
cpo
SUMMER PROGRAMME
TUESDAY
24 NOV
POLINA OSETINSKAYA

cpo



KIRSTENBOSCH SUMMER SUNSET CONCERTS

WITH **CAPE TOWN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA**

31 JAN - 07 MAR

BROADWAY AT KIRSTENBOSCH SUN 31 JAN 17:30

Broadway star Jessica Vosk, renowned for her acclaimed portrayal of Elphaba in *Wicked*, joins the CPO for a spectacular evening of musical theatre favourites and popular songs.

CARNIVAL OF THE ANIMALS
SUN 7 FEB 2027 • 17:30
With Rob van Vuuren

+

RACHMANINOFF'S THIRD
SUN 7 MAR 2027 • 17:30
Featuring Emanuil Ivanov

Opening Notes

CEO and Artistic Director **Adriaan Fuchs**



It is a great pleasure to welcome Finnish conductor Pietari Inkinen to the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra for his CPO and South African debut! One of the most distinguished conductors of his generation, Pietari joins us for three concerts, and it is a privilege to have him lead the orchestra in performances of music by Sibelius, Rachmaninoff and Beethoven. We look forward to a memorable musical collaboration.

We are also delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed pianist Polina Osetinskaya, who joins Pietari for Rachmaninoff's much-loved Second Piano Concerto, a work combining dazzling virtuosity with some of the composer's most beautiful and enduring melodies.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce our 2027 Summer Festival, **RESONANCE**, running from 14 to 31 January. Bringing together internationally acclaimed artists, distinguished South African soloists and leading choral ensembles, the festival explores the extraordinary relationship between voice and orchestra – from Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony and Baroque masterpieces to grand opera, vocal jazz and Broadway.

With performances in the magnificent Cape Town City Hall and the beautiful outdoor settings of Maynardville and Kirstenbosch, the festival offers something for everyone. I hope you will join us for what promises to be a wonderful celebration of music.

Thank you for your continued support, and enjoy tonight's concert.

RESONANCE

A SUMMER FESTIVAL 14–31 JANUARY 2027

Join us for an extraordinary celebration of music and the human voice, including internationally acclaimed artists Ermonela Jaho and Cameron Shahbazi. We're particularly excited to announce a third Kirstenbosch Summer Sunset Concert: Broadway at Kirstenbosch, on 31 January, featuring Broadway Star Jessica Vosk, celebrated for her sensational portrayal of Elphaba in *Wicked*. An unforgettable summer evening of Broadway favourites awaits!

SUMMER FESTIVAL

RESONANCE

14 - 31 JANUARY 2027

The CPO's annual summer festival returns from 14–31 January 2027 with a spectacular celebration of music.

This year, the human voice takes centre stage, from Beethoven's monumental Ninth Symphony and the expressive power of Baroque music to the passion of opera, the energy of jazz and the magic of Broadway.

Featuring international stars Ermonela Jaho, Jessica Vosk and Cameron Shahbazi alongside leading South African artists, RESONANCE celebrates the power of music to move, inspire and connect us across Cape Town's iconic concert halls and outdoor venues.



THU 14 JAN 2027 AT 19:30 (Friends of Orchestral Music Gala)
SUN 17 JAN 2027 AT 16:00
Cape Town City Hall

BERNHARD GUELLER CONDUCTOR

Featuring Megan-Geoffrey Prins (piano), Nobulumko Mngxekeza and Siphamandla Moyake (sopranos), Siphokazi Molteno (mezzo-soprano), Lukhanyo Moyake and Jason Atherton (tenors), Siphe Kwani (baritone), AfriArts Chorus and VOX Cape Town.

Beethoven Overture to *Fidelio,* Op. 72b
Beethoven Choral Fantasy, Op. 80
Beethoven Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125

THU 21 JAN 2027 AT 19:30 Cape Town City Hall

Explore the expressive world of Vivaldi, Bach and Handel, featuring the Baroque era's most dramatic and emotionally compelling vocal and orchestral music.

LAURENCE CUMMINGS CONDUCTOR • **CAMERON SHAHBAZI** COUNTERTENOR

FRI 22 JAN & SAT 23 JAN 2027 AT 20:15 Maynardville Open-Air Festival

An exhilarating summer evening of vocal jazz, big-band favourites and iconic film music, showcasing the orchestra's versatility at magical Maynardville.

