

UPDATE: July 22, 2020

Alexandria, VA

Classical Movements Proudly Announces a Garden Concert Series:

“Sounds of Hope & Harmony”

Live Music in the Time of Social Distancing | Chamber, Choral, Opera, Jazz

18 Concerts | Saturdays at 6pm, 7:30pm



Following the success of its inaugural evening of three outdoor chamber music concerts on Saturday, June 20th and in response to popular demand, Classical Movements is delighted to announce a new series of **intimate, socially-distanced concerts and recitals**, plus 4 special events presented by the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, at the **Secret Garden** of the **Rectory on Princess Street**, Classical Movements' home in Old Town Alexandria – presented in solidarity with musicians who are eager to perform concerts for live audiences once again.

Beginning **Saturday, July 25, 2020** and through October, Classical Movements will present a diverse range of ensembles and genres, including rising stars of **opera** and **jazz**, the **first concert**



of live choral music, as well as dazzling programs by instrumental chamber ensembles of musicians who are members of the **National Symphony Orchestra**.

Choral Music Returns!

Lovers of choral music will rejoice at the opportunity to once again hear live choral music, performed by the **Choir of Hope & Harmony**, a chamber ensemble of **12 professional singers** from the Washington National Cathedral, the Basilica of the National Shrine and other local choirs, under the direction of **Anthony Blake Clark**, in a unique set-up to accommodate increased distance between the performers and audience.

Including works and arrangements by **Byrd, Britten, Panufnik, Coleridge-Taylor, Barnett** and others, the program spans 400 years of music and reflects hope and beauty in the midst of the struggles of our time. With great uncertainty surrounding the immediate future of choral singing, this is a unique opportunity to enjoy live choral music.

World Class Artists, Local Favorites

Other “Sounds of Hope & Harmony” concerts feature a wide range of artists, including established local musicians and rising stars in the world of opera, jazz and musical theatre. After memorable contributions to the inaugural concerts on June 20, “Sounds of Hope & Harmony” will welcome more musicians from the **National Symphony Orchestra** for three evenings of ambitious and imaginative programs of chamber music for string, brass, percussion and wind ensembles on **July 25, August 8** and **September 19**.

Opera lovers will relish two exceptional recitals of songs and arias. Chilean baritone **Javier Arrey**, who has performed at the **Metropolitan Opera, Wiener Staatsoper** and on many of the world’s most famous stages – including as part of Classical Movements’ annual **Prague Summer Nights Young Artists Music Festival** at the historic **Estates Theatre** in Prague, where Mozart himself conducted. On **August 1**, Arrey will be joined by fellow PSN alumni and faculty, soprano **Kaylee Norris** and pianist **Taylor Hutchinson**, for an evening of operatic excerpts and songs – including **Beethoven’s** gorgeous “An die ferne Geliebte,” in honor of the composer’s **250th birthday year**.

The **August 15** concert features tenor **Issachah Savage**, an alumnus of Morgan State University and Catholic University, who has performed to acclaim at the Met and many of the greatest opera houses and concert halls in the world, joined by pianist **Joy Schreier**. His program will include operatic excerpts, spirituals, art songs and repertoire reflecting the ongoing quest for social justice.

September 26 features a cabaret performance by charismatic duo of **Awa Sal Secka** and **Christian Douglas**, who have delighted audiences in countless theatre productions and cabaret performances and present a selection of **musical theatre, jazz** and **original songs**.



Concerts for the Time of Social Distancing

Seating will be provided for concerts, with chairs wiped down and disinfected between performances. Chairs will have at least six feet between individual or family pairs. To maximize social distancing, seating will be assigned by the presenters; tickets and concert programs will be provided by email. Hand-sanitization stations will be available for audiences as they arrive and exit.

Concerts will be presented at **6pm** and **7:30pm**. Concerts take place rain or shine, but in case of severe weather, the rain date will be the **following Sunday**.

