

Valley Performing Arts Center Announces 2016-17 Season! Eight original events only seen at VPAC

Highlights include a special VPAC John Adams Celebration, Four onstage symphonic orchestras, three Broadway musicals, four Latin music events, and two classic silent films with live orchestras



(Los Angeles, CA) May 6, 2016 - Following the success of the record-breaking and celebratory Fifth Anniversary Season, the award-winning 1,700-seat Valley Performing Arts Center will present a unique mix of musical theatre, orchestral and classical music, dance, jazz and Latin music for its 2016-17 Season. Thor Steingraber, VPAC's Executive Director, today announced complete details of the season that will present 44 performances and will open on September 30, 2016 and run through May 13, 2017.

The season includes four family Sunday matinees and a series of world music and dance performances, with a focus on Africa and Asia. "This is a storybook season for VPAC," says VPAC's Executive Director, Thor Steingraber, "and like a storybook, it's a season that celebrates cultural narratives from around the world as well as the global communities found in Los Angeles."

Steingraber further emphasizes eight original performances that VPAC will present, many that rely upon the talents of LA and Southern California artists. "Nothing is as important to me as our growing partnerships with local artists. As these artists find a home on the VPAC stage, new audiences follow them. This symbiotic relationship between artists and audiences is essential in building a sustainable and vital organization, and this is one of the reasons we saw significant growth in our Fifth Anniversary Season. Personally, my focus is as keenly focused on the lobby as it is on the stage; building a broad audience, attracting a young crowd, and generally creating a venue that acts as the modern town square. The CSUN campus is the ideal backdrop for this kind of vision."

[Watch the VPAC 2016-17 Season Trailer](#), with highlights including:

- In coordination with LA Philharmonic, VPAC offers a month-long celebration – The Age of Adams – of American composer John Adams at his 70th birthday featuring two LA-based music collectives, *wild Up*, conducted by Christopher Rountree (February 16) and Jacaranda Music with a program curated by Patrick Scott (January 14), as well as guest artists the St. Lawrence String Quartet (February 3) performing the quartet Adams composed specifically for them.
- Esa-Pekka Salonen brings his Philharmonia Orchestra, London to VPAC's expansive stage (October 5); the St. Petersburg Philharmonic performs Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 (March 16), and the nation's most lauded chamber music repertory company, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, brings its perennial performances of Bach's Brandenburg Concertos (December 13). Praised by artists and audience for its hall's keen acoustics, VPAC continues its growth as a primary LA presenter for visiting and international symphonic orchestras.

- Emmy and Tony Award-winning Tyne Daly stars in a one-night only concert performance of Jerry Herman's *DEAR WORLD*, which opens the season (September 30) and will be followed by Tony Winner Kelli O'Hara (October 14) in concert. Full productions of *WEST SIDE STORY* (March 10-12) and *MAN OF LA MANCHA* (May 5-7) round out the season, both co-presented with McCoy Rigby Entertainment.
- VPAC strengthens its commitment to Latin audiences with four performances, turning its focus to some of the most groundbreaking young artists in this field, including several women who are redefining Latin music: Aida Cuevas, the 'Queen of Ranchera' with Reyna de los Angeles, the LA-based all-women mariachi band (October 16) and Mexican-American singer Lila Downs sings on a bill with Latin Grammy winning Monsieur Periné (April 22); Las Cafeteras will headline, *Hecho en LA* featuring special guests and compañeros (December 9) and a pre-Presidential election celebration created by Culture Clash, *VOTE OR DIE LAUGHING, A Post-Modern Political Vaudeville*, directed by Dan Guerrero (November 1) that will feature several of LA's major Latino music stars.
- VPAC's commitment to Hollywood's legacy continues in collaboration with New West Symphony. Together, they present two silent films accompanied by full orchestra - Charlie Chaplin's 1936 classic *MODERN TIMES*, screened with a live performance of Chaplin's own original score with contributions from two film music legends, Alfred Newman and David Raksin, conducted by Timothy Brock. Buster Keaton's silent film classic *THE GENERAL* is performed with a new score conducted by Richard Kaufman.
- Only at VPAC, a special tribute to the legacy of one of America's most influential artists -- Martha Graham Dance Company will perform *MARTHA GRAHAM AND AMERICAN MUSIC*, an entire evening of Graham originals performed with live musicians playing some of the most notable musical pieces commissioned by Martha Graham herself. Christopher Rountree will conduct *wild Up*. Aspen Santa Fe Ballet enters its second year residency presenting a new work by LA choreographer Cherie Barton, co-commissioned by VPAC.
- Building on its success hosting jazz orchestras, VPAC announces a New Big Band & Jazz Series that opens with the great Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with legendary musician Wynton Marsalis (October 8). The most recent Grammy winner for Best Large Jazz Ensemble, Maria Schneider brings her orchestra to VPAC (February 22). Capping the series will be a 90th Birthday Celebration for Valley favorite Doc Severinsen (April 13).
- Holiday offerings including Vienna Boys Choir (December 2), Handel's *Messiah* with Trinity Wall Street Choir and Baroque Orchestra (December 7), Danú, *Féile Na Nollag (A Christmas Gathering)* (December 11), and The Hot Sardines' *Holiday Stomp* (December 17).

