movie, *The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles*, and his critically acclaimed virtuoso trumpet and riotous comedic performance in the 42nd Street production of *From Second Avenue to Broadway*.

Television viewers have enjoyed his work as soloist on the worldwide telecast of *The Grammy Awards*. Millions have heard his trumpet and voice on television commercials, TV theme songs including 20/20, CNN, and soundtracks of favorite movies. In addition to multiple recordings with his quintet, work with artists from Tony Bennett to Whitney Houston, his prolific recording career includes hundreds of albums with the greatest pop, Broadway, soul and jazz artists of all time.



Photo credit: John Abbott

Stripling earned his stripes as lead trumpeter and soloist with the Count Basie Orchestra under the direction of Thad Jones and Frank Foster. He has also played and recorded extensively with the bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Woody Herman, Dave Brubeck, Lionel Hampton, Clark Terry, Louis Bellson, and Buck Clayton in addition to The Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, The Carnegie Hall Jazz Band, and The GRP All Star Big Band.

Stripling is devoted to giving back and supports several philanthropic organizations including The United Way and Homelessness advocate and The Community Shelter Board. He also enjoys sharing the power of music through seminars and master classes at colleges, universities, conservatories, and high schools. His informative talks, combined with his incomparable wit and charm, make him a favorite guest speaker to groups of all ages.

Stripling was educated at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan. One of his greatest joys is to return, periodically, to Eastman and Interlochen as a special guest lecturer.

A resident of Ohio, Stripling lives in the country with his wife Alexis, a former dancer, writer and poet and their beautiful daughters.

### VANESSA CAMPAGNA

It is her commanding presence and explosive stage personality along with her dynamic and versatile voice that has made Vanessa Campagna a fan favorite. These traits along with her passion to perform and write have earned her the opportunity to work with some of the most talented people in the music entertainment business as well as perform at some of the biggest music venues across the country. It is her diversity, yet vocal purity that earned her the respect of world-renowned multi-award winning, director composer, the late, Marvin Hamlisch; who claimed, "Vanessa is the real deal." Some of her most memorable moments have come from appearances with Mr. Hamlisch and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra performing, the "Holiday Pops." In the words of The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette after one of her shows, "...the blossoming star power and whopping voice of Vanessa Campagna shined brightly." Her Christmas music has been heard throughout the holiday season on many radio stations across the country, and her rendition of the classic Christmas song, "Little Drummer Boy" made it into the top 40 on the Holiday Charts. With the beautiful Christmas standards we have all come to love, and with the new and exciting pop music of today, Vanessa has been able to warm the hearts of many as she spreads the Christmas spirit through her own headlined Christmas concerts. "It wouldn't be Christmas without seeing one of Vanessa's Christmas shows" said one industry insider. "Her stage presence is unbelievable and her personality is contagious!"

Vanessa was also a featured artist at the Latin Songwriters Hall Of Fame Awards, accompanied by Eduardo Marturet and the Miami Symphony Orchestra, where she payed tribute to Latin songwriting great, César Portillo de la Luz, singing one of his hit songs; "Contigo En La Distancia."



In 2013, she was a part of the OSCAR winning team who collaborated on the music and lyrics for the Academy award winning documentary short, *Inocente*, which aired on MTV.

When Vanessa isn't out on tour, she spends her time in Nashville producing and writing music with A listers such as, mega-hit maker Desmond Child, multi #1 hit songwriter Derek George, Liz Rose and more. Vanessa has written multiple top 10 hits on the UK Pop, Dance Charts & Billboard International charts for major label artists. Vanessa has also had her music featured on The CBS Network, multiple ABC TV shows and promo spots for both the 2020 & 2021 NFL Super-Bowls.

2020 was a breakout year for Vanessa as an artist. She featured alongside multi platinum Christian/ Pop recording artist, Michael W. Smith and garnered her first #1 hit on the Billboard Charts with the globally known song "Waymaker." That same song later won Worship Song Of The Year at the 2021 K-Love Radio Awards. @

### CHRISTOPHER SANDERS

Christopher is an award-winning actor and singer, who has performed in venues around the world. Most recently he received critical acclaim for playing Daddy Warbucks (*Annie*) with Sally Struthers and for reprising his powerful performance of Don Quixote (*Man of La Mancha*).

Over the years he had the pleasure of performing with George Hearn, Eddie Mekka, Roddy McDowell, Carol Lawrence, John Raitt, Debbie Boone and Rosemary Clooney. Additional theatrical credits include; Georges (La Cage aux Folles), Frollo (Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame), Sweeney Todd (Sweeny Todd), Javert (Les Miserables), Emile (South Pacific), Captain von Trapp (Sound of Music), Sky Masterson (Guys and Dolls), Fred/ Petruchio (Kiss Me Kate), Jekyll/Hyde (Jekyll and Hyde), Beast (Disney's Beauty and the Beast), Frank Butler (Annie Get Your Gun), Juan Peron (Evita), Phantom (Phantom of the Opera), and Cinderella's Prince/Wolf (Into The Woods).