Sounds of Hope & Harmony

Saturday evenings | 6pm, 7:30pm

Rain date: Sunday evening | 6pm, 7:30pm

Saturday, July 25, 2020: “The Four B’s: Barrière, Bologne, Bartok and Beethoven” – Chamber Music

Members of the National Symphony Orchestra:

Eugena Chang, Cello | Britton Riley, Cello

Alexandra Osborne, Violin | Angelia Cho, Violin | Mahoko Eguchi, Viola | Rachel Young, Cello

Vibrant, daring and ravishing music by Beethoven, Bartok, Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, Barrière, Joplin and others

Saturday, August 1, 2020: “Prague Comes to Washington” – An Evening of Art Song and Opera

Javier Arrey, baritone | Kaylee Norris, soprano | Taylor Hutchinson, piano

Featuring Metropolitan Opera star and Chilean baritone, Javier Arrey and Kaylee Norris, winner of the Prague Summer Nights Young Artists Music Festival voice competition

The program includes Beethoven’s superlative song cycle “An die ferne Geliebte” in celebration of the 250th anniversary of his birth, Dvorak’s beautiful “Biblical Songs”, as well as charming arias and art songs by Mozart, Stravinsky, Brahms, Liszt, and others



Saturday, August 8, 2020: “Night-Shining White: Music for Percussion and Brass” – Chamber Music

Members of the National Symphony Orchestra:

Scott Christian, Percussion

William Gerlach, trumpet | Amy McCabe, Guest Trumpet | Robert Rearden, Horn | David Murray, Trombone | Stephen Dumaine, Tuba

Rousing, rhythmic and dynamic music by living composers Joyce, Singleton, Akiho and Zhou, Ewald and the celebrated Duke Ellington.

Saturday, August 15, 2020: An Evening of Grand Opera, Italian and American Art Songs

Issachah Savage, tenor | Joy Schreier, piano

Gorgeous arias and expressive art songs by Verdi, Wagner, Strauss, Tosti, Donaudy and Margaret Bonds

Saturday, September 12, 2020: “A Brand New Day:” Choral Music Returns!

The Choir of Hope & Harmony

Anthony Blake Clark, conductor

12 professional singers perform 400 years of compelling choral music by Byrd, Britten, Panufnik, Coleridge-Taylor, Barnett and more on themes of hope in times of uncertainty

Saturday, September 19, 2020: “An Evening of Novel Ensembles” – Chamber Music

Members of the National Symphony Orchestra:

Ira Gold, bass | Alexander Jacobsen, bass | Charles Nilles, bass | Jeffrey Weisner, bass

Jamie Roberts, oboe | Paul Cigan, clarinet | Ying Fu, violin | Daniel Foster, viola | Alexander Jacobsen, bass



An ambitious, imaginative and eclectic program featuring Prokofiev's famous Quintet in G minor for oboe, clarinet, violin, viola, and double bass and one-of-a-kind arrangements for double-bass quartet of classical and pop hits by Gershwin, Bach, O'Connor, Bjork, A-Ha, Seal and the Beatles.

Saturday, September 26, 2020: "Cabaret in the Twilight" – Jazz and Musical Theatre

Awa Sal Secka | Christian Douglas

The night lights up with jazz, musical theater and popular music, featuring the music of George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim, Billy Joel, Sara Bareilles and original music by Awa Sal Secka and Christian Douglas

Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4, 2020: Alexandria Symphony Orchestra Special Event

Rain dates: Saturday, October 10 and Sunday, October 11

More details to be announced. For program updates and ticket details, visit:

<https://www.classicalmovements.com/secretgardenconcerts/>

About Classical Movements

The premier concert tour company for the world's great [orchestras](#) and [choirs](#), **Classical Movements** creates meaningful cultural experiences through music in **145 countries**. An industry leader for over a **quarter-century**, **Classical Movements** organizes more than 60 tours every year, producing some 200 concerts every season. Producer of two international choral festivals—**Ihlombe!** in South Africa and **Serenade!** in Washington, D.C.—and the **Prague Summer Nights: Young Artists Music Festival**, in addition, **Classical Movements' Eric Daniel Helms New Music Program** has commissioned 97 works from Grammy, Oscar and Pulitzer Prize-winning composers. Winner of Americans for the Arts' BCA10: Best Businesses Partnering with the Arts Award, since its founding in 1992, as a truly global company, **Classical Movements** remains committed to facilitating **cultural diplomacy** across the world—promoting peace through the medium of music.



About the Rectory

Built in 1785 and the home of Classical Movements' offices since 2014, the building formerly served as the rectory of the nearby historic Christ Church, once the church of George Washington. Since then, it has been owned by several distinguished Virginians and has been a commercial space since the 1960's.

Located in the heart of beautiful Old Town Alexandria at 711 Princess Street, the Rectory is minutes away from the shops and restaurants of bustling King Street and is easily accessible by bus and metro.

Press Contacts

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