THU 28 JAN 2027 AT 19:30 Cape Town City Hall
Presented in collaboration with Opera for Peace

KAMAL KHAN CONDUCTOR • **ERMONELA JAHO** SOPRANO
SIPHOKAZI MOLTENO MEZZO-SOPRANO • **SIPHE KWANI** BARITONE

Internationally acclaimed soprano Ermonela Jaho joins leading South African singers for an evening of operatic passion, featuring unforgettable arias and ensembles from the great Italian opera tradition.

SUN 31 JAN 2027 AT 17:30 Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden

JESSICA VOSK VOCALS

Broadway star Jessica Vosk (*Wicked, Hell's Kitchen*) joins the CPO for a spectacular evening of musical theatre favourites at Kirstenbosch.

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BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

SUBSCRIPTIONS for Jan 14, 17, 21 & 28 at Artscape Dial-a-Seat (021 421 7695) **from Nov 24**.
SINGLE TICKETS for Jan 14, 17, 21 & 28 at Webtickets and Artscape Dial-a-Seat **from Dec 1**.

Tickets for Jan 22 and 23 (Maynardville) and Jan 31 (Kirstenbosch) at Webtickets.

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MON 8 FEB 2027
18:30 FOR 19:00

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R1,000 per person (including canapés and wine)

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24 NOVEMBER 2026 AT 19:30
CAPE TOWN CITY HALL

RACHMANINOFF'S SECOND

PIETARI INKINEN Conductor

POLINA OSETINSKAYA Piano

Sibelius
Pohjola's Daughter, Op. 49
Approx. 15 mins

Rachmaninoff
Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18
Approx. 33 mins

INTERMISSION

Sibelius
Symphony No. 5 in E-Flat Major, Op. 82
Approx. 30 mins

CONCERTMASTER
Farida Bacharova

18:45 PRE-CONCERT TALK
John Woodland

Please switch off mobile phones.
No video recording. Photography only before or after each work performed.

The CPO thanks Le Lude and AV's Gifts and Flowers for their gifts to the artists. Tonight's Pre-concert talk kindly sponsored by the Friends of Orchestral Music.

