



ST. MATTHEW'S MUSIC GUILD 2025-2026 SEASON





OUR 41ST SEASON OF WORLD-CLASS MUSIC CLOSE TO HOME

Featuring:

- A return to St. Matthew's Church
- World-Class soloists all season
- Bach Collegium San Diego's period performance of Handel's "Messiah"
- The Gesualdo Six presents "Queen of Hearts"
- LA Phil's Boris Allakhverdyan, Whitney Crockett and David Garrett
- Bonus recital by organist Nathan Laube celebrating the Fisk Organ's 40th anniversary
- Return of Raehann Bryce-Davis and the premiere of a new SMMG commission by María Eugenia León

It is our fervent hope that we will be able to return to our beloved St. Matthew's Church in Pacific Palisades to begin our 41st season of "World-Class Music close to Home" in October. St. Matthew's Church offers free and easy parking, free intermission refreshments and some of the best music-making on the Westside with great acoustics in an intimate and casual setting.



SEP 26, 2025 – 8PM MOVSES POGOSSIAN PLAYS MENDELSSOHN

Our 41st season begins with the return of celebrated violinist Movses Pogossian in Mendelssohn's lyrical Violin Concerto in E minor. The program also includes Mendelssohn's beloved Overture to "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Beethoven's ebullient Symphony No. 2 in D Major.



NOV 7, 2025 – 8PM RAEHANN BRYCE-DAVIS – OPERATIC FIREWORKS

Fresh off of triumphant appearances at Houston Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Dutch Opera and the Metropolitan Opera, Raehann Bryce-Davis returns to the intimate St. Matthew's Church for a selection of operatic arias by Verdi, Dvořák, and Saint-Saëns plus a selection of soulful spirituals.



DEC 5, 2025 – 7:30PM BACH COLLEGIUM SAN DIEGO PRESENTS HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

Conductor Ruben Valenzuela brings a complete performance of Handel's immortal holiday classic featuring some of the best early-music instrumentalists and singers from around the country.



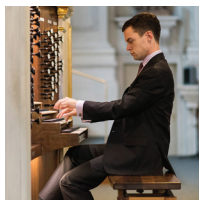
FEB 6, 2026 – 8PM
THE GESUALDO SIX –
“QUEEN OF HEARTS”

Drawing from motets and chansons from the courts of Anne of Brittany, Margaret of Austria, Anne Boleyn and Mary Tudor, the Gesualdo Six have been described as “weavers of rich and plangent aural tapestries [melding] style and substance with beguiling sure-footedness.” – BBC Music Magazine



APR 24, 2026 – 8PM
DAVID GARRETT, HAYDN,
AND “A CLASSICAL
JOURNEY”

David Garrett, a member of the LA Phil’s cello section since 2000, plays Haydn’s Cello Concerto in D major. The program takes us on a journey through musical classicism, visiting works by CPE Bach, Schubert and von Weber.



MAR 1, 2026 – SUN. 4PM
BONUS CONCERT –
NATHAN LAUBE

Organist Nathan Laube, recognized as one of the finest organists of his generation, joins us to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the C.B. Fisk organ at St. Matthew’s Church (postponed from May 2025).



MAY 29, 2026 – 8PM
SEASON FINALE – YUEUN
GEMMA KIM PLAYS DVORAK

Concertmaster YuEun Kim steps front and center for Antonin Dvořák’s lush Violin Concerto in A minor. Also featured on the program is the premiere of the latest SMMG commission, Maria Eugenia León’s newest work, Raíces (Roots), which evokes the sights and sounds of her native Canary Islands.



MAR 20, 2026 – 8PM
ALLAKHVERDYAN AND
CROCKETT PLAY STRAUSS

LA Phil principals Boris Allakhverdyan and Whitney Crockett join the Chamber Orchestra for one of Richard Strauss’s most beautiful and soulful late works, the “Duet-Concertino for Clarinet and Bassoon.” Music of Tchaikovsky and David Lefkowitz (pictured) is also featured.

Scan to learn more



or visit musicguildonline.org



Movses Pogossian



Dwayne Milburn

SEASON OPENER

September 26

Dwayne S. Milburn, Music Director and Conductor
Movses Pogossian, violin

September 26, 2024, 8pm – Season Opener
Movses Pogossian, violin
Dwayne S. Milburn, Music Director and Conductor – The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's

Our 41st season begins with the music of two of the most beloved composers in the western canon – Felix Mendelssohn and Ludwig van Beethoven. After the joyous Overture to "A Midsummer Night's

Dream," one of our favorite solo artists, celebrated violinist Movses Pogossian, joins the Chamber Orchestra to present Mendelssohn's lyrical Violin Concerto in E minor. The program closes with Beethoven's ebullient Symphony No. 2 in D Major. *Underwritten by the St. Matthew's Music Guild's Endowment Fund. Pre-concert supper on the patio for subscribers at the Silver Patron level and above.*

