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**STUTZMANN CONDUCTS BACK-TO-BACK CONCERTS FEATURING BACH, BEETHOVEN AND BRUCKNER  
WITH THE ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**MAR 5/7: Pianist Leif Ove Andsnes performs Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto**

**MAR 12/14/15: Stutzmann conducts Bach's B minor Mass with the ASO Chorus**

**ATLANTA** – Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann returns this March to Symphony Hall to lead the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in two weeks of concerts featuring classical giants, Beethoven, Bruckner and Bach.

**MAR 5/7** – Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes debuts with the orchestra for a program featuring Beethoven's high-octane Third Piano Concerto and Bruckner's massive Symphony No. 6 on Thursday and Saturday, March 5 and 7, at 8 pm at Atlanta Symphony Hall.

Stutzmann, a celebrated interpreter of Bruckner's works, harnesses the power of the orchestra for a performance of his 6<sup>th</sup> Symphony, which is full of unique orchestral color, rhythmic invention and subtlety.

Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto spotlights Andsnes's playing, which *Gramophone* described as having "a sense of gravitas, of rightness, that you find in the greatest Beethoven interpreters." Situated between Beethoven's reverence for Mozart and the sound that would define him, the Third Piano Concerto blends spirited composition and Beethoven trickery.

**MAR 12/14/15** – Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, one of the great interpreters of Bach's exalted B minor Mass work, leads a stellar lineup of soloists with the renowned Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus at Symphony Hall on Thursday and Saturday, March 12 and 14 at 8pm and Sunday, March 15 at 3pm.

The GRAMMY® winning ASO Chorus joins the orchestra with acclaimed soloists in Bach's immersive and transcendental Mass in B minor. In preparing for Bach's choral Everest, Stutzmann

shares, “Conducting the large forces on stage when we have the chorus of over 150 singers with the orchestra is something I always cherish.”

Considered a summation of the composer’s life’s work, Stutzmann conducts the works that she calls “absolutely transcendental and one of the most amazing choral writings of all time.”

Tickets for these concerts are now on sale at [aso.org](https://aso.org).

### **CALENDAR LISTING**

#### **Stutzmann Conducts Beethoven + Bruckner**

Thursday, March 5, 2026, 8pm

Saturday, March 7, 2026, 8pm

Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor

Leif Ove Andsnes, piano\*

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 3

BRUCKNER: Symphony No. 6

Be there for the Atlanta Symphony debut of one of the most acclaimed artists of our time, Norwegian pianist Leif Ove Andsnes. The supreme virtuoso plays a hard-hitting, high-octane concerto by Beethoven. Maestro Stutzmann harnesses the Herculean forces of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra for a gargantuan heavyweight—Anton Bruckner’s Sixth Symphony. “[Bruckner shows] Stutzmann at her best . . . making the music sound especially bold and raw” (*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*).

#### **Bach’s Mass in B minor + ASO Chorus**

Thursday, March 12, 2026, 8pm

Saturday, March 14, 2026, 8pm

Sunday, March 15, 2026, 3pm

Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor

Camilla Tilling, soprano

Fleur Barron, mezzo-soprano

Lunga Eric Hallam, tenor

Krešimir Stražanac, baritone\*

Norman Mackenzie, Director of Choruses

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus

BACH: Mass in B minor

Get your mind blown in B minor. Hear the work that many consider to be one of the heights of human achievement. Inscribed with the words “Glory to God alone,” Johann Sebastian Bach’s immersive Mass weaves dazzling radiance and gnawing expressivity together into buoyant choruses, rich textures, and arresting vocal solos. Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, one of the great interpreters of this exalted work, leads a stellar lineup of soloists with the renowned Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chorus.

### **About Leif Ove Andsnes**

The *New York Times* calls Leif Ove Andsnes “a pianist of magisterial elegance, power, and insight,” and the

*Wall Street Journal* names him “one of the most gifted musicians of his generation.” With his commanding technique and searching interpretations, the celebrated Norwegian pianist has won acclaim worldwide, performing recitals and concertos in the world’s leading concert halls and with its foremost orchestras, besides being an active recording artist. Andsnes’s discography comprises more than 50 titles. Spanning repertoire from the Baroque to the present day, these have been recognized with eleven Grammy nominations, seven Gramophone Awards, and numerous other international honors. *Leif Ove Andsnes: The Complete Warner Classics Edition 1990-2010*, a 36-CD retrospective of his EMI and Virgin recordings, was released to acclaim in 2023.

