

“Never Less than spellbinding” —The New York Times

Pianist Emanuel Ax Makes His Long-Awaited Debut at The Soraya

Program will include Beethoven, Schoenberg and Schumann

Sun, Nov 3 at 7pm

Tickets Starting at \$55 Are Now on Sale at TheSoraya.org.

(Los Angeles, CA) October 15, 2024 —One of the most anticipated debuts of the 2024-25 Season, renowned pianist **Emanuel Ax** brings his extraordinary versatility and brilliance to The Soraya. The pianist is legendary in the recording studio and on stage, and the Sunday, November 3rd performance will feature “Fantasia” standards for classical piano repertoire by Beethoven, Schoenberg, and Schumann. This performance is sponsored by the Colburn Foundation.

“Every season at The Soraya, we welcome a roster of new and returning global artists to our stage,” said Thor Steingraber, Soraya Executive and Artistic Director. “Ax’s debut appearance marks a milestone for us and is long overdue.”

About the Emanuel Ax Program:

BEETHOVEN Sonata Op. 27, No. 1 (Quasi una fantasia)

- I. Andante
- II. Allegro molto e vivace
- III. Adagio con espressione
- IV. Allegro vivace

SCHOENBERG Dei Klavierstücke, Op. 11

- I. Mässige
- II. Mässige
- III. Beweate

BEETHOVEN Sonata Op. 27, No. 2 (Quasi una fantasia) “Moonlight Sonata”

- I. Adagio sostenuto

- II. Allegretto
- III. Presto agitato

SCHOENBERG 6 Little Pieces Op. 19

- I. Leicht, zart
- II. Langsam
- III. Sehr langsame
- IV. Rasch, aber leicht
- V. Etwas rasch
- VI. Sehr langsam

SCHUMAN

Fantasie in C Op.17

- I. Durchaus fantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen; Im Legenden-Ton
- II. Mäßig Durchaue energisch
- III. Langsam getraen. Durchweg Leise zu halten

For story development and interview requests, please contact:

- The Soraya Communications Associate Marie Estrada (marie.estrada@csun.edu)
- PR Consultant Gary Murphy (Garymurphypr@garymurphypr.com)
- Click [HERE](#) to access your press kit.

About Emanuel Ax

Born to Polish parents in what is today Lviv, Ukraine, Emanuel Ax moved to Winnipeg, Canada, with his family when he was a young boy. Mr. Ax made his New York debut in the Young Concert Artists Series, and in 1974 won the first Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Competition Tel Aviv. In 1975 he won the Michaels Award of Young Concert Artists, followed years later by the Avery Fisher Prize.

The 2024-25 season begins with a continuation of the Beethoven for Three touring and recording project with partners Leonidas Kavakos and Yo-Yo Ma which takes them European festivals including BBC Proms, Dresden, Hamburg, Vienna and Luxembourg. As guest soloists he will appear during the New York Philharmonic opening week which will mark his 47th annual visit to the orchestra. During the season he will return to the Cleveland and Philadelphia orchestras, National, San Diego, Nashville and Pittsburgh symphonies and Rochester Philharmonic. A fall recital tour from Toronto and Boston moves west to include San Francisco, Seattle and Los Angeles culminating in the spring in Chicago and his annual Carnegie Hall appearance. A special project in duo with clarinetist Anthony McGill takes them from the west coast through the mid-west to Georgia and Carnegie Hall and in chamber music with Itzhak Perlman and Friends to Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Francisco. An extensive European tour twill include concerts in Paris, Oslo, Cologne, Hamburg, Berlin, Warsaw and Israel.

Mr. Ax has been a Sony Classical exclusive recording artist since 1987 and following the success of the Brahms Trios with Kavakos and Ma, the trio launched an ambitious, multi-year project to record all the Beethoven Trios and Symphonies arranged for trio which the first three discs have been released. He has received GRAMMY Awards for the second and third volumes of his cycle of Haydn's piano sonatas. He has

also made a series of GRAMMY-winning recordings with Yo Yo Ma of the Beethoven and Brahms sonatas for cello and piano. In the 2004-5 season Mr. Ax contributed to an International EMMY Award-winning BBC documentary commemorating the Holocaust that aired on the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. In 2013, Mr. Ax's recording Variations received the Echo Klassik Award for Solo Recording of the Year (19th Century Music/Piano).

Mr. Ax is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and holds honorary doctorates of music from Skidmore College, New England Conservatory of Music, Yale University and Columbia University. www.emanuelax.com

About the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya)

The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for The Performing Arts (The Soraya) is an award-winning, state-of-the-art 1,700-seat theatre designed and built by HGA Architects and Engineers and opened in January 2011 as the Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC). Through a transformative gift by Younes and Soraya Nazarian, the venue was renamed The Soraya in 2017. Vibrant programming has served to establish The Soraya as the intellectual and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley and its 1.8 million residents and as one of the top arts and culture venues in Southern California. Since its inaugural season, The Soraya has presented over 500 artists and companies across the genres of music, dance, theater, and film and is a highly in-demand location for filming and rental events.

The Soraya's 2024-25 Season boldly advances the expansive sound of orchestras both traditional and contemporary; the freestyle vibe of jazz; an array of dance luminaries, and a cultural bounty drawn from the musical well of global voices. The Soraya continues its vigorous commitment to innovating, excelling, and amplifying access by offering a wide variety of performances that reflect Los Angeles' many distinctive communities and featuring new and original work and artists from the local region as well as nationally and around the world.

Located on the vibrant campus of California State University Northridge (CSUN), The Soraya and the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication share an integral link that enhances student access and opportunities in the arts and performing arts. A \$5 million contribution from record producer and former California Lieutenant Governor Mike Curb was pivotal in ensuring the completion and opening of The Soraya in 2011. For his founding support and in acknowledgment of the integral relationship between the Mike Curb College and The Soraya, Mike Curb is recognized as one of The Soraya's Cornerstone Benefactors. This partnership fosters academic and artistic excellence, elevating the talents and the future growth of CSUN's students through master classes, student tickets, concerts of student ensembles, and students appearing alongside renowned artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Aida Cuevas, and Martha Graham Dance Company.

Calendar Listing

What: *Emanuel Ax, Piano*

The most anticipated debut of the 2024-25 Season, Ax finally lands at The Soraya with his extraordinary versatility and brilliance. The pianist is legendary in the recording studio and on stage, and this evening will feature "Fantasia" standards for classical piano repertoire by Beethoven, Schoenberg, and Schumann.

Sponsored by the Colburn Foundation

Date: Sun, Nov 3 at 7pm.

Tickets: \$55-\$118

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

Website: www.TheSoraya.org

Ticket Office: 818-677-3000

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