

***Tickets for
The Soraya's 2022-23 Signature Series
Now on Sale to Members!
General Public Sales Begin July 12***

17 great events including

- **Season Opening Night:
Redman+Mahldau+McBride+Blade in *A MoodSwing Reunion***
- **Lea Salonga**
- **Disney in Concert—*Aladdin***
- **Lyle Lovett & John Hiatt**
- **A Musical Tribute to Dolores Huerta**
- **Serj Tankian**
- **World Premiere of *Treelogy***

(Los Angeles, CA) June 10, 2022—The Soraya continues to rollout news of its 2022-23 season following the recent announcement of its Premium Classical Series lineup. Now, tickets for the **Signature Series** are available to Members only **through July 11**, and will be available to the general public on **July 12**. The Soraya's **Signature Series** of popular, Jazz, dance and select classical music events conveys the very soul of the company's programming mission to produce and present diverse, unexpected, thought-provoking, and unique artists and art forms.

About The Soraya's Signature Series

The ongoing Signature Series embraces all the art forms, and by shedding series structured by artistic disciplines, the 17 performances in the Signature Series present new programming opportunities. From pieces produced entirely by The Soraya, to Jazz titans and Broadway favorites, the series also gives patrons more flexibility in choosing which performances to enjoy.

Highlights of The Soraya's 2022-23 season feature the World Premiere of ***Treelogy***, a three-part musical reflection on California's wildfires and their impact on the state's three beloved trees species – the Joshua Tree, the Giant Sequoia, and the Coastal Redwood. The concert features three original compositions by **Billy Childs**, **Steven Mackey**, and **Gabriella Smith**, commissioned by The Soraya and performed by artist-in-residence **Étienne Gara** and **Delirium Musicum**.

Other Soraya-commissioned work to be presented this season include a new piece by L.A. based composer **Julia Adolphe** to be performed by the **Sitkovetsky Trio**, choreographer **Aszure Barton**'s dance piece *Stillness in Bloom* for the Cuban-based **Malpaso Dance Company**, "Invocations" composed by System of a Down's **Serj Tankian** and performed by the rockstar and a full orchestra, and new big-band musical arrangements for the **Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra** featuring rising Jazz star **Samara Joy** in her Soraya debut.

In addition, other events to be found solely at The Soraya are a musical tribute to American activist **Dolores Huerta** produced by The Soraya, the continuation of the *Hecho en las Américas* series featuring **Luis Enrique + C4 Trio** with special guest and Grammy Award winner **Nella**, and pianist **Emily Bear** joins **Los Angeles Jewish Symphony** to perform the *Premiere of Suite from the Video Game Syberia: The World Before*.

Access the Members-only presale:

This year The Soraya offers 3 paths to access the presale

- Purchase 7 concerts in the Signature Series and earn a complimentary \$120 membership*
- Renew your current membership to access single ticket purchase
- Purchase the 7-concert Premium Classical Series to earn a complimentary \$120 membership*

**Complimentary memberships come with the option to use \$120 as a credit and upgrade to the membership level of your choice*

Membership at all levels guarantees early access to tickets, reduced fees, and the lowest, fixed ticket prices all year!

For information on accessing advance Member presale tickets as well as the Premium Classical Series and Holiday performances, visit www.thesoraya.org or call the Ticket Office at (818) 677-3000.

The 2022-23 Signature Series Includes:

Thu., Sep 22, 2022 at 8pm / Great Hall

Redman + Mehdau + McBride + Blade / *A MoodSwing Reunion*

Celebrated tenor saxophonist and composer Joshua Redman introduced his first permanent band with his 1994 album *MoodSwing*, an astonishing collection by four precociously talented musicians who would rapidly establish themselves as creative beacons.

After years of individual triumphs, the original group reunites — with Redman, pianist Brad Mehldau (who won the 2020 Grammy for "Best Jazz Instrumental Album"), bassist Christian McBride, and drummer Brian Blade — for an unforgettable performance of brand-new material alongside signature work that showcases Redman's "musical breadth, emotional depth, and intellectual savvy." (*Chicago Tribune*)

Thu., Oct 13 at 8pm / Great Hall

Malpaso Dance Company with Arturo O’Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble

This artistic export direct from Havana is more than the rhythms and moves you love from Cuba. Malpaso is a serious contemporary dance company that captures the soul of the island nation, its aspirations, and its proud cultural identity alike.

The Soraya again brings together live music and dance, with Arturo O’Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble backing the dance company on their groundbreaking work 24 Hours and a Dog. The company also performs a new piece, by American choreographer Aszure Barton, Stillness in Bloom which explores isolation and longed-for reunions.