Tickets for initial series offerings go on sale May 10; additional series go on sale June 20. Single ticket sales begin Tuesday, July 5. For ticket and subscription information, visit ValleyPerformingArtsCenter.org or call (818) 677-3000.

Valley Performing Arts Center is located on the campus of California State University, Northridge (CSUN), 18111 Nordhoff Street Northridge, CA 91330-8448, at the corner of Nordhoff and Lindley.

Valley Performing Arts Center 2016-17 Season

BIG BAND / JAZZ SERIES

Step out in style. VPAC launches its first Big Band and Jazz Orchestra series. The sonic fireworks of the big band sound will raise the roof at VPAC.

**Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra
with Wynton Marsalis
Special appearance by CSUN Jazz A Band**

October 8, 2016 | 7pm

Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra return to VPAC for the official season launch. The acclaimed artist, performer, composer, educator, bandleader, and nine-time Grammy Award winner stretches across all genres to create a body of work that places him among the world's most influential and important artists.

Maria Schneider Orchestra

February 22, 2017 | 8pm

Maria Schneider's music has been hailed by critics as "evocative, majestic, magical, heart-stoppingly gorgeous, and beyond categorization." She and her orchestra became widely known in 1994 when they released their first recording, "Evanescence." Schneider and her orchestra have a distinguished recording career with twelve Grammy nominations and five Grammy Awards, and multiple honors from jazz journalists around the world.

VPAC Celebrates Doc's 90th

Doc Severinsen and His Big Band

April 13, 2017 | 8pm

The former bandleader for the *NBC Orchestra/The Tonight Show* is going strong. Severinsen joined VPAC to celebrate its opening in 2011. Now it's our turn to celebrate him. Join us for Doc's 90th Birthday! He'll deliver a blast certain to blow out every candle on his cake.

"Not far from beautiful Downtown Burbank is the equally beautiful VPAC. It's the jewel of the Valley and my favorite venue." – *Doc Severinsen*

The Summit: The Manhattan Transfer and Take 6

February 9, 2017 | 8pm

The Manhattan Transfer has remained an important part of musical history for over forty years with their melodic and jazz-infused vocals. The legendary quartet has won 10 Grammy Awards of 20 nominations and has been inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame.

BROADWAY AT VPAC

Tyne Daly in Jerry Herman's

Dear World

Directed by David Lee

Music Director Michael Orland

September 30, 2016 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

Curtains up on the formidable talent of Tony and Emmy-winning actress Tyne Daly. Realizing her longtime dream at VPAC, Daly steps into the role of Countess Aurelia in the too-seldom seen musical *Dear World*, with music and lyrics by Jerry Herman, creator of *Hello Dolly!* and *Mame*. Daly follows in the footsteps of Angela Lansbury, who originated the role on Broadway. Veteran producer Suzi Dietz has brought Herman and Daly together for a one-night concert rendition of this hidden gem. Music Director Michael Orland makes his VPAC debut following 14 years on TV sensation *American Idol*.

"I can't wait to bring Countess Aurelia to life in VPAC's glorious theater!" – *Tyne Daly*

An Evening With Kelli O'Hara

October 14, 2016 | 8pm

The New York Times calls her one of "our greatest re-interpreters of musical standards." Since she last appeared at VPAC, she scored a Tony Award for her performance in *The King and I*. Broadway's favorite fresh-faced ingénue performs some of her most beloved Broadway tunes.

