

Ludwig Van Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5, “Emperor”
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 6, “Pathétique”

PROGRAM **WOS 25-16 / LAP 25-03**
RELEASE **October 21, 2025**

Rachmaninoff & Muhly

Eun Sun Kim, music director for the San Francisco Opera, leads the LA Phil through the spiraling passages of Rachmaninoff’s riveting Third Symphony and a brand-new concerto grosso that spotlights the orchestra by the forward-thinking composer Nico Muhly. Then, an outstanding pianist “with an agile technique that allows him perfect clarity in the most complex textures, abundant sensitivity and refinement” (*Gramophone*) returns to Walt Disney Concert Hall. Alexandre Kantorow, winner of the prestigious Gilmore Artist Award, shows off his sensitive technique with Rachmaninoff’s ever-evolving *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*.

Los Angeles Philharmonic
Eun Sun Kim, conductor
Alexandre Kantorow, piano
Denis Bouriakov, flute
David Rejano Cantero, trombone
Matthew Howard, percussion
Robert deMaine, cello

Sergei Rachmaninoff Symphony No. 3
Nico Muhly Concerto Grosso (world premiere, LA Phil commission)
Sergei Rachmaninoff *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*

PROGRAM **WOS 25-17 / LAP 25-04**
RELEASE **October 28, 2025**

Schubert, Strauss & Saariaho

After becoming deeply drawn to “Liebestod” (Love-Death) from Wagner’s *Tristan and Isolde*, Strauss composed his own musical exploration of what lies beyond life itself. Through stunning harmonies and masterful orchestration, *Death and Transfiguration* illustrates a man’s physiological and psychological deterioration. In a similar vein, Kaija Saariaho completed *HUSH*, her self-proclaimed “journey to silence,” during her final months with terminal brain cancer. Dedicated to jazz trumpeter Verner Pohjola, Saariaho’s concerto features the trumpet growling from its lowest register and gliding downward like a ghost among the orchestra. Susanna Mälkki takes the lead for the evening, conducting Schubert’s chilling yet charming two-movement symphony, nicknamed the “Unfinished.”

Los Angeles Philharmonic
Susanna Mälkki, conductor
Verner Pohjola, trumpet

Franz Schubert
Kaija Saariaho
Richard Strauss

Symphony No. 8, "Unfinished"
HUSH (U.S. premiere, LA Phil commission)
Death and Transfiguration

PROGRAM
RELEASE

WOS 25-18 / LAP 25-05
November 4, 2025

Gustavo Conducts Mahler's Journey

Mahler has been a specialty and obsession throughout Gustavo Dudamel's career, and in the opening weekend of the Mahler Grooves Festival, Dudamel curates and conducts a selection of the composer's music in Mahler's Journey. He opens with two excerpts from Mahler's First and Tenth symphonies that frame the composer's life. *Blumine* was the second movement from Symphony No. 1, which was removed after a few performances but rediscovered in the 1960s and appreciated for its rapturous trumpet and melancholy oboe. The Adagio from Symphony No. 10 similarly found a new life and was published after Mahler's death. The unfinished sketches were written during personal crisis and brim with anguish and pain that is expressed through harmonic language that straddles the Romantic era and the 20th century.

Des Knaben Wunderhorn (The Youth's Magic Horn) is based on a collection of German poetry of the same name that was influential to Mahler and other Romantics. Two dozen of the poems are set to music that with the help of baritone Simon Keenlyside and mezzo-soprano Ekaterina Gubanova explores stories of love, loss, and the supernatural.

Los Angeles Philharmonic
Gustavo Dudamel, conductor
Ekaterina Gubanova, mezzo-soprano
Simon Keenlyside, baritone

Gustav Mahler *Blumine*
Gustav Mahler Symphony No. 10: Adagio
Gustav Mahler Selections from *Lieder und Gesänge* and *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*

PROGRAM
RELEASE

WOS 25-19 / LAP 25-06
November 11, 2025

Mahler's Fifth with Dudamel

In the final weekend of the Mahler Grooves Festival, Gustavo Dudamel explores the tumultuous relationship of Gustav and Alma Mahler through their music. Their marriage was, at best, "complex," marked by affairs, an age gap, diminishment, and the death of a child. Alma was a composer in her own right whose career took a back seat at Gustav's request. At a particularly rocky moment in their relationship, Gustav finally encouraged her to publish Five Songs that are brought to life here by mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke. Next Dudamel leads Mahler's Fifth Symphony, which progresses from mourning to triumph, inspired in no small part by Gustav

All artists, repertoire, and programs are subject to change.