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**Violinist Andrés Cárdenes**
Tuesday, September 25, 2018

**Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**
Jun Märkl, conductor
Giora Schmidt, violin
Friday, October 12, 2018

**James Carter Organ Trio**
Thursday, January 31, 2019

**Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**
Peter Oundjian, conductor
Benjamin Grosvenor, piano
Friday, March 22, 2019

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Violinist Andrés Cárdenes with Elizabeth Pridgen, piano
Tuesday, September 25, 2018

GRAMMY-nominated violinist, conductor, and recording artist Andrés Cárdenes has garnered international acclaim from critics and audiences alike for his versatile career and masterful performances. In addition to serving as Concertmaster for the Pittsburgh Symphony for over 20 years, Cárdenes has performed as soloist with over 100 orchestras across four continents including The Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, St. Louis Symphony, and Bavarian Radio Orchestra. Presented in cooperation with the Atlanta Chamber Players, this performance will also feature pianist and Atlanta Chamber Players Artistic Director, Elizabeth Pridgen.

“Singing on the violin is a Cárdenes trademark, as is attention to dramatic expression.”
– The Pittsburgh Press

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Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Jun Märkl, conductor | Giora Schmidt, violin

Friday, October 12, 2018

Atlanta favorite Jun Märkl leads an evening of stunning French music packed with velvety-rich harmonies and exquisite orchestral craftsmanship. Opening the performance is Berlioz’ dramatic and brilliantly rousing Overture to Benvenuto Cellini followed by Henri Vieuxtemps’ Violin Concerto No. 5 featuring Giora Schmidt in his Atlanta Symphony debut. The program closes with Ravel’s Daphnis et Chloé, described by Beatles producer George Martin as “a swelling of sound that is just breathtaking” when placing the work at the top of his list of essentials on BBC’s “Desert Island Discs.”

“[Giora Schmidt] soared, he dazzled, he ripped the double-stops from the strings in handfuls, and rippled through the scale passages with a tone of silvered lightning.” – The Chronicle Herald
The organ combo reigned supreme for several decades as a “meat-and-potatoes” mainstay of 50’s and 60’s jazz. In the hands of saxophonist James Carter, one of jazz’s most sophisticated improvisers, the organ trio is elevated by Carter’s virtuosic chops, the band’s powerful blues-drenched style, and wide-ranging repertoire collected through the members’ far-flung musical explorations. Relying heavily on inspired group interplay, the trio features the nimble yet muscular keyboard work of Detroit’s rising B3 star Gerard Gibbs and the propulsive support of drummer Alex White.

“It was billed like a clash of the titans, yet one of the colossal talents stood taller than all the rest... Saxophonist James Carter overshadowed everyone else onstage...” – Oakland Tribune
“He commands the stage with aristocratic ease… Mr. Grosvenor makes you sigh with joy… A temperament rare in yesteryear, let alone now.” – The New York Times

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
Peter Oundjian, conductor | Benjamin Grosvenor, piano
Friday, March 22, 2019

Led by conductor Peter Oundjian, the Atlanta Symphony serves up a feast of orchestral indulgence. First, the “utterly astounding” (The Piano Files) Benjamin Grosvenor performs Johannes Brahms’s barnstorming Piano Concerto No. 1. The performance concludes with Strauss’ mind-blowing Also sprach Zarathustra. Used as the opening theme in 2001: A Space Odyssey, Strauss’ tone poem was written “to convey in music an idea of the evolution of the human race from its origin…,” and is perfectly at home in this epic cinematic context.
Each season, the School of Music presents over 100 performances featuring our talented students, exceptional faculty, and renowned guest artists and ensembles.

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