West Side Story

Book by Arthur Laurents
Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Music by Leonard Bernstein
McCoy Rigby Entertainment
March 10, 2017 | 8pm
March 11, 2017 | 3pm & 8pm
March 12, 2017 | 3pm

Following the current collaboration, *Dreamgirls*, VPAC and McCoy Rigby Entertainment team up to present one of the greatest musicals of all time, *West Side Story*. Caught between prejudice and warring street gangs, Tony and Maria find love on tough streets of New York City. From the first note to last, composer Leonard Bernstein and lyricist Stephen Sondheim crafted an enduring score that includes “Tonight,” “Maria,” “Somewhere,” “Something’s Coming,” and “America.”

Man of La Mancha

Book by Dale Wasserman
Lyrics by Joe Darion
Music by Mitch Leigh
McCoy Rigby Entertainment
May 5, 2017 | 8pm
May 6, 2017 | 3pm & 8pm
May 7, 2017 | 3pm

Man of La Mancha, one of the most popular American musicals, tells the poignant story of Don Quixote and his pursuit of “The Impossible Dream.” His dream is Everyman’s dream. His tilting at windmills is Everyman’s adventure.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Philharmonia Orchestra, London

Principal Conductor & Artistic Director, Esa-Pekka Salonen
October 5, 2016 | 8pm

Esa-Pekka Salonen, the wunderkind maestro and composer who changed the face of classical music in Los Angeles, returns home. Salonen’s orchestra for the past eight years, the Philharmonia Orchestra from London, has gained a reputation for being one of the most exciting and daring ensembles in the world. They take the stage at VPAC for their only concert in Los Angeles. Returning to his Finnish roots, Salonen leads the orchestra in Sibelius Symphony No. 5.

Beethoven Symphony No. 3
Sibelius Symphony No. 5

Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

Bach’s Brandenburg Concertos

December 13, 2016 | 8pm

There is no better showcase for the pristine acoustics of VPAC than Bach’s Brandenburg Concertos. Making its VPAC debut, Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center under the artistic direction of David Finckel and Wu Han is the nation’s premier repertory company for chamber music. *The New Yorker* said it is “the standard-bearer for chamber music in Gotham.” *The Wall Street Journal* said, “cellist David Finckel and pianist Wu Han have forged it into an unstoppable entity—an exploding star in the musical firmament. Its directors seem incapable of anything but success.”

St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra

Yuri Temirkanov, Artistic Director & Chief Conductor
Garrick Ohlsson, piano
March 16, 2017 | 8pm

The ultimate Russian program will stir your soul. One of Europe's finest orchestras, the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Orchestra, led for over 20 years by legendary Yuri Temirkanov, performs the epic Shostakovich Symphony No. 5.

Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1
Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

Colburn Orchestra

Ludovic Morlot, Guest Conductor
Symphonie Fantastique by Berlioz
April 2, 2017 | 3pm

Continuing the tradition of free concerts, VPAC brings back one of the nation's leading young orchestras to perform *Symphonie Fantastique*, Berlioz' 1830 masterpiece about the haunting obsession of unrequited love, which Leonard Bernstein once described as "psychedelic." Series subscribers are guaranteed their regular seats for this free concert.

THE AGE OF ADAMS

A JOHN ADAMS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Celebrating the 70th Birthday of California's musical giant

VPAC joins the Los Angeles Philharmonic and ensembles from London, Paris, New York and San Francisco to celebrate the vast work of the greatest living orchestral composer who has called California his home for nearly five decades. All three Adams programs will be intimate, onstage performances. That's right, the audience joins the artists onstage, sitting up-close for a rare and powerful experience, unique to VPAC.

Jacaranda Music & VPAC Present

AMERICAN BERSERK

A Celebration of John Adams

Curated By Patrick Scott
January 14, 2017 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

Kicking off a month-long celebration of composer John Adams, Jacaranda chamber music series comes to VPAC from its home in Santa Monica. Jacaranda traces Adam's pianistic roots from Creole music, Ragtime, and Jazz – they all come together in the Adams piano solo *American Berserk*.

St. Lawrence String Quartet

February 3, 2017 | 8pm

The St. Lawrence Quartet performs the quartet that Adams composed specifically for them, paired with the Beethoven quartet that inspired it.