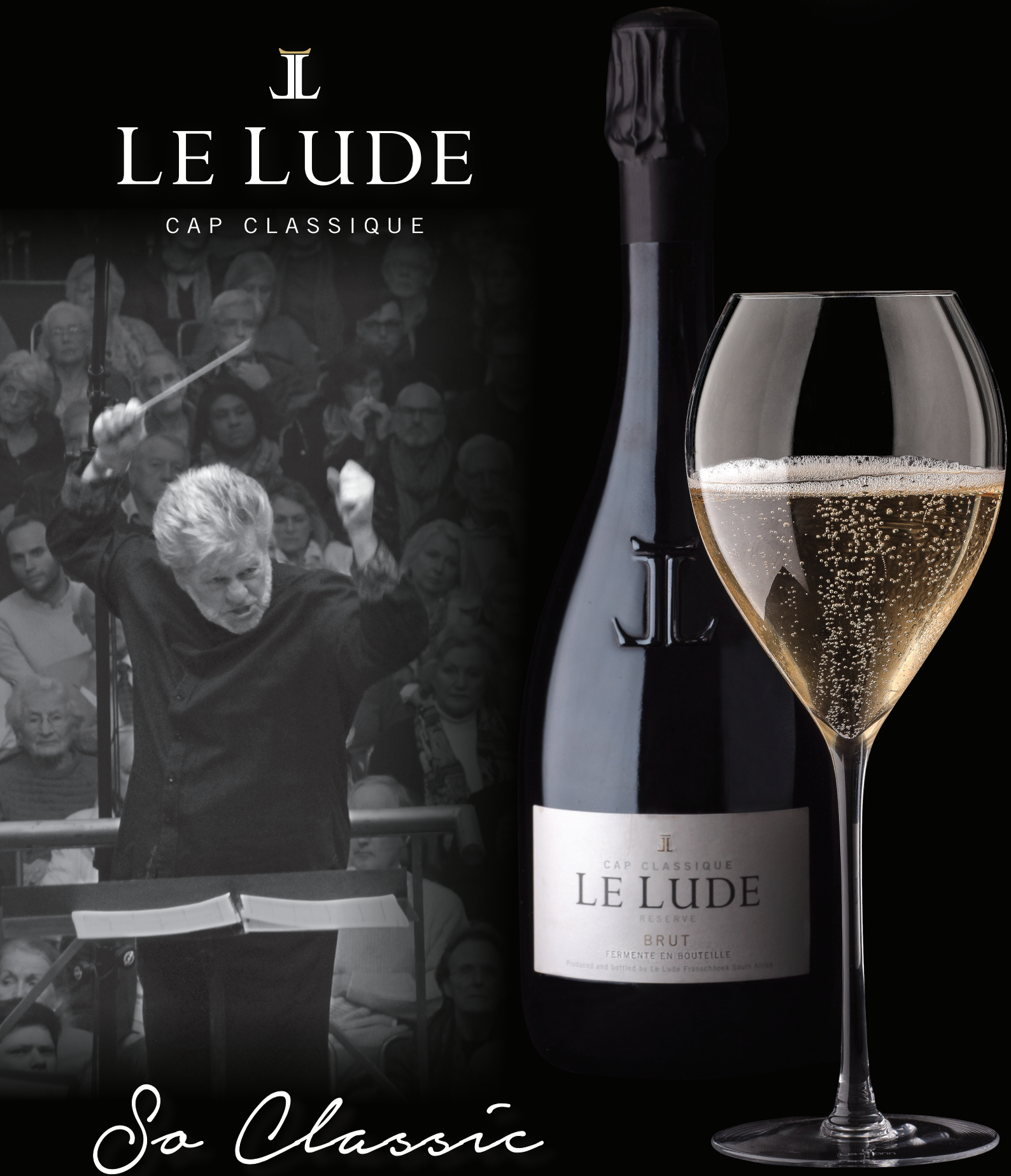
FINE MUSIC RADIO 101.3 FM

Tonight's concert is **live on Fine Music Radio** and repeated on Sunday Nov 29, at 19:00

Polina Osetinskaya appears by arrangement with Primavera Consulting.

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SUMMER SYMPHONIES

CAPE TOWN CITY HALL
AT 19:30

Thurs, 3 Dec

BEETHOVEN UNBOUND

From the lyrical beauty of the Violin Concerto to the elemental force of Beethoven's Fifth

PIETARI INKINEN CONDUCTOR
BLAKE POULIOT VIOLIN

Beethoven Violin Concerto
Beethoven Symphony No. 5

BOOKING

webtickets.co.za and
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021 421 7695

DRESS REHEARSAL

11:00 on concert days **quicket.co.za**

MORE CONCERTS

Tickets available on
Webtickets and from Artscape
Dial-A-Seat 021 421 7695,
unless otherwise stated.

GOUNOD'S *ROMÉO ET JULIETTE*
25, 27 & 29 Nov Artscape
Presented by Cape Town Opera

HUBERTE RUPERT MEMORIAL CONCERT
Sat, 28 Nov at 19:30 Endler Hall, Stellenbosch

From the mythic world of Sibelius to the virtuosic brilliance of Rachmaninoff and the unstoppable force of Beethoven's Fifth

PIETARI INKINEN CONDUCTOR
GERHARD JOUBERT PIANO

Sibelius *Pohjola's Daughter*
Rachmaninoff Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini
Beethoven Symphony No. 5

FREE LUNCH HOUR CONCERT
Tues, 1 Dec at 12:30 Artscape
Cape Town Philharmonic Youth Orchestra

FREE LUNCH HOUR CONCERT
Tues, 8 Dec at 12:30 Artscape

O HOLY NIGHT
8, 9 & 10 Dec at 18:00 St George's Cathedral
Presented in collaboration with Cape Town Opera

TCHAIKOVSKY'S *THE NUTCRACKER*
11, 12 & 13 Dec Artscape
Presented by Cape Town City Ballet

A GALAXY OF SOUND
THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS
16 & 17 Dec at 19:30 Cape Town City Hall

Experience the iconic music of Star Wars, Indiana Jones, Harry Potter, and more.

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Arjan Tien: Sponsored by Dr Axel Horvath / FOM

Concertmaster
Philip Martens: Sponsored by Dr Chris Eedes
Maretha Uys (Deputy Concertmaster): Sponsored by Edmund Beukes

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Petrus Coetzee (Viola): Sponsored by Lady Hatch
Azra Isaacs (Viola): Sponsored by FOM
Peter Martens (Cello): Sponsored by Gouws Liefdadigheidstrust
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Gabriele von Dürckheim (Flute): Sponsored by Dr Axel Horvath / FOM & Carole Hambleton-Bissell
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Last, but not least, thank you to **612 Poco a Poco donors who have donated small amounts (many via Webtickets)!** Your individual contributions – each up to R999 – have collectively raised an incredible **R55, 186**. This is a powerful reminder that every small donation truly adds up and makes a meaningful difference.

