



JOSHUA BELL

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

A hundred years calls for something special and Joshua Bell delivers. One of the most gifted violinists of his generation, Bell has graced the world's greatest stages, earned a Grammy, and received a British honor from King Charles III himself. This is a singular evening befitting a century of music.



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A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Beethoven Violin Concerto

Fri.
FEB. 5
at 7:30pm

Pikes Peak Center for the Performing Arts

Chloé Dufresne *conductor*
Joshua Bell *violin*

In 2007, Joshua Bell tucked his 1713 Stradivarius under his chin, put on a baseball cap, and busked in a Washington, D.C. subway station during morning rush hour. Almost no one stopped. The story of that unrecognized, world-class performance became one of the most talked-about pieces of writing in modern journalism — proof of how easily we walk past greatness when no one tells us to look for it. There will be no mistaking it this time as Bell brings that same violin for an extraordinary evening created especially for our Centennial. A hundred years of music-making has been building toward a night like this.

Tchaikovsky *Romeo and Juliet* (1880 version)
Beethoven Violin Concerto

Season presented by:



Lodging provided by:





VIOLIN

Joshua Bell

With a career spanning almost four decades, Grammy Award-winning violinist Joshua Bell CBE is one of the most celebrated artists of our time. He has performed with virtually every major orchestra in the world, and regularly appears as a soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, conductor, and as the Music Director of London's Academy of St Martin in the Fields (ASMF). In 2025, he was awarded an honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for services to Music.

With ASMF, he leads extensive tours, including returns to Vienna Konzerthaus and Carnegie Hall. Other highlights include his first appearances as Principal Guest Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony; an Asian tour with Hamburg's NDR Elbphilharmonie Orchestra; trio programs with Steven Isserlis and Evgeny Kissin in the U.S. and Europe; and duo recitals with Jeremy Denk at Walt Disney Concert Hall and the Ravinia Festival.

In 2011, Bell succeeded founder Sir Neville Marriner as Music Director of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields. He is also the Founder and Music Director of Chamber Orchestra of America (COA), which aims to empower the next generation of artists.

Bell has commissioned and premiered works by John Corigliano, Edgar Meyer, and Nicholas Maw. His recording of Maw's Violin Concerto won a Grammy Award, and his work on the film soundtrack for *The Red Violin* helped secure Corigliano's Academy Award.

Bell's collaborators include Emanuel Ax, Chris Botti, Chick Corea, Renée Fleming, Josh Groban, Lang Lang, Dave Matthews, Anoushka Shankar, Regina Spektor, Sting, and Daniil Trifonov. He has made three guest-star appearances on *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson and numerous appearances on the Amazon series *Mozart in the Jungle*. His extensive discography has been recognized with Grammy, Mercury, Gramophone, and Opus Klassik awards.

Born in Bloomington, Indiana, Bell began playing the violin at age four, starting studies with his mentor, Josef Gingold, eight years later. At 14, Bell debuted with Riccardo Muti and the Philadelphia Orchestra, and at 17 he made his Carnegie Hall debut with the St. Louis Symphony. He signed with his first label, London Decca, at 18, when he also received the Avery Fisher Career Grant. Since then, Bell has been nominated for six Grammy Awards, named "Instrumentalist of the Year" by *Musical America*, selected as a "Young Global Leader" by the World Economic Forum, and recognized with the Avery Fisher Prize. He received the 2003 Indiana Governor's Arts Award and, in 2000, was honored as an "Indiana Living Legend." Bell has performed for three American presidents and the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. After participating in former president Barack Obama's Committee on the Arts and Humanities' first cultural mission to Cuba, he headlined the subsequent Emmy-nominated PBS Live from Lincoln Center special.

Bell performs on the 1713 Huberman Stradivarius violin.

CONDUCTOR

Chloé Dufresne

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Chloé Dufresne

Music Director

"Chloé Dufresne endeared herself with a rare combination of humility and authority... Chloé took control of the piece, telling its story, picking at its colours, literally 'conducting' its magic."

- Andrew Mellor, Gramophone.

With her clear technique, calm authority and imaginative palette, Chloé Dufresne has made her mark as a conductor only a few years since graduating from the Sibelius Academy. In 2025, she was appointed Music Director of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic and serves as Associate Artist of the Orchestre National de Bretagne and Artistic Director of Orchestre Ostinato.

A background in singing and choral conducting has led Dufresne naturally to opera, and in the 2024–25 season she conducted *Carmen* at Theater Magdeburg, *Orphée aux enfers* with Opéra national du Capitole de Toulouse, *L'Elisir d'amore* with Opéra national de Lorraine, and a new production of Leonard Evers' *Humanoid* at Semperoper Dresden. Earlier productions include *Don Giovanni*, *Norma*, *Albert Herring* and Offenbach's *Pomme d'Api* for Opéra Rouen, Opéra de Toulon, Opéra de Nice and Opéra National de Lorraine, as well as a Bayreuth production of Wagner's *The Ring for children* at the Helsinki Festival. Alongside her commitments in Colorado, this season Dufresne conducts Deutsche Staatsphilharmonie Rheinland-Pfalz, Stuttgarter Philharmoniker, Staatsorchester Rheinische Philharmonie Koblenz and Kuopio Symphony Orchestra.

In France, she returns to Orchestre National de Bretagne, Opéra Grand Avignon (with Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène*) and Opéra national de Paris for Mozart's *La Finta Giardiniera*. As well as specializing in core repertoire by composers such as Debussy, Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky, Dvořák and Beethoven, Dufresne is a strong advocate for new music and won a prize for her interpretation of music by Camille Pepin at the Besançon Conducting Competition.

Dufresne studied viola, singing and choral conducting before completing her Masters in conducting from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki in 2020, where her teachers included Atso Almila, Sakari Oramo and Alain Altinoglu. She was a Conducting Fellow at the 2022 Lucerne Festival and a Dudamel Fellow with the Los Angeles Philharmonic.