Concert engagements: Pittsburgh Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, Bangor Symphony,



Pasadena Pops, and The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber at the National Theatre and Concert Hall Taiwan. Christopher tours the country as the baritone for the legendary 1940's singing group The Pied Pipers. In 2001, they were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame along with the Bee Gees and The Eagles. Christopher's solo CD, *Curtain Call* is available on iTunes and CDBaby.com.

### TAMIR HENDELMAN

Award-winning jazz pianist Tamir Hendelman has always been fascinated with the intersection of jazz and classical music, an interest nourished by study with boundary-crossing composer/pianists Clare Fischer, Joe Harnell and Billy Childs.

Born in Tel Aviv, Tamir Hendelman began keyboard studies at age 6, moving to the U.S. in 1984 and winning Yamaha's national keyboard competition two years later. Concerts in Japan and the Kennedy Center followed. Drawn to the impressionistic and jazz harmonies of composers such as Ravel and Gershwin, he studied at the Tanglewood Institute and received a B.M. in Music Composition from Eastman School of Music in 1993. After a brief period exploring film scoring, he focused on the art of jazz piano, forming his own trio, which features original compositions, bebop, blues and Brazilian music. Since 2000 he has toured the US, Japan and Europe with his trio and as a member of the Jeff Hamilton Trio and the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra.

Tamir Hendelman was a soloist with the Henry Mancini Orchestra in 1999. In 2001 he premiered Clayton's orchestration of Oscar Peterson's Canadiana Suite with the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra. Peterson wrote in his online journal: "It was a satisfying but strange feeling... to hear a new young voice make some exhilarating and thoughtful solos in the spaces that I used to occupy in those pieces...I look forward to hearing more from him." In 2011, he premiered John Clayton's new arrangement of Rhapsody In Blue at the Fujitsu-Concord Festival. Since then he has performed the piece with the AZ Music Fest Orchestra and Winston-Salem Symphony, and performed a tribute to Antonio Carlos Jobim with members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 2018.

Having received awards from ASCAP and the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts, Tamir Hendelman was musical director for the Lovewell Institute, a national arts education non-profit organization. He has also



Photo credit: Janis Wilkins

become a first-rate arranger and accompanist for some of today's premier vocalists, such as Natalie Cole, Roberta Gambarini, and Jackie Ryan. He has accompanied Barbra Streisand in her return to jazz on *Love Is The Answer* (Columbia, 2009), at the Village Vanguard as well as on her 2012 North American orchestral tour. He also musically directed classical vocalist Julia Migenes' genre-bending 2005 release, *Alter Ego.* 

Since 2005, Tamir Hendelman has been on the jazz faculty of UCLA and has conducted numerous workshops in universities and music programs in the U.S. and abroad. In 2013, his music was honored with commissioned orchestrations from The Penfield Commission Project, which he performed alongside a jazz orchestra and a 115-member studio orchestra. Tamir Hendelman has released two recordings as a leader of his trio: Playground (Swing Bros, 2008) and Destinations (Resonance Reaching #1 on the jazz charts, 2010). Destinations takes listeners along on a voyage of musical discovery. The music ranges from originals to Jobim, Keith Jarrett and even Maurice Ravel. "Destinations to me is not only about the places I have traveled to, but also about the journey of being a jazz musician." (@

### JEFFREY GRUBBS

Jeffrey Grubbs joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra in 1996 after playing in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra.

Grubbs, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, received his musical training at Youngstown State University, The Cleveland Institute of Music and the University of Southern California and is a student of Lawrence Angell, Paul Ellison, Ralph Jones, Anthony Knight and Tony Leonardi.

He started as a violinist at the age of nine and later switched to the double bass at age 18. With this late start, Grubbs gained a great deal of experience as a student by working very diligently and becoming very active in the Northeast Ohio-area music community performing with many of the symphony orchestras in that region. While a student at USC, he won the position of orchestral fellow with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra through the Music Assistance Fund, now the Sphinx Organization, which gave him the opportunity to perform as a full-time member of that ensemble for two seasons.

In addition to his orchestral achievements, he is also an accomplished jazz bassist. In 1986, he won Downbeat Magazine's "Dee Bee" award for Best Collegiate Bass Soloist from a submittal of a recording of his work with the Youngstown State University Jazz Ensemble. He has performed and recorded with many touring internationally known jazz artists, including Nat Adderly, Kenny Burrell, Joe Lovano, Diane Schur, Dr.