THE CAPE TOWN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA ACKNOWLEDGES THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF SPONSORS AND DONORS

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CAPE BALLET AFRICA



JEAN SIBELIUS

1865-1957

POHJOLA'S DAUGHTER, OP. 49

Approx. 15 minutes

A mythical encounter from Finland's national epic, the *Kalevala*, inspires Sibelius's vivid orchestral portrait of an enchanted maiden, an impossible courtship and a journey thwarted by fate.

Composed in 1906, *Pohjola's Daughter* is a vividly imagined symphonic tone poem inspired by the *Kalevala*, Finland's national epic. It brings to life an extraordinary encounter from its eighth canto.

The story centres on Väinämöinen, an ancient, white-bearded demigod and master of magic. Travelling by horse-drawn sleigh through a dark, wintry landscape, he looks up to see a dazzling vision: the beautiful Daughter of the North (Pohjola), seated atop a rainbow and weaving a cloth of gold. Enchanted by her beauty, Väinämöinen asks her to become his wife. The proud maiden agrees, but only on the condition that he accomplish a series of seemingly impossible magical tasks.

Drawing on his immense powers, Väinämöinen succeeds in overcoming the initial challenges, including the seemingly absurd task of tying an egg into invisible knots. However, when he attempts the final feat – carving a boat from the fragments of her spindle – he is thwarted by evil spirits. Wounding himself with his own axe, he abandons his quest and continues his journey alone.

Sibelius translates this fantastical narrative into a richly varied orchestral landscape. The music moves between moments of mystery and enchantment, surging dramatic energy and passages of lyrical beauty. Brilliant brass fanfares, shimmering orchestral textures and sweeping musical gestures evoke the grandeur of the Finnish landscape and the supernatural world of the *Kalevala*. Through this imaginative interplay of colour and drama, Sibelius captures both the wonder of the encounter and the ultimate frustration of Väinämöinen's quest.



SERGEI RACHMANINOFF

1873–1943

PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2 IN C MINOR, OP. 18

Moderato

Adagio sostenuto

Allegro scherzando

Approx. 33 minutes

Rachmaninoff composed the concerto's second and third movements first. Both were premiered in Moscow in December 1900, while the first movement was completed the following year.

Composed between 1900 and 1901, Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto marked a triumphant return to composition following a prolonged period of depression and creative paralysis. The disastrous reception of his First Symphony in 1897 had left the composer deeply shaken, and for several years he struggled to write music. With the encouragement of family and friends, he sought treatment from Dr Nikolai Dahl, a physician and amateur musician who employed hypnosis and supportive therapy to help restore his confidence. In gratitude, Rachmaninoff dedicated the concerto to him.

The work unfolds across three movements, each displaying the composer's extraordinary gift for melody and his command of the piano. The opening Moderato begins with a series of increasingly emphatic piano chords, building like tolling bells before the orchestra introduces its sweeping, impassioned principal theme. The Adagio sostenuto offers a striking contrast: a dreamy, introspective movement in which delicate woodwind solos give way to one of Rachmaninoff's most celebrated melodies, later adapted by Eric Carmen for his 1975 pop hit "All by Myself", famously recorded by Céline Dion in 1996.

The final Allegro scherzando bursts into life with a lively, almost playful energy, balancing brilliant pianistic virtuosity with passages of lyrical warmth. Its glorious second theme builds towards an exhilarating and triumphant conclusion.

The complete concerto received its premiere in Moscow in November 1901, with Rachmaninoff himself as soloist. Its success marked a turning point in his career and established one of the most enduringly beloved works in the piano concerto repertoire.

INTERMISSION



JEAN SIBELIUS

1865-1957

SYMPHONY NO. 5 IN E-FLAT MAJOR, OP. 82

Tempo molto moderato – Allegro moderato
Andante mosso, quasi allegretto
Allegro molto – Misterioso

Approx. 30 minutes

Inspired by the sight of sixteen swans soaring above his Finnish home, Sibelius created one of the most magnificent themes in symphonic music: a majestic horn melody that rises triumphantly in the symphony's finale.

