



NEWS RELEASE

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*“LA’s other top orchestra!”
— San Francisco Classical Voice*

The Soraya Launches its 2025-26 Classical Music Series with the Colburn Orchestra on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m.

**RAVEL “Alborada del gracioso”
DVOŘÁK Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 53
SCHOENBERG *Pelleas und Melisande***

**Carlos Miguel Prieto conducts
with Zi Yang Low on Violin**

All Tickets are just \$13 at [TheSoraya.org](https://www.thesoraya.org).

(Los Angeles, CA), October 6, 2025—Acclaimed for its passion, exuberance, and virtuosity, **The Colburn Orchestra** will return to **The Soraya** for the opening of the 2025-26 Classical Series on Sunday afternoon, October 26. Mexican conductor and GRAMMY Award-winner **Carlos Miguel Prieto** takes the podium in The Soraya’s tradition of presenting major figures of the orchestral world conducting the flagship orchestra from the Colburn Conservatory of Music. As an influential cultural leader, Maestro Prieto is a champion of new music and music education, and for the occasion here, he has chosen a program that highlights the talents of the next generation of classical musicians.

Bursting with musical color and raw emotion, the first half of the program will take audiences on an immersive European adventure. The charming orchestration of Ravel’s “*Alborada del gracioso*” is infused with the sounds of Spain while the spirited Bohemian melodies of Dvořák’s Violin Concerto paint a vibrant picture of the Czech countryside. The concert culminates with *Pelleas und Melisande*, a moody tone poem by Schoenberg that depicts a tragic tale of forbidden love.

The Soraya’s 2025-26 Season Classical Series includes:

- The Colburn Orchestra led by Carlos Miguel Prieto and violinist Muyan Yang on Sunday, Oct. 26 at 3 p.m.
- Pianist **Ray Chen** launches the intimate Onstage Performance series on Thursday, Oct. 30 ([sold out](#))
- **Maestro Riccardo Muti** makes his long-awaited debut at The Soraya conducting the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra** on Thursday, Jan. 22, 2026, to commemorate The Soraya's 15th Anniversary
- Violinist and Music Director of **Academy of St Martin in The Fields Joshua Bell** returns to The Soraya for his 10th appearance on Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026
- **The New York Philharmonic String Quartet** will make their debut on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, also in an intimate Onstage Performance format
- Pianist **Yuja Wang** returns to The Soraya to lead her ensemble, the **Mahler Chamber Orchestra** on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

For story development and interview requests, please contact:

- The Soraya Marketing & Communications Specialist Marie Estrada (marie.estrada@csun.edu)
- PR Consultant Gary Murphy (Garymurphypr@garymurphypr.com)

About the Colburn Orchestra & Music Director Yehuda Gilad

Now in its 22nd season, the Colburn Orchestra is the flagship ensemble of the Colburn Conservatory of Music. Under the direction of Music Director Yehuda Gilad, the Colburn Orchestra performs across Southern California in venues including Walt Disney Concert Hall, Ambassador Auditorium, the Soraya, Soka Performing Arts Center, Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, the Wallis, the Broad Stage, and Segerstrom Concert Hall, as well as on the Colburn campus in Zipper Hall. Dedicated to serving the greater Los Angeles community, the Colburn Orchestra performs for schools in neighboring communities every year, giving five concerts in a one-week period to school children of all ages.

Since the inception of the Orchestra, Gilad and the esteemed Colburn faculty have invited leading guest artists to perform with the Colburn Orchestra to mirror a professional orchestral experience. Esa-Pekka Salonen, head of the School's Negaunee Conducting Program and the Maestro Ernst H. Katz Chair of Conducting Studies, regularly leads the orchestra and previous visiting conductors include Lionel Bringuier, Gustavo Dudamel, James Conlon, Stéphane Denève, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Sir Neville Marriner, Kurt Masur, Peter Oundjian, Carlos Miguel Prieto, and Michael Tilson Thomas. Acclaimed artists such as Mstislav Rostropovich and Itzhak Perlman actively worked with the orchestra during its inaugural year. The ensemble made its United Kingdom debut at the Edinburgh International Festival in 2018, followed by a performance in Dublin.