Photo credit: Todd Rosenberg

Lonnie Smith, Ira Sullivan and Joe Williams. Grubbs is currently quite active performing in the Pittsburgh jazz community.

Grubbs has served as a faculty member Florida of Carnegie Mellon University, International University, Clark-Atlanta University, the University of Pittsburgh, the Brevard Music School and Slippery Rock University. He also served as associate professor of jazz double bass at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign and is currently serving as adjunct professor of string bass at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Grubbs enjoys living in the City of Pittsburgh with his wife, Tania, and their three children.

### JIM RUPP

Jim Rupp has toured extensively with the bands of Woody Herman, Maynard Ferguson, and Glenn Miller. He is the drummer on three Woody Herman CDs, The Fiftieth Anniversary Tour, (which was nominated for a GRAMMY® Award), Legacy, and Live In London. Jim spent eight years with GRAMMY® Award-winning jazz singer Diane Schuur, and he is currently the drummer in the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra, and the Cleveland Pops Orchestra. He has also performed with artists such as Ray Charles, Tony Bennett, Joe Lavano, Hank Marr, Buddy DeFranco, Clark Terry, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, the Smithsonian Masterworks Jazz Orchestra, and Natalie Cole. Jim has coauthored a critically acclaimed jazz drumming textbook, Baby Steps to Giant Steps. He has taught at Indiana University, and the University of Michigan, as well as his current appointment at The Ohio State University.



An active clinician, he gives workshops and educational clinics around the country. He is also the past chair of the drum set committee for the Percussive Arts Society, a past board member of NAMM, and a past executive board member of the Percussive Arts Society.

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Now in its 126th season, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra is credited with a rich history of engaging the world's finest conductors and musicians and demonstrates a genuine commitment to the Pittsburgh region and its citizens. Known for its artistic excellence for more than a century, the Pittsburgh Symphony has been led by its worldwide acclaimed Music Director Manfred Honeck since 2008; past music directors have included Fritz Reiner (1938-1948), William Steinberg (1952-1976), André Previn (1976-1984), Lorin Maazel (1984-1996) and Mariss Jansons (1997-2004).

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In addition to income from the Annual Fund, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra is dependent on a robust endowment to assure its long-term financial stability. Gifts from Legacy of Excellence programs are directed to the endowment to provide for the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's future. The Steinberg Society honors donors who have advised the Pittsburgh Symphony in writing that they have made a provision for the orchestra in their will. Endowed naming opportunities for guest artists, musicians' chairs, concert series, educational programs or designated spaces allow donors to specify a name or tribute for 10 years, 20 years or in perpetuity. For additional information, please call 412.392.4880.

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Current as of November 21, 2021 \*deceased



### DAULER HEARING LOOP:

HEINZ HALL A system to provide better sound to hearing aid and cochlear implant users.



If you use a hearing aid or have a cochlear implant, you can have an improved listening experience at Heinz Hall concerts and events!

The Dauler Hearing Loop runs throughout the auditorium, with the exception of the Orchestra pit, first four Orchestra level rows and Grand Box left. The hearing loop system also is installed at the Heinz Hall Box Office windows, allowing you to hear the amplified voice of Box Office personnel directly through t-coil enabled hearing aids.

### VISIT OR CALL THE HEINZ HALL BOX OFFICE AT 412.392.4900 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

The Dauler Hearing Loop is named for late Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra trustee L. Van V. Dauler, Jr and was made possible through a gift from Randi & L. Van V. Dauler, Jr. and the Emma Clyde Hodge Memorial Foundation.

### TO USE THE DAULER HEARING LOOP:

If you have a hearing aid or cochlear implant with a telecoil (t-coil) you need to make sure the t-coil is activated and properly set by your audiologist. You can then activate the setting once in Heinz Hall. If you are not sure if your hearing aid has a t-coil or if you experience difficulty and require assistance, please contact your audiologist.

Sound heard through telecoils can vary from hearing aid to hearing aid and according to position in the theater. Generally, the best signal is found when you sit in the center of a row and facing toward the stage. If you need further assistance in selecting the best seats, please contact the Heinz Hall box office.

### HEINZ HALL POLICIES

Heinz Hall, owned and operated by Pittsburgh Symphony Inc., is committed to the safety and well-being of all guests and patrons, and aims to provide a safe, comfortable and enjoyable entertainment experience.

### ENTRANCE SECURITY POLICY

All audience members are required to enter through state-of-the-art "free-flow" scanning equipment, designed both to enhance security and convenience. Patrons using wheelchairs and mobility devices will enter via a door adjacent to the screening equipment for alternative screening. Patrons with children in strollers may enter through the screening equipment.

