

12 BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Symphony Hall, Boston, Massachusetts, 10-11 March

Tel: 888-266-1200

Web: www.bso.org

At almost 80 minutes, Busoni's 1904 Piano Concerto is one of the longest and most fiendishly difficult concertos for the instrument. The probing pianist Kirill Gerstein gives the Boston Symphony Orchestra's first-ever performances of the work, with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus singing the off-stage men's chorus in the final movement. Sakari Oramo also conducts Sibelius's Third Symphony.

13 BUFFALO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, 10-11 March

Tel: 716-885-5000

Web: www.bpo.org

Flamboyant organist Cameron Carpenter debuts at the Buffalo Philharmonic with his custom-built touring organ, an instrument that uses digital samples of actual pipe organs, giving him the ability to perform in organ-less venues. He'll join JoAnn Falletta and the orchestra for Saint-Saëns's *Organ Symphony* and Poulenc's *Organ Concerto*.

14 FODAY MUSA SOSO & PHILIP GLASS

National Sawdust, Brooklyn, New York, 12 March

Tel: 212 960 3795

Web: www.nationalsawdust.org

Foday Musa Soso, a Gambian master of the *kora* (21-string West African harp), first met the composer Philip Glass in the mid-1980s when the pair worked together on the film soundtrack of *Powaqqatsi*. They've remained periodic collaborators ever since. This National Sawdust programme features compositions by both artists, assisted by an ensemble of piano, cello and percussion.

15 CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY OF LINCOLN CENTER

Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, New York, 12 March

Tel: 212-875-5788

Web: www.chambermusicsociety.org

The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center cooks up a lively programme to spotlight the intrepid young soprano Julia Bullock. She'll perform Ravel's *Cinque mélodies populaires grecques* and the premiere of Jonathan Berger's *Rime Sparse* (on Petrarch texts). Franck's *Sonata in A major for Cello and Piano* pairs Daniel Müller-Schott and Michael Brown; Dvořák's *Quartet in D* completes the bill.



ON BEETHOVEN'S TRAIL:
violinist Jennifer Koh
joins pianist Shai Wosner
(Choice 16)

16 JENNIFER KOH & SHAI WOSNER

Kimmel Center, Philadelphia, 21 March

Tel: 215-569-8080

Web: www.pcmsconcerts.org

The restless violinist Jennifer Koh revives this programme from her 'Bridge to Beethoven' series, pairing new works with Beethoven's violin sonatas. The gentle *Sonata No. 1 in D* and the *Kreutzer Sonata* frame jazz pianist Vijay Iyer's *Bridgetower Fantasy*. Named for the African-European violinist for whom Beethoven wrote the 'Kreutzer', the fantasy showcases the talents of Koh and her pianist, Shai Wosner (both pictured above).

17 BRITTEN'S WAR REQUIEM

Kimmel Center, Philadelphia, 23-25 March

Tel: 215-875-7695

Web: www.philorch.org

The Philadelphia Orchestra's conductor laureate Charles Dutoit leads the orchestra in Britten's formidable masterpiece, the *War Requiem*. Continuing a performance tradition of employing a Russian soprano, English tenor and German Baritone, the poetry of Wilfred Owen will be sung by Tatiana Monogarova, John Mark Ainsley and Matthias Goerne.

18 SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY

Davies Symphony Hall, San Francisco, 25-26 March

Tel: 415-864-6000

Web: www.sfsymphony.org

The San Francisco Symphony, under Michael Tilson Thomas, charts a musical journey from

John Cage's *The Seasons*, composed for a 1947 Merce Cunningham ballet, to Bruch's *Violin Concerto No. 1*, with the poised soloist Nicola Benedetti, to Bartók's *Concerto for Orchestra*, a showcase for members of the orchestra.

19 ORLANDO CONSORT

150 W 83rd St, New York, 25 March

Tel: 212-854-7799

Web: www.millertheater.com

Songs of love and pleasure – from the tender to the bawdy – are on the menu as this five-member ensemble shines a light on the obscure Franco-Flemish court composer Loyset Compère (c.1445-1518). Though not as familiar as Josquin or Dufay, Compère left several motets and a stately Magnificat, to be presented here.

20 SHIFT: A FESTIVAL OF AMERICAN ORCHESTRAS

Kennedy Center, Washington DC, 27 March – 2 April

Tel: 800-444-1324

Web: washingtonperformingarts.org

The Kennedy Center introduces a new orchestra festival intended to fill the void that was left after Carnegie Hall's adventurous Spring for Music festival folded in 2014. The inaugural edition includes performances and community events by the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Knights and the North Carolina Symphony. The Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra opens the series with a multimedia extravaganza titled 'Nature and Music'.