Adam's Quintet No. 1

Beethoven's String Quintet in A minor, Op. 132

"If good relationships are built on trust, the bond between the St. Lawrence String Quartet and composer John Adams is a marriage made in chamber-music heaven." – *The Washington Post*

wild Up

Christopher Rountree, Conductor
Featuring *Hallelujah Junction* & *Shaker Loops* by John Adams
February 16, 2017 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

The *wild Up*, led by Christopher Rountree, conceived a concert that pairs Adams transcendental music with the music of Adams' hero, Charles Ives.

"One of the best musical experiences in LA." – *The New York Times*

“We added some punk rock to honor John’s wild side” – *Christopher Rountree*

SILENCE AMPLIFIED

The original kings of comedy – Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton – debut on the large screen at VPAC, accompanied by the New West Symphony. This is essential Americana, and required Hollywood viewing.

Charlie Chaplin's

MODERN TIMES

Timothy Brock, Conductor

New West Symphony

November 18, 2016 | 8pm

Charlie Chaplin’s *Modern Times* (1936) is a rich and moving satire on the Machine Age. Chaplin falls in love with the young waif played by starlet Paulette Goddard. Chaplin also wrote the musical score—with contributions from two film music legends, Alfred Newman and David Raskin—for the comedy, at a time when his creative energies were at their peak, demonstrating a profound ability to reveal his characters’ motives through music.

Buster Keaton’s

THE GENERAL

Richard Kaufman, Conductor

New West Symphony

March 25, 2017 | 8pm

Regarded as the greatest of all comedies of the silent era, Buster Keaton’s *The General* (1927) is an action-packed adventure story set against the backdrop of the Civil War about a brave but foolish train engineer, the woman he loves, and his beloved locomotive. CSUN alum Richard Kaufman returns to VPAC to conduct.

DANCE AT VPAC

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet

New Work by Cherice Barton

March 3, 2017 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

Aspen Santa Fe Ballet is known for its technically dazzling dancers as well as its commitment to emergent choreographers. They partner with VPAC, in year two of their residency, to co-commission a new piece by Los Angeles choreographer Cherice Barton. Her much-lauded choreography for Katy Perry’s performance at last year’s Grammy Awards gained Barton worldwide attention. The versatile choreographer also has the chops to create a new piece by America’s most revered contemporary ballet company.

Martha Graham and American Music

Martha Graham Dance Company

Christopher Rountree, Conductor

wild Up

May 13, 2017 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

VPAC Executive Director Thor Steingraber and Martha Graham Artistic Director Janet Eilber join forces to present a rare opportunity to experience the Martha Graham Company performing an entire program with live orchestra. Graham’s revolutionary choreography was born out of the interaction between live music and movement. The program includes compositions by Scott Joplin, Samuel Barber, and Carlos Chavez. Continuing the tradition, Janet Eilber adds a brand new commission to the Graham repertory, *Woodland*, composed by Irving Fine and choreographed by Pontus Lidberg. Christopher Rountree will lead *wild Up* in the orchestra pit.

“Graham commissioned over 70 musical scores from virtually every important composer of her day” – *Janet Eilber*

HECHO EN LAS AMÉRICAS

Center stage are the female vocalists and musicians who are re-shaping Latin music.

Aida Cuevas

with Mariachi Reyna de los Angeles

October 16, 2016 | 7:30pm

Aida Cuevas' 37 albums have sold over seven million copies and earned her the title "Queen of Ranchera." VPAC has paired the solo artist with the trail-blazing all-female Mariachi group, Reyna de los Angeles, in a powerful combination that unravels the male-dominated perspective in Mexican music and re-weaves a colorful new tapestry.

Hecho en LA: Las Cafeteras

with special guests and compañeros

December 9, 2016 | 8pm

Las Cafeteras create a vibrant musical fusion with a unique East LA sound and a community-focused political message. Their Afro-Mexican rhythms, *zapateado* and inspiring lyrics tell stories of a community who is looking for love and fights for justice in the concrete jungle of Los Angeles. A remix of traditional Son Jarocho sounds, Las Cafeteras add Afro-Caribbean marimbol and cajón, poetry in English and Spanglish, and instruments like jarana, requinto, a donkey jawbone and a wooden platform called the *Tarima*.