Sat, Oct 29 at 3pm / Great Hall

Soweto Gospel Choir

HOPE—It’s Been a Long Time Coming, Songs from the Great African and American Struggle

Hailing from Soweto – the home of revolutionary Nelson Mandela – the world-renowned choir commemorates South Africa’s Freedom Movement and the Civil Rights Movement in the U.S. with heartfelt renditions of songs made famous by Billie Holiday, James Brown, Otis Redding, Curtis Mayfield and the one and only Aretha Franklin. The Soweto Gospel Choir continues to inspire audiences with its powerful blend of African gospel, freedom songs and international classics.

Wed., Nov 9 at 8pm / Great Hall

An Acoustic Evening with Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt

Two of America’s most prolific songwriters of any generation—Lyle Lovett and John Hiatt—bring their unique blend of musical artistry to The Soraya. Both performers deliver songs that speak to the soul with lyrics filled with equal parts joy and pain. While on stage, the genuine affection and admiration each holds for the other is shared with the audience as they riff, cajole, and entertain not only those listening, but themselves as well.

Sun., Nov 13 at 7pm / Great Hall

A Musical Tribute to Dolores Huerta

Artists spanning pop, rock, folk, Latin, and mariachi will honor Dolores Huerta in person with a celebratory evening of music. Produced entirely by The Soraya, the very best musicians in Los Angeles and beyond will join a world-class house band and mariachi ensemble to honor one of the most influential women of the 20th century.

Sun., Nov 20 at 7pm / Great Hall

Premiere of Suite from the Video Game Syberia: The World Before

Featuring Emily Bear, piano, and Los Angeles Jewish Symphony

With his more than 50 emotional and soul-stirring video game scores, Israeli composer Inon Zur takes inspiration from Beethoven, Stravinsky, and Gershwin when creating the music for popular games *Fallout* series, *Outriders*, *Elder Scrolls*, and *Syberia: The World Before*.

LA Jewish Symphony has invited Grammy-nominated piano phenom Emily Bear to bring Zur's work to life. Known for producing and composing 15 songs for the *Unofficial Bridgerton Musical*, Bear contributed to the soundtrack for *Syberia: The World Before* composed by Zur. Leave your headsets and devices at home, and bring the whole family to a live concert featuring music popular to millions worldwide.

Sat., Jan 21 at 8pm / Great Hall

Fela! The Concert

Fela! The Concert radiates joy and will leave you on your feet wanting more. The eclectic sounds and powerful lyrics of Fela Kuti—the beloved Nigerian bandleader, political activist, and founding father of Afrobeat—are set against a soaring canvas of projected images, electrifying rhythms of a live Afrobeat band, and singers and dancers to bring Fela's provocative spirit to life. Fela! The Concert features members of the original Broadway cast from the highly acclaimed Tony Award winning production, Fela!

Sat. Feb 18 at 8pm / Great Hall

Requiem: Fire in the Air of the Earth

A.I.M by Kyle Abraham

Mozart's *Requiem* is the jumping off point for MacArthur Genius Kyle Abraham and pioneering producer, composer, and EDM artist Jlin. Combining traditions and innovations in both dance and music, they explore folklore, death, and reincarnation in a powerful piece that demands the dancers have command of techniques ranging from ballet to street dance.

Thurs. Feb 23 at 8pm / Great Hall

World Premiere! Commissioned by The Soraya at CSUN

Treelogy: A Musical Portrait of California's Redwood, Sequoia and Joshua Trees

Featuring Billy Childs, Steven Mackey, Gabriella Smith, and Delirium Musicum

Treelogy is a celebration and a call to action to save California's beloved and iconic trees. Inspired by California's epic wildfires chronicled by *The New York Times* journalist John Branch, The Soraya's Executive and Artistic Director, Thor Steingraber, and artist in residence Etienne Gara, have created a musical response to the fires, and a tribute to these precious trees.

Renowned composers Billy Childs, Steven Mackey, and Gabriella Smith — all with deep California roots of their own — have each composed original music for this three-part concert. Produced, commissioned, and presented by The Soraya, *Treelogy* will tour the state bringing scientists, educators, activists, and advocates will come together and bring its inspiring message to campuses across California. This unprecedented multi-disciplinary effort will emphasize the pride of our state and the memories of every family's national park vacation.

Sat., Mar 4 at 3pm / Great Hall

Yamato—The Drummers of Japan

Hinotori: The Wings of Phoenix

Experience a thrilling, high-energy and explosive interpretation of the centuries old Taiko tradition. Yamato, The Drummers of Japan, travels all over the world with Japan's traditional Wadaiko drums, putting its very souls into the unusual instruments, whose sound stirs the hearts of people everywhere. Their virtuosity, strength, spirit, and sheer endurance are astonishing. This past season marked Yamato's 25th anniversary, celebrating over 3,500 performances in 54 countries, and reaching 8 million fans young and old. Audience spirits are lifted to new levels with the drummers' infectious sense of joy and entertainment.