An avid chamber musician, Andsnes is the founding director of the Rosendal Chamber Music Festival, was co-artistic director of the Risør Festival of Chamber Music for nearly two decades, and served as music director of California’s 2012 Ojai Music Festival. He was inducted into the Gramophone Hall of Fame in 2013, and has received honorary doctorates from New York’s Juilliard School and Norway’s University of Bergen. As first Artistic Partner of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra, Andsnes led the ensemble from the keyboard in two major, multi-season projects – “The Beethoven Journey” and “Mozart Momentum 1785/86” – both of which resulted in award-winning Sony Classical sets.

The recipient of both the Royal Philharmonic Society’s Instrumentalist Award and the Gilmore Artist Award, Andsnes has also received Norway’s Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of St. Olav and the prestigious Peer Gynt Prize. He has curated Carnegie Hall’s “Perspectives” series, been the subject of the London Symphony Orchestra’s “Artist Portrait Series,” and undertaken season-long artistic residencies with the Berlin Philharmonic, New York Philharmonic, and Sweden’s Gothenburg Symphony. Andsnes studied at the Bergen Music Conservatory under Jirí Hlinka, also receiving invaluable advice from Jacques de Tiège. Today he lives with his wife and their three children in Bergen, where he is an Artistic Adviser at the city’s Prof. Jirí Hlinka Piano Academy.

#### **About Camilla Tilling**

As one of the world’s most sought-after performers, Camilla Tilling’s recent performances include Mahler Symphony No. 4 under Gustavo Dudamel with both Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra and Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, Schoenberg Gurrelieder with London Philharmonia Orchestra, Beethoven Symphony No.9 with Washington’s National Symphony Orchestra and Dutilleux *Correspondances* with Orchestre national de France. Tilling’s artistic journey was profoundly shaped by the late Sir Bernard Haitink. Testament to their enduring collaboration and mutual admiration, she was chosen as Strauss soloist for his historic final concerts with Radio Filharmonisk Orkest at Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw in 2019.

In the 2025/2026 season, Tilling joins Munich Philharmonic, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra and Teatro Carlo Felice, among others. In North America, she joins Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra and she reunites with ProMusica Chamber Orchestra. Tilling is an accomplished recitalist and has toured widely with her acclaimed “Swedish Nightingale” program *Jenny Lind: Love and Lieder*.

#### **About Fleur Barron**

Singaporean-British mezzo Fleur Barron won a 2025 GRAMMY Award for Best Opera Recording in the title role of Saariaho's *Adriana Mater* with the San Francisco Symphony under Esa-Pekka Salonen.

Highlights of the current season include leading roles at the Salzburg Festival, Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, and Maggio Musicale; and collaborations with Gustavo Dudamel and the New York Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, Bavarian Radio Symphony, and the Nashville Symphony.

Past seasons include tours of Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with both the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra and Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra under Daniel Harding, Claude Vivier's *Wo bist du Licht* and Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with Barbara Hannigan and the London Symphony Orchestra, and a tour and recording of Ravel's *Shéhérazade* with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra and Ludovic Morlot. Fleur Barron's recording catalogue extends from Purcell to Saariaho with labels such as Deutsche Grammophon and Pentatone.

#### **About Lunga Eric Hallam**

South African tenor Lunga Eric Hallam is a graduate of the prestigious Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and was previously in the Young Artist Programme at Cape Town Opera.

This season, Lunga debuts with the Hamburgische Staatsoper as Ein Jungling (*Paradies und Peri*), at Theatre des Champs Elysees for Pedrillo (*Die Entführung aus dem Serail*), and returns to Count Almaviva at Opera San Antonio (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*). Equally in demand on the concert stage, Lunga will perform Mozart's *Requiem* with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra.

Last season saw Lunga make several major orchestral debuts, performing Handel's *Messiah* with the National Symphony Orchestra and singing a Baroque program with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Lunga also performed with the São Paulo Symphony and at the Kennedy Center in Washington for Vocal Arts DC.

#### **About Krešimir Stražanac**

Bass-baritone Krešimir Stražanac is one of the most significant Croatian artists achieving international success. Stražanac made his 2023 debut with the Berlin Philharmonic, featuring concerts in Berlin, Madrid, and Barcelona, and his debut with the Los Angeles Philharmonic in 2025.

Stražanac has a particular affinity for rarely performed operas, and in recent years he has sung the title roles in the premieres of Telemann's *Orpheus* in Amsterdam and Caccini's *Liberation of Ruggiero from the island of Alcina* in Vienna's Theater an der Wien, where he also portrayed the Devil in Weinberger's *Schwanda, the Bagpiper*.