Lila Downs

with Monsieur Periné

April 22, 2017 | 8PM

Topping the charts for 20 years, multi Grammy Award winner Lila Downs delivers a powerful mix of pop and Mexican indigenous sounds. She has one of the world's most singular voices and innovative approaches to her vocal artistry and music, which has many influences and is as varied as the ancient cultures that serve as her inspiration. Lila's compositions are often striking commentaries on social conditions, reflecting migration and the search for roots as a core human need. She makes an important and deep connection with her fans, who are of all ages, races, and backgrounds. "I am very fortunate," Downs says. "People who follow our music belong to all walks of life. Every day we connect with them." Downs shares the evening with Monsieur Periné, "Jazz Gypsies of Bogota." They stir a mix of swing, pop, alt, salsa and native Columbian rhythms.

SPECIAL ELECTION YEAR OFFERING

VOTE OR DIE LAUGHING

A Post-Modern Political Vaudeville

Culture Clash

with Special Guests: La Santa Cecilia, Cristela Alonzo, Buyepongo, Pacifico Dance Company...and more!

Directed by Dan Guerrero

November 1, 2016 | 8pm

***VPAC Original Event**

The 2016 election trail has been harrowing and hilarious. No better time to send in the clowns of political satire – Culture Clash! The boys are back in the Valley just one week before the election. Join them to celebrate Dia de los Muertos with some of the most daring artists of our time, Carpa Mexicana for the politically inclined.

Richard Montoya, Ric Salinas and Herbert Siguenza lead the LA-based Culture Clash, now surpassing their 5000th performance, shining a light on the brown rainbow and giving voice to the voiceless.

HOLIDAY OFFERINGS

For the first time, VPAC offers a full menu of holiday delicacies. Hailing from the world's wintry climes - Ireland, Vienna, and New York. Every series subscription entitles you to a free ticket for a holiday concert.

Vienna Boys Choir

Christmas In Vienna

December 2, 2016 | 8PM

Stretching across six centuries, few holiday traditions are steeped in so much history.

Choir of Trinity Wall Street

Trinity Baroque Orchestra

Julian Wachner, Director

Handel's *Messiah*

December 7, 2016 | 8PM

Handel's *Messiah* delivered by New York's premiere choral ensemble and Baroque orchestra. "Blazing with vigor," say *The London Times*.

Danú

Féile Na Nollag (A Christmas Gathering)

December 11, 2016 | 3PM

Hailing from Counties Waterford, Cork, Dublin, and Donegal, this is the real McCoy! Some fancy fiddlin' and steppin' will warm up the holidays.

The Hot Sardines

Holiday Stomp

December 17, 2016 | 8PM

In the talented hands of the New York-based ensemble, music first made famous decades ago comes alive through their brassy horn arrangements, rollicking piano melodies, and vocals from a chanteuse who transports listeners to a different era with the mere lilt of her voice. On *French Fries & Champagne*, The Hot Sardines' new album for Universal Music Classics, the jazz collective broadens its already impressive palette, combining covers and originals as they effortlessly channel New York speakeasies, Parisian cabarets and New Orleans jazz halls. These ambassadors of swing will deliver a white hot Christmas that will make your office party seem downright dull.

"Simply phenomenal!" *The London Times* and "One of the best jazz bands in NY today." *Forbes*

WORLD

The Ravi Shankar Foundation & Opus 3 Artists

Present Bickram Ghosh's

Drums of India

October 6, 2016 | TBD

From ancient India comes its heartbeat, Drums of India, featuring the internationally renowned tabla player, Bickram Ghosh. This six-person ensemble explores the world of Indian percussion in an electrifying evening of drumming and vocalizing, with added sitar.

Ragamala Dance Company

Written in Water

Co-Artistic Directors Raneer Ramaswamy & Aparna Ramaswamy

Prema Ramamurthy & Amir ElSaffar, Composers

October 29, 2016 | 8pm

A mother-daughter duo lead the renowned Indian ensemble that combines the sacred and traditional with the modern and inventive.

"Rapturous and profound." – *New York Times*

The Nile Project

February 24, 2017 | 8PM

Representing 11 nations sharing the Nile River, these musical ambassadors explore the importance of the world's water ways, a topic as relevant for California as it is for Africa.