One of the great symphonic achievements of the late Romantic era, Sibelius's Fifth Symphony is celebrated for its extraordinary sense of organic growth and its profound connection with the natural world. Commissioned by the Finnish government to mark the composer's 50th birthday in 1915 – an occasion declared a national holiday – the work became the subject of an extended process of revision. Although enthusiastically received at its premiere, Sibelius remained dissatisfied, reworking the score in 1916 before completing its definitive form in 1919.

The final version consists of three movements, rather than the four of the original, with Sibelius combining the first two into a single, continuous structure. The opening movement unfolds from a serene, expansive horn call into an increasingly energetic and animated scherzo, its themes seeming to emerge and evolve almost organically. The second movement, a gentle set of variations, offers a moment of pastoral calm, with delicate woodwind writing and a lilting rhythmic character.

The finale opens with restless, swirling figures in the strings before introducing one of the most celebrated themes in the symphonic repertoire: a broad, majestic melody in the horns. Its inspiration came from a remarkable encounter Sibelius recorded in his diary in 1915, when he watched sixteen swans circling above his home before disappearing into the distance. He described the experience as one of the greatest of his life.

The symphony concludes with six powerful orchestral chords, each separated by silence, bringing this extraordinary musical journey to an emphatic and unforgettable close.

POLINA OSETINSKAYA

PIANO





AN ARTIST APART

From child prodigy to internationally acclaimed pianist, Polina Osetinskaya has built a remarkable career defined by artistic independence, intellectual curiosity and an adventurous approach to repertoire.

Polina Osetinskaya appears by arrangement with Primavera Consulting.

Born in Moscow in 1975, pianist Polina Osetinskaya began playing the piano at the age of five and gave her first public concert at six. Recognised early as a remarkable musical prodigy, she made her orchestral debut at eight with the Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra under conductor Saulius Sondeckis. She subsequently studied at the St Petersburg Conservatory with Marina Wolf and the Moscow Conservatory with Vera Gornostaeva, both distinguished representatives of the Russian piano tradition.

Osetinskaya has established an international career, performing at leading venues including Carnegie Hall, the Berlin Philharmonic, Vienna's Musikverein, London's Barbican Centre and the Sydney Opera House. She has appeared with orchestras such as musicAeterna, the Mariinsky Orchestra and the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, collaborating with conductors including Teodor Currentzis, Vladimir Spivakov and Andrey Boreyko. Her chamber music partners have included violinist Maxim Vengerov.

Alongside the great classical repertoire, Osetinskaya is particularly drawn to the music of contemporary composers, frequently championing works by Arvo Pärt, Valentin Silvestrov and Giya Kancheli. Her extensive discography includes recordings for Sony Music, Naxos, Quartz and Melodiya.