Colburn Orchestra recordings include a live recording of Mahler's Symphony No. 5 led by guest conductor Gerard Schwarz (Yarlung Records); an album of works by Menachem Wiesenbergs (Live Classics) featuring Ronald Leonard performing Wiesenbergs' Cello Concerto; and If You Love For Beauty

(Yarlung), featuring works by John Adams, Chausson, Handel, and Mahler with mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke.

About Carlos Miguel Prieto

Known for his charisma and expressive interpretations, Mexican conductor and GRAMMY-winner Carlos Miguel Prieto has established himself not just as a major figure in the orchestra world but also as an influential cultural leader, an educator, and a champion of new music. In a significant career development, he started his tenure as Music Director of the North Carolina Symphony at the beginning of the 2023–2024 season.

From 2007 to 2022, Prieto was the Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de México, the country's leading ensemble, and significantly raised the caliber of the orchestra. He was also Music Director of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra from 2006 to 2023, where he helped lead the cultural renewal of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. He led the Louisiana Philharmonic to a successful Carnegie Hall debut and a Grammy in 2024. In 2008, he was appointed Music Director of the Orquesta Sinfónica de Minería (OSM), which he led to a Latin Grammy- nomination for Best Classical Music Album and a Grammy award for Best Classical Composition. In 2023, Prieto led OSM in a highly successful tour of the United States, and in 2024 had a hugely impactful residence at Vail! Bravo.

Recent highlights include engagements with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, NDR Elbphilharmonie, Frankfurt Radio Symphony, the Hallé, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, The Spanish National Orchestra, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Strasbourg Philharmonic, and Auckland Philharmonia.

Prieto is in demand as a guest conductor with many of the top North American orchestras, including Cleveland, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Dallas, Toronto, Minnesota, Washington, New World, and Houston. He has enjoyed a particularly successful relationship with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the North Carolina Symphony. In 2023, Prieto made his hugely successful BBC Proms debut at Royal Albert Hall, and at the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 2024.

Since 2002 Prieto has conducted the Orchestra of the Americas, which draws young musicians from the entire American continent. Prieto is renowned for championing Latin American music as well as his dedication to new music. He has conducted over 100 world premieres of works by Mexican and American composers, many of which were commissioned by him. Prieto places equal importance on championing works by Black and African American composers such as Florence Price, Margaret Bonds, and Courtney Bryan, among others.

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 that opened in 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.

The Soraya is located on the campus of California State University Northridge, the intellectual and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley. Executive and Artistic Director Thor Steingraber, in his 12th year leading the organization, sums up what makes The Soraya a central piece of Los Angeles arts and culture. "At The Soraya, we hold a high standard of excellence for every performance from a vast array of artistic disciplines, and we hold steadfast to our commitment to the value and impact of the performing arts in community-building, for the Valley's 1.8 million residents and beyond."

The Soraya's 2025-26 Season is a journey through the expansive sounds of orchestras, the freestyle vibes of jazz, the innovations of dance luminaries, and a vast array of global voices. The Soraya continues its vigorous commitment to excelling, innovating, and amplifying access for Valley residents, students, and arts lovers across Southern California.

What: **The Colburn Orchestra**
Carlos Miguel Prieto conducts
with Zi Yang Low on Violin
Mert Yalniz, Assistant Conductor

RAVEL "Alborada del gracioso"
DVOŘÁK Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 53
SCHOENBERG *Pelleas und Melisande*

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

When: Sun, Oct 26 at 3 p.m.

Website: www.TheSoraya.org

Tickets \$13

Office: 818-677-3000

Soraya Press Contacts

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