MORE INFO



www.facebook.com/movses.pogossian/



<https://schoolofmusic.ucla.edu/people/movses-pogossian/>



RAEHANN BRYCE-DAVIS – OPERATIC FIREWORKS

November 7

A stellar program by a “mezzo-soprano with a burnished voice and dramatic fervor” (New York Times)

November 7, 2025 – 8pm

Hailed by the New York Times as a “striking mezzo soprano” who “sings and speaks potently and moves vivaciously,” Raehann Bryce-Davis joins the Chamber Orchestra for an evening of operatic arias and beautifully orchestrated folksongs

and spirituals. Drawing from recent internationally acclaimed operatic performances of Saint-Saëns, Puccini and Verdi, Bryce-Davis’s return to the Music Guild offers an intimate performance by an artist the New York Observer calls “one of the best mezzo-sopranos of this generation.”

MORE INFO



facebook.com/raeraebd



raehann.com



instagram.com/raehannbrycedavis

Become a member | Subscribe to the 2025/2026 Season | 310.573.0722



BACH COLLEGIUM SAN DIEGO HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

December 5

Ruben Valenzuela leads the critically acclaimed Bach Collegium San Diego in Handel's Messiah

December 5, 2025 - 7:30pm

The Music Guild is pleased to offer a special treat for this season's holiday concert, welcoming the Bach Collegium San Diego to Los Angeles for a complete performance of Handel's "Messiah." Led by artistic director Ruben Valenzuela, the Bach Collegium San Diego is known for bringing together artists from across the U.S. to present "historically informed performances" in concerts that have

thrilled national and international audiences. You won't want to miss this performance by an ensemble lauded as "a cultural treasure." (San Diego Union-Tribune)
Underwritten by a generous grant from the Colburn Foundation.
Major support for the Music Guild's Choral Arts Initiative is provided by Karen and Gordon Dressler as well as founding and sustaining members of the Initiative.

MORE INFO



 www.instagram.com/bachcollegiumsandiego/

 bachcollegiumsd.org

 www.facebook.com/bachcollegiumsandiego

THE GESUALDO SIX AND “QUEEN OF HEARTS”

February 6, 2026 – 8pm

St. Matthew's Music Guild proudly presents the award-winning British vocal ensemble, The Gesualdo Six. The group features six of the United Kingdom's finest consort singers whose performances have thrilled audiences across Europe and the U.S. Gramophone Magazine described a recent performance as “ingeniously programmed and impeccably delivered, with that undefinable excitement that comes from a group of musicians working absolutely as one.” “Queen of Hearts” is a musical Who's Who of great European queens as portrayed in music of the sixteenth century and spiced with short works from the twenty-first.

📷 www.instagram.com/thegesualdosix/

🌐 <https://www.thegesualdosix.co.uk/>

📘 www.facebook.com/TheGesualdoSix/

NATHAN LAUBE, ORGANIST

Bonus Concert – free to all 2025-2026 subscribers

March 1, 2026 – 4pm

In celebration of the 41st Anniversary of the dedication of The Parish of St. Matthew's C.B. Fisk Pardee Organ, we are pleased to be joined by Nathan Laube, one of the foremost organists of his generation. Professor of Organ at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and International Consultant in Organ Studies at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in the U.K., Laube performs music by J.S. Bach, Grigny, Franck and Alain.

📷 www.instagram.com/nathanlaube/

🌐 nathanlaube.com

📘 www.facebook.com/nathan.laube

“Ingeniously programmed and impeccably delivered, with that undefinable excitement that comes from a group of musicians working absolutely as one.” – Gramophone Magazine



Nathan Laube, one of the finest organists of his generation, performs music of Bach, Grigny and Franck on the Fisk Pardee pipe organ at St. Matthew's Church



ALLAKHVERDYAN AND CROCKETT PLAY STRAUSS

MAR 20

*"A magnificent display of the very best kind" (BBC Magazine)
– music of Tallis, Byrd, Victoria and more*

MAR 20, 2026 – 8pm

Audience favorite Boris Allakhverdyan returns to St. Matthew's Music Guild and will be joined by his LA Phil colleague, Principal Bassoonist Whitney Crockett, in one of Richard Strauss' most beautiful late, autumnal works – the "Duet-Concertino for Clarinet and Bassoon." Rounding out

the evening is "Zachor" ("Remembrance"), by Los Angeles-based composer David Lefkowitz, a work which reveals an old Lithuanian Klezmer tune emerging from the distant past. Tchaikovsky's lushly orchestrated "Serenade for Strings" rounds out the program.