Taj Express

THE BOLLYWOOD MUSICAL REVIEW

April 19, 2017 | 8pm

Taj Express explodes with the sounds of India and Bollywood, capturing the vibrant, expressive spirit of the world of Bollywood movies that have been entertaining billions of people in India for generations. Through a fusion of film, dance, and music, this dazzling international sensation will take audiences on a live cinematic journey through modern Indian culture and society during their 2017 US tour.

FAMILY

Pilobolus

Shadowland

October 2, 2016 | 3pm

Seen by half a million people worldwide, *Shadowland* follows the story of a young girl coming of age, a funny and sensational journey told with Pilobolus' signature fusion of shadow, theatre and dance.

"Punchy, thrilling and slick," *The Guardian* (London)

Akram Khan Company

Chotto Desh

Sunday, November 20 | 3pm

VPAC presents *Chotto Desh*, Bengali for "small homeland," a mythical tale of one young man's dreams and memories, brought to life by interactive animations and the staging of Akram Khan – recognized as one of Britain's most important artists, and contributor to the London 2012 Olympic Opening Ceremony.

Hansel & Gretel

Musical by Justin Roberts and Ernie Nolan

Fairy Tale by The Grimm Brothers

Micah Chambers-Goldberg, Animator

Directed by Michael Matthews

Sunday, January 22 | 3pm

***VPAC Original Event**

Venture into the forest with Hansel and Gretel as they try to outwit the Witch in the premiere of the VPAC-produced children's musical featuring original music by songwriter superstar Justin Roberts, with imaginative animated backdrops.

Opus 3 Artists Present

SHAOLIN WARRIORS

THE LEGEND CONTINUES

Sunday, February 19 | 3pm

Shaolin Warriors is a unique show performed by masters of Kung Fu. In this fully choreographed theatrical production, *Shaolin Warriors* brings the remarkable skill, stunning movement and death-defying martial arts prowess to stages throughout the world. The Kung Fu masters have trained from a very young age in mental and physical disciplines, perfecting the art of hand-to-hand and weapons combat, which allow them to perform feats once thought only possible in the movies.

SPECIAL EVENTS

John Ono Lennon

The Fab Faux *Celebrate A Life in Songs*

with The Hogshead Horns, The Crème Tangerine Strings, Erin Hill, Jim Boggia and Burbank Voices

November 5, 2016 | 8PM

VPAC welcomes back an audience favorite for a celebration of the life and music of John Lennon. The Fab Faux is surely the most meticulous, virtuosic, and reverent tribute band. In a rare engagement, they bring to Los Angeles the entire Lennon songbook, from the early harmony-driven works, to the psychedelic

explorations, to his contemplative, mature solo works. Backed by full chorus, strings, winds, and horns, The Fab Faux takes us on a trip down *Penny Lane*.

Serj Tankian

Performing with CSUN Symphony

Elect the Dead & Orca Symphony

Composed by Serj Tankian

***VPAC Original Event**

November 10, 2016 | 8PM

With a vocal range over four octaves, Serj Tankian is considered one of the greatest vocalists in metal history. Tankian is best known for fronting the popular rock band, System Of A Down. But the songwriter, poet, painter, producer, and political activist has added orchestral composition to his long list of accomplishments. Tankian will perform vocals with on a suite of pieces he has composed, performed by the CSUN Orchestra, under the direction of John Roscigno.

About Valley Performing Arts Center

Now entering its sixth season, VPAC's mission is to present a wide variety of performances that not only includes new and original work from the Los Angeles region, but also work from around the world that appeals to all of LA's rich and diverse communities. The Valley Performing Arts Center's 2016-17 Season signals a new era for the premiere event venue. Under the leadership of Executive Director Thor Steingraber, VPAC expands its programming and outstanding multi-disciplinary performances. Located on the campus of California State University Northridge, VPAC's season offers a vibrant and diverse performance program of nearly 50 classical and popular music, dance, theater, family and international events that will serve to establish VPAC as the intellectual and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley and further establish itself as one of the top arts companies in Southern California. The award-winning 1,700-seat theatre was designed by HGA Architects and Engineers and was recently cited by the *Los Angeles Times* as "a growing hub for live music, dance, drama and other cultural events."

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Photos: Click here for photos from the 2016-17 Season:

<http://www.valleyperformingartscenter.org/press/press-photos/>