### WEAPONS POLICY

Weapons are not permitted in the venue and/or public spaces owned or operated by Pittsburgh Symphony Inc., including Heinz Hall. Any item that could endanger public safety is considered a weapon for purposes of this policy. Violators of this policy may be subject to ejection from Heinz Hall and/or civil or criminal penalties. The only exception to this policy is sworn law enforcement personnel and private security officers employed and/or contracted by Pittsburgh Symphony Inc.

### **BAG POLICY**

Heinz Hall reserves the right to search any bags entering the facility. Oversized bags must fit comfortably under a seat to ensure the safety of patrons entering or exiting seats and aisles. Bags failing to meet these requirements must be checked and pass a security search, or you must remove the bags from the Hall.

### **SMOKING POLICY**

Heinz Hall is a smoke/vapor free facility. (Smoking is permitted in the Heinz Hall Garden Plaza)

### FOOD AND BEVERAGE POLICY

Outside food or alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Outside non-alcoholic beverages, such as Starbucks coffee, may be consumed in the lobby areas, but are not permitted into the auditorium. Please note: Heinz Hall cups with lids are available for purchase at the facility's bars. These reusable cups can be brought into the facility again at a later date once purchased, but must be filled on site. These cups can be brought into the auditorium at many concerts (excluding classical programs).

### COSTUME POLICY

Heinz Hall does not permit costume masks of any kind or facsimiles of weapons that would make other guests feel uncomfortable or detract from the concert experience. Guests are welcome to attend certain programs, (e.g. *The Music of Harry Potter or The Music of Star Wars*) in costume.

### HEINZ HALL INFORMATION



### ACCESSIBLE SEATS are

available with companion seats. There is a level entrance and route to the main floor of the auditorium. Contact the box office for the location ushers for assistance or contact the of the companion seats.

#### HEINZ HALL BOX **OFFICE HOURS** are Monday

through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m; Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. Weekend hours vary based on performance times. Tickets may be purchased by calling 412.392.4900 and are also available at the Theater Square Box Office.

**BRAILLE AND LARGE** PRINT PROGRAMS are available at the concierge desk for all BNY Mellon Grand Classics, PNC Pops, Fiddlesticks Family Series and Sensory-Friendly performances.

**CHILDREN** are encouraged to attend our youth concerts and Fiddlesticks Family Concerts. Children age six and over, are welcome at all performances with a purchased ticket. The Latecomer's Gallery and lobby video monitors are always options for restless children.

COAT CHECK is available in the Grand Lobby.

**CONCIERGE SERVICE** is

available in the Entrance Lobby to assist with your questions and to help with dining, hotel, entertainment and transportation concerns. [Penny Vennare, Event Supervisor; Barbara Smorul, Concierge.]

### DAULER HEARING LOOP

to be used with hearing aid telecoil settings, portable assistive listening devices are available. Please see the box office for the best locations for using the hearing loop.

**DRESS CODE** for all concerts is at your personal discretion and ranges from dress and business attire to casual wear.

**ELEVATOR** is located next to the Grand Staircase.

**EMERGENCY CALLS** can be referred to the concierge desk at 412 392 2880

FIRE EXITS are to be used ONLY in case of an emergency. If the fire alarm is activated, follow the direction of Heinz Hall ushers and staff to safely evacuate the theater.

**GROUPS** can receive discounted tickets, priority seats, personalized service and free reception space. For more information, call 412.392.4819 or visit our website at pittsburghsymphony.org/groups for information.

### LATECOMER'S GALLERY

is located behind the Main Floor to enjoy the performance until you can be seated. Latecomers will be seated at suitable intervals during the program, at the discretion of the conductor. The gallery is also available for parents with restless children.

LOCKERS are located on the Lower and Gallery levels.

LOST AND FOUND items can be retrieved by calling 412.392.4844 on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**MOBILE DEVICES** should be turned off and put away upon entering the theater.

PHOTOGRAPHY, video, or audio recording of the performance is prohibited at all times, unless otherwise noted.

PRE-PAID PARKING is available to all ticketholders in the Sixth & Penn garage across from Heinz Hall. Ask about prepaid parking when you order your tickets.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S **RESTROOMS** are located on the Lower, Grand Tier and Gallery levels. Additional women's restrooms are located off the Garden and Overlook rooms. Accessible restrooms are located on the Grand Tier level and a family/accessible restroom is available on the Main Floor.

**SMOKING** is not permitted in Heinz Hall. The garden is accessible during performances for this purpose.

### SUPPORTING THE PSO AND HEINZ HALL

is critical to the financial future of the Pittsburgh Symphony. Ticket sales only cover a portion of our operating costs. To make a tax-deductible gift, please contact our Development department at 412.392.4880 or visit us online at pittsburghsymphony.org