MORE INFO



<https://www.borisallakhverdyan.com/>



<https://www.youtube.com/@BorisAllakhverdyan>



<https://www.laphil.com/musicdb/artists/1276/whitney-crockett>



<https://www.facebook.com/whitney.crockett.58>

DAVID GARRETT, HAYDN, AND A CLASSICAL JOURNEY

APR 24, 2026 - 8pm

Join us as we take a musical journey from the origins of musical classicism to the cusp of the Romantic era. Following CPE Bach's energetic Symphony in B-flat Major, we showcase LA Phil cellist David Garrett in Haydn's beloved Cello Concerto in D Major. The program continues with Schubert's sparkling Symphony No. 5 and Carl Maria von Weber's landmark "Invitation to the Dance," a piece historian John Warrack called "the first and still perhaps most brilliant and poetic example of the Romantic concert waltz."

Underwritten by a generous grant from the Colburn Foundation.

 www.instagram.com/davidgarrettinsta/

 www.david-garrett.com/en/

 www.facebook.com/davidgarrettofficial



SEASON FINALE – YUEUN GEMMA KIM PLAYS DVORAK

MAY 29, 2026 - 8pm

Our season finale features music guaranteed to lift your spirits. Opening with Maurice Ravel's orchestration of Claude Debussy's lighthearted "Danse" ("Tarentella Styrienne"), the Chamber Orchestra premieres the Music Guild's latest commissioned work by Los Angeles-based composer, María Eugenia León. Highlighting the musical traditions of both her native Canary Islands as well as Spain, "Raices" ("Roots") features the timple, a five-string guitar described as "the pinnacle of Canarian music." The evening concludes with Dvořák's lush Violin Concerto in A minor, featuring our Concertmaster YuEun Gemma Kim.

Underwritten by a generous gift from the Estate of Mary Calfas Janos.

 www.instagram.com/yueunita_violin/

 www.facebook.com/yueunkimviolin/



Become a member | Subscribe to the 2025/2026 Season | 310.573.0722



OUR COMMUNITY CONCERTS

The Music Guild presented over 35 live Community Concerts during the 2024-25 season and we are planning even more for our 41st season.

Performance venues include centers operated by LA Family Housing throughout the San Fernando Valley and three Union Rescue Mission sites. We were warmly welcomed at the Union Rescue Mission's annual downtown Thanksgiving celebration, where we performed for more than 400 people over two lunch sittings. In addition, we have been particularly touched by the reception we continue to receive at The Arroyo, a women-only facility where we sponsor performances by female ensembles. We also perform regularly at the Neighborhood Youth Association and every first Thursday of the month at Bread & Roses Café in Venice.

We present keyboardists, guitarists, singers, woodwind, string and brass ensembles, mariachi bands, jazz ensembles, R&B artists, and others from the folk and pop worlds. Featured performers include members of The Chamber Orchestra at St. Matthew's, Adelaide Bienvenides, Lorenzo Sanchez, Spencer Artwick, Stephanie Amaro, and jazz artists

Kirsten Edkins, Amy Rowe, Jocelyn Scofield and Alena Bernardi. Recently, following a performance at the Arroyo, Kirsten Edkins, one of Los Angeles's most prominent jazz Saxophonists, wrote, "I have had many high-profile gigs (from Lady Gaga...to Tom Hanks, Cher, Sophia Loren, and many other stars). The concerts at the Arroyo have meant as much if not more than all the others. To play for these women who have been through hell, are hurting, and on their way to starting a new life means the world to me. Thank you for the opportunity!"

Our Community Concerts are made possible by generous support from the I.N. and Susanna H. Van Nuys Foundation, the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, and our wonderful SMMG donors.

LA County
ARTS &
CULTURE

St. Matthew's Music Guild is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture.

SUBSCRIBE OR DONATE

Enjoy the satisfaction of supporting world-class music and life-changing outreach in the community.

☐ **Member** (\$285)

- ✓ One Season Pass (one admission to eight concerts – a \$30 saving*)
- ✓ Acknowledgment in Music Guild programs

☐ **Subscriber** (\$570)

- ✓ Two Season Passes (two admissions to eight concerts – a \$60 saving*)
- ✓ Acknowledgment in Music Guild programs

☐ **Silver Patron** (\$900)

- ✓ Two Season Passes
- ✓ Acknowledgment in Music Guild programs
- ✓ September 26 Pre-Concert Supper

☐ **Gold Patron** (\$1,200)

- ✓ Two Season Passes
- ✓ Acknowledgment in Music Guild programs
- ✓ September 26 Pre-Concert Supper

☐ **Angel** (\$3,000)

- ✓ Two Season Passes
- ✓ September 26 Pre-Concert Supper
- ✓ Recognition as Orchestra Principal Chair sponsor

☐ **Seraphim** (\$5,000 and above)

- ✓ Two Season Passes
- ✓ September 26 Pre-Concert Supper
- ✓ Recognition as Concert Underwriter

**Single tickets at the door: \$45*

☐ **Donor**

I would like to make a fully tax-deductible donation in the amount of \$_____.

Payment/Acknowledgement

Subscribe or donate online with your credit card at www.MusicGuildOnline.org or mail this form in with your payment. Call **310-573-0722** or e-mail info@MusicGuildOnline.org for additional information.

Payment type: ☐ check enclosed ☐ credit card AMOUNