

For Immediate Release: February 16, 2023

[Press Room](#)



Images of Christian Thielemann and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra are available for download from the [online press room](#).

**CAL PERFORMANCES AT UC BERKELEY PRESENTS  
VIENNA PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  
CONDUCTED BY CHRISTIAN THIELEMANN  
IN THREE PROGRAMS OF SYMPHONIC MASTERWORKS  
TUESDAY–THURSDAY, MARCH 7–9  
AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

**Berkeley, CA, February 16, 2023**—Cal Performances at UC Berkeley presents the **Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Christian Thielemann** in his Bay Area concert debut performing three different programs of symphonic masterworks from [Tuesday–Thursday, March 7–9 at 7:30pm at Zellerbach Hall](#). In its first Cal Performances visit since March 2014, the orchestra traverses a century of canonic repertoire—from Viennese classicism, through several generations of Austro-German Romanticism, to the Second Viennese School near the turn of the 20th century. Concert highlights include Strauss’ *An Alpine Symphony*; Mendelssohn’s Symphony No. 3 in A minor, *Scottish*; Brahms’ Symphony No. 2 in D major; and Bruckner’s Symphony No. 8 in C minor.

The first program, on Tuesday, March 7 at 7:30pm, features two orchestral tone poems:

Schoenberg's *Verklärte Nacht* for string orchestra, Op. 4, which describes a couple's intimate conversation as they walk through a dark forest on a moonlit night; and Strauss' grand *An Alpine Symphony*, Op. 64, which depicts an exhilarating day-long trek through the mountains. At the center of the second program, on Wednesday, March 8 at 7:30pm, is Brahms' serene and lyrical Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73, introduced by Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*, Op. 26 and Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Op. 56, *Scottish*—two works inspired by the composer's fascination with Scotland's rugged landscape, rich folklore, and history. In its final Berkeley concert on Thursday, March 9 at 7:30pm, the orchestra performs Bruckner's massive Symphony No. 8 in C minor, a work Thielemann recently recorded with the musicians as part of an ongoing cycle of the composer's music.

Thielemann last performed in the San Francisco Bay Area when he conducted the San Francisco Opera's production of *Elektra* in 1991, his US debut.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Tuesday, March 7, 7:30pm**  
**Wednesday, March 8, 7:30pm**  
**Thursday, March 9, 7:30pm**

**Zellerbach Hall**  
Bancroft Way at Dana Street,  
UC Berkeley campus

*Orchestra*

**Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra**  
**Christian Thielemann, conductor**

**Program:**  
Tuesday, March 7

Schoenberg/*Verklärte Nacht* for string orchestra, Op. 4  
R. Strauss/*Eine Alpensinfonie*, Op. 64

Wednesday, March 8

Mendelssohn/*The Hebrides Overture*, Op. 26  
Mendelssohn/Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Op. 56, *Scottish*  
Brahms/Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73

Thursday, March 9

Bruckner/Symphony No. 8 in C minor

The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra returns to Zellerbach Hall with longtime collaborator Christian Thielemann at the podium, making his Bay Area concert debut. Over the course of three performances, the orchestra traverses a century of canonic repertoire. The first concert features two orchestral tone poems, matching the chromaticism of Schoenberg's *Transfigured Night* with Strauss' *An Alpine Symphony*, a work depicting a day-long trek through the mountains. The second concert features Brahms' serene and supremely lyrical Second Symphony, introduced by two Mendelssohn works inspired by Scotland's land and history. The orchestra's final Berkeley concert tackles Bruckner's Eighth Symphony, a work both orchestra and conductor recently recorded as part of an ongoing cycle of the composer's music.

**Tickets:** \$50–\$275 (prices subject to change). Tickets are available at [calperformances.org](https://calperformances.org), by phone at (510) 642-9988, or in person at the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, Tuesday–Friday, 12–5:30pm and Saturday–Sunday, 1–5 pm.

UC Berkeley students can access exclusive discounts, including half-price tickets in all sections of the theater and \$10 tickets for select events for a limited number of prime seats in the theater for the March 7 opening night performance by the Vienna Philharmonic, as part of Cal Performances' new Golden Bear Circle program. More information about student tickets and discounts is available at [calperformances.org/ucb-students](https://calperformances.org/ucb-students).

For information about other discounts, visit [calperformances.org/discounts](https://calperformances.org/discounts).

**COVID-19:** The latest information on Cal Performances' COVID-19 safety policies is available at [calperformances.org/safety](https://calperformances.org/safety).

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