Wed., Mar 8 at 8pm / Onstage Sessions

Kariné Poghosyan

CSUN Alumni Concert

Armenian-American pianist and CSUN alumna **Kariné Poghosyan** has been described as an "extraordinary" and "larger than life" musician, whose playing "goes to the heart of the music." Following a successful performance at Carnegie Hall, she returns to her alma mater with a program rich with music from Armenia's best-known composer, **Aram Khachaturian**, including two excerpts from his ballet works and his rarely performed Piano Sonata. **Sergei Rachmaninoff's** 150th birthday celebration continues with the 1931 re-written version of his Piano Sonata No. 2 played with the audience seated on-stage, just feet away from the piano.

Sat., Mar 18 at 8pm / Great Hall

Charles Lloyd 85th Birthday Celebration

Featuring Gerald Clayton & Anthony Wilson

And Bill Frisell & Larry Grenadier

Tenor titan, bandleader, and composer Charles Lloyd has played with countless legends from Cannonball Adderley to Howlin' Wolf. In a rare appearance to celebrate his 85th birthday, he visits The Soraya with two of his trios featuring very special guests guitarist Bill Frisell, pianist Gerald Clayton, and bassist Thomas Morgan, among others. Jazz fans young and old will revel in seeing this legend perform with the energy of a young man.

Sat., Mar 25 at 3pm / Great Hall

Disney in Concert: *Aladdin*

Join us to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the release of Disney's classic animation *Aladdin*. The legendary composer Alan Menken's magical soundtrack and award-winning songs will be performed live by New West Symphony with the film playing on the big screen in the Great Hall. The wonderful plot, amazing visual effects and charming characters not only are loved by the audience, but also won the Academy Award for Best Film Score and Best Original Song, and a Grammy Award for Song of the Year.

Sun., Apr 2 at 7pm / Great Hall

A Whole New World of Alan Menken

An Evening of Stories and Songs with Oscar-winning Composer Alan Menken

The legendary songwriter takes his place at The Soraya's Steinway piano for an intimate evening of music and little-known anecdotes about the making of his legendary Disney songs and Broadway musicals. Menken will perform celebrated classics he wrote like, "Under the Sea," "A Whole New World," "Be Our Guest," and more. With eight Academy Awards, Menken has received more Oscars than any living person and created some of the most beloved songs and musical scores of our time, capturing the imagination of audiences for over 35 years.

Sat., Apr 22 at 8pm & Sun., Apr 23 at 3pm / Great Hall

Lea Salonga

Powerhouse performer Lea Salonga, best known for her Disney-animated roles (the title role of Mulan and Princess Jasmine from *Aladdin*) returns to The Soraya for the third time to perform Broadway hits, Disney classics, pop favorites and more. Always a sell-out, you'll want to make sure you secure your tickets before they are gone.

Sat. Apr 29 at 8pm / Great Hall

"Invocations" Composed and Performed by Serj Tankian

With CSUN Symphony Orchestra

With a vocal range over 4 octaves, CSUN Alumnus Serj Tankian is considered one of the greatest vocalists in Metal history and best known for fronting the popular band System Of A Down.

Now, the songwriter, poet, painter, producer, and political activist returns to The Soraya to perform vocals on his new suite of compositions, *Invocations*— music that calls on spirits to co-inspire or inter inspire. Spanning over a decade of his career from different sources and backgrounds, this is music that plays on the deepest heart strings of the listener at a tempo that sets the heart to rest and the spirit to wander.

Sonically, Tankian's new work is symphonic, cinematic, and emotive and will bring the CSUN Symphony, ethnic instrumentalists, and a variety of vocalists together on stage.

Sat., May 6 at 8pm / Great Hall

Ballet BC

The Canadian troupe returns for its second season following its 2022 debut as The Soraya's new resident dance company. On the heels of its acclaimed performances of *Romeo + Juliet* and Crystal Pite's unique and darkly comedic *The Statement*, Ballet BC will take the stage with thought-provoking, moving and insightful choreographic works for 2023.

About The Soraya

Located on the vibrant and diverse campus of California State University in the heart of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, The Soraya continues its vigorous commitment to innovating, excelling, and amplifying access by offering a wide variety of performances that reflect LA's

many distinctive communities and featuring new and original work from the Los Angeles region as well as artists from around the world.

The Soraya's upcoming 2022-23 season offers a joy-filled reunion featuring a vibrant program of nearly 50 classical and popular music, dance, theater, family, and international events that will further establish it as one of the top arts companies in Southern California that uplifts and inspires its audiences.

Where: **Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya)**
18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330.

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