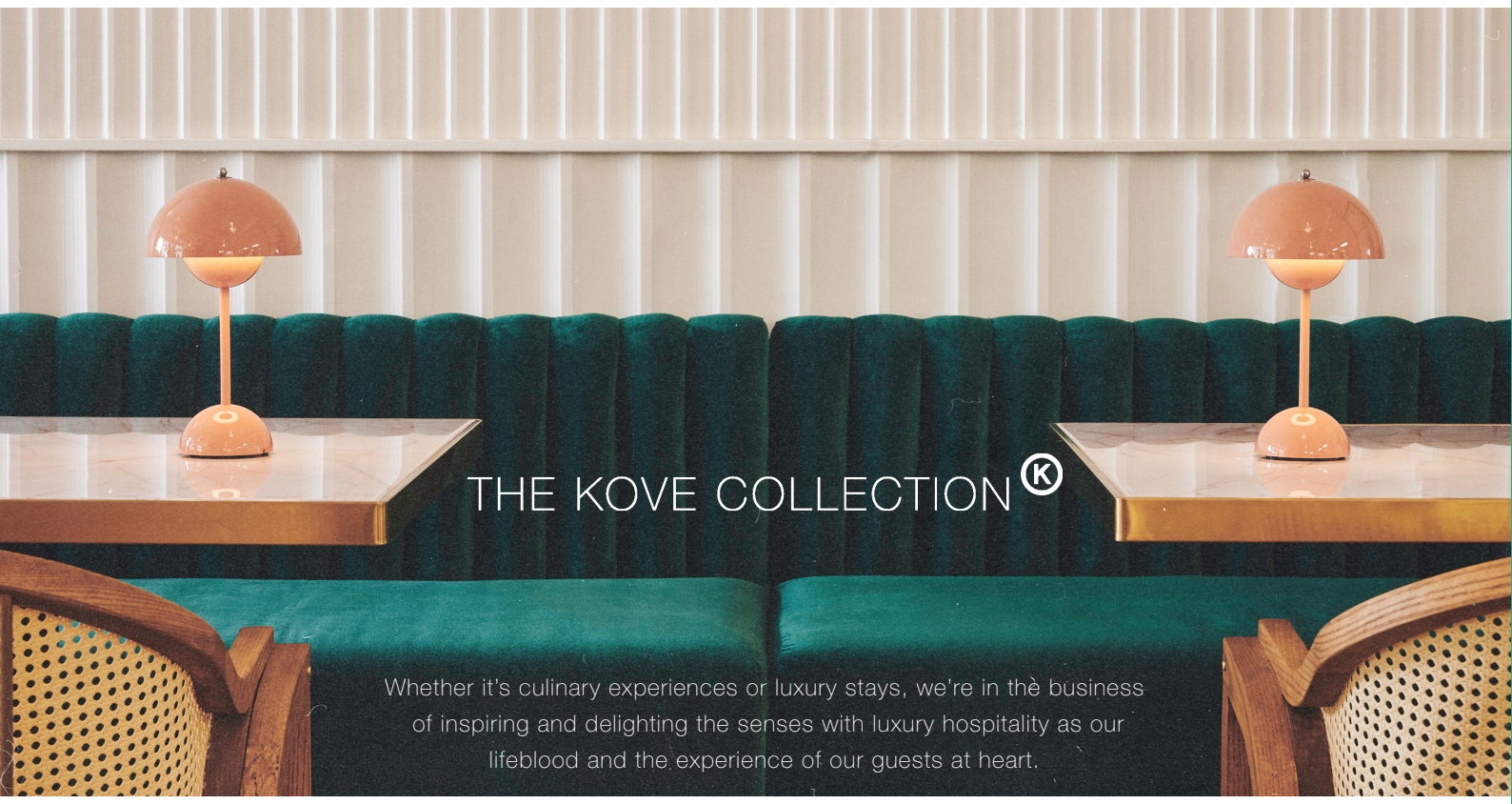
She is also the author of the bestselling autobiography *Farewell, Sadness*, published in 2008, in which she reflects on her extraordinary childhood and journey towards artistic independence.

CAPE TOWN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Founded in 1914, the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra is Africa's oldest symphony orchestra and one of the continent's leading cultural institutions. Based in Cape Town, the CPO presents more than 140 performances annually, spanning symphonic repertoire, opera, ballet, film music, crossover productions, festivals and community collaborations. The orchestra has performed with many of the world's leading conductors and soloists while continuing to champion South African artists, composers and creative voices.

Beyond the concert stage, the CPO serves as a major cultural and educational force within South Africa. Through one of the continent's most extensive orchestral training and youth development platforms — including youth orchestras, training ensembles, grassroots programmes and a music academy — the orchestra nurtures the next generation of musicians, conductors and arts leaders. Many professional performers across South Africa and abroad began their journeys within its programmes.

Today, the orchestra plays a central role in the cultural and creative life of Cape Town — not only through its own concert seasons, but through collaborations, festivals, education initiatives and partnerships that connect artists, audiences and communities across the city and beyond.



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PIETARI INKINEN

CONDUCTOR





FROM ROCK STAR TO MAESTRO

Before establishing his international conducting career, Pietari Inkinen performed in a rock band in Helsinki and pursued an accomplished career as a violinist. He began studying conducting with legendary Finnish pedagogue Jorma Panula at just 14, and has performed on a rare Carlo Bergonzi violin dating from 1732.

Finnish conductor Pietari Inkinen is one of his generation's leading conductors, acclaimed for his expansive musical vision and exceptional technique. He has led many of the world's major orchestras, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Budapest Festival Orchestra, Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra and Sydney Symphony Orchestra.

Wagner's music occupies a central place in Inkinen's artistic life. In 2023, he conducted *Der Ring des Nibelungen* at the Bayreuth Festival. His acclaimed Ring cycles with Opera Australia (2013 and 2016) earned him the 2014 Helpmann Award for Best Musical Direction and the 2016 Green Room Award for Best Opera Conductor. In 2014, he received the prestigious Franco Abbiati Prize for *Das Rheingold* at Teatro Massimo in Palermo.