As a concert soloist, Stražanac performs throughout Europe, Asia, and North America, singing major vocal-instrumental works. He has performed with orchestras, including the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Frankfurt Radio Symphony, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra, the Royal Flemish Philharmonic, among others.

#### **Norman Mackenzie, Director of Choruses**

Norman Mackenzie's abilities as musical collaborator, conductor and concert organist have brought him international recognition. As Director of Chorus for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) since 2000, he was chosen to help carry forward the creative vision of legendary founding conductor Robert Shaw. During his tenure, the Chorus has made numerous tours and garnered several Grammy® awards, including Best Classical Album and Best Choral Performance.

At the ASO, he prepares the Choruses for all concerts and recordings, works closely with Nathalie Stutzmann on the commissioning and realization of new choral-orchestral works and conducts holiday concerts. In his 14-year association with Mr. Shaw, he was keyboardist for the ASO, principal accompanist for the ASO Choruses and ultimately assistant choral conductor. In addition, he was musical assistant and accompanist for the Robert Shaw Chamber Singers, the Robert Shaw Institute Summer Choral Festivals in France and the United States and the famed Shaw/ Carnegie Hall Choral Workshops.

He prepared the ASO Chorus for its acclaimed 2003 debut and successive 2008 and 2009 performances in Berlin with the Berlin Philharmonic, in Britten's *War Requiem*, Berlioz's *Grande Messe des Morts* and Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, respectively.

### **About Nathalie Stutzmann**

Nathalie Stutzmann is the Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the second woman in history to lead a major American orchestra. She was Principal Guest Conductor of The Philadelphia Orchestra from 2021-2024.

Nathalie's 2025-26 season includes major debuts with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Staatskapelle Berlin, and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. She also returns to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Oslo Philharmonic.

Named Best Conductor of the Year at the 2024 Oper! Awards, she earned acclaim for Wagner's *Tannhäuser* at the Bayreuth Festival in 2023 and 2024, with *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* praising her as "a genius who makes music irresistible." In 2026, she returns for the festival's 150th anniversary with a new production of *Rienzi*, and debuts at the Bayerische Staatsoper conducting *Faust*. She also opens the 2025–26 season at Dutch National Opera with *Tosca*.

An exclusive recording artist with Warner Classics/Erato, Nathalie's first symphonic release with the Atlanta Symphony—Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 and American Suite— earned her cover recognition from *Gramophone* magazine. The album was highlighted by *The New York Times* as one of "5 Classical Music Albums You Can Listen to Right Now," and received OPUS Klassik nominations for Best Conductor and Best Symphonic Recording of the Year. This followed her 2023 OPUS Klassik win for Concerto Recording of the Year, for her album featuring the Glière and Mosolov harp concertos with Xavier de Maistre and the WDR Sinfonieorchester. In 2022, she released the complete Beethoven piano concertos with Haochen Zhang and The Philadelphia Orchestra, which *Gramophone* hailed as "a brilliant collaboration".

Nathalie started her studies at a young age in piano, bassoon, and cello, and studied conducting with legendary Finnish teacher Jorma Panula. As one of the world's most celebrated contraltos, she has made over 80 recordings and received numerous international accolades. Named "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" and "Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French government, she is also an Honorary Member of the Royal Academy of Music.

#### **About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus**

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus, founded in 1970 by former Music Director, Robert Shaw, is an all volunteer, auditioned ensemble that performs on a regular basis with the Orchestra and is featured on many of its recordings. Led by Director of Choruses, Norman Mackenzie, the chorus is known for its precision and expressive singing quality. Its recordings have garnered 14 GRAMMY® Awards (nine for "Best Choral Performance"; four for "Best Classical Recording" and one for "Best Opera Recording"). In addition, the Chorus has been involved in the creation and shaping of numerous world-premiere commissioned works.

#### **About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**

Under the leadership of Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) offers live performances, media initiatives, and learning programs that unite, educate and enrich our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The ASO engages the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to experience the power of live orchestra music.

The Orchestra's range and depth are featured in more than 150 concerts each year, including the flagship Delta Classical Series, Movies in Concert, Family Concerts, Coca-Cola Holiday series, and many community and education concerts. In addition, the ASO presents many vibrant, wide-ranging events and artists through its Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall Live presentations. The ASO also performs regularly with the ASO Chorus, originally founded by Robert Shaw, and currently under the direction of Norman Mackenzie. The Chorus is featured on nine of the ASO's 27 GRAMMY® Award-winning recordings.

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