Inkinen has held chief conducting positions with the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie, Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Prague Symphony Orchestra, New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, KBS Symphony Orchestra in Seoul and Ludwigsburg Festival Orchestra. With the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, he recorded the complete Sibelius symphonies for Naxos, followed by a second cycle with the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, live at Tokyo's Suntory Hall. His discography also includes the complete Dvořák symphonies and selected Prokofiev symphonies, recorded with the Deutsche Radio Philharmonie.

An accomplished violinist, Inkinen studied with Zakhar Bron at the Cologne University of Music before pursuing conducting studies at the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki.

MEET OUR MUSICIANS





REBEKAH BEELDERS

FIRST VIOLIN

FIRST MUSIC LESSON?

Piano at six; violin at seven.

OFFSTAGE HOBBY?

Reading.

BEST PART OF THE JOB?

"And now that you don't have to be perfect, you can be good."
– John Steinbeck

CURRENT SIDE PROJECT?

Knitting a jersey.

Rebekah Beelders joined the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra in April 2023. She obtained her BMus at the University of Cape Town in 2022, specialising in composition under Hendrik Hofmeyr, and graduated with distinction in both Composition and Violin. During her studies, several of her compositions were performed in concerts at the Baxter Concert Hall, and she was awarded the Stephanie Garnett Memorial Prize for her violin playing.

In 2023, she completed her Honours in Violin Performance, studying with Farida Bacharova, and went on to receive a Postgraduate Diploma in Violin Performance in 2025. More recently, she has taken up the mandolin, making her debut on the instrument in UCT Opera's production of *Don Giovanni.*

THE CAPE TOWN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

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Arjan Tien (Sponsored by Dr. Axel Horvath / FOM)

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Guest Concertmasters
Farida Bacharova
Suzanne Martens

Concertmaster
Philip Martens (Sponsored by Dr Chris Eedes)

Deputy Concertmaster
Maretha Uys (Sponsored by Edmund Beukes)

In alphabetical order

First Violin
Rebekah Beelders (Sponsored in memory of Gertrude Sichel)
Nicholas Bruiners (Sponsored by Schmidhauser Group)
Tessa Campbell
Zoë Coetzee
Petrus de Beer * (Sponsored byFOM)
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Sisa Mgauli ^
Lucia Scott ^
Annien Shaw ^
Valentina Vorster ^
Craig Williams ^

Second Violin
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Deidré Cicilie
Kevin Cook
Shannon Cook
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Martia van Niekerk ^
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Jana Smit (Sponsored in memory of Dr Stewart Young)

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Double Bass
Zanelle Knoblauch (Sponsored by Laurel Prast)
Henrike Kovatz ^
Francesca Levendris ^
Donat Pellei #
Siyolise Nyondo-Holliman ^

Flute
Louisa Theart #
Lisa Thom ^
Gabriele von Dürckheim * (Sponsored by Dr Axel Horvath / FOM and Carole Hambleton-Bissell)

Piccolo
Louisa Theart #

Oboe
Andrea Salomo Ω
Lisa White * (Sponsored by Dr. Axel Horvath / FOM)

Cor Anglais
Carin Bam #

Clarinet
Féroll-Jon Davids * (Sponsored by Allister and Vonnie Rogan)
Annelize de Villiers ^

Bass Clarinet
Danielle Steyn #

Bassoon
Simon Ball *
Arno Steyn #

Contrabassoon
Marelise Brink Ω

Horn
Carin Donson Ω
Eugene Kierman
Lieze Nel #
Shannon Thebus *
Conrad van der Westhuizen

Trumpet
Chad Groepies
Michael Magner ^

Cornet
David Thompson *
Pierre Schuster #

Trombone
Andrea Balocco *
James George #

Bass Trombone
Nick Green ^

Tuba
Shaun Williams

Timpani
Christoph Müller *

Percussion
Dylan Tabisher ^
Eugene Trofimczyk *

Celesta
Kyle Rother ^

Harp
Jessica King ^

Orchestra Stage Manager
Derrick Wildeman (Sponsored by Dr Axel Horvath / FOM)

Orchestra Attendants
Grant Carelse ^
Marvin Michaels
Dillon Philips ^
Dean van Wyk ^
Duren Wildeman ^
Ashwin Williams ^

Ad Hoc Musicians
(Sponsored by Bill van Rensburg; In memory of Cyril Saxe)

This list of players was correct at the time of going to press.

* Principal
\# Sub Principal
^ Ad Hocs
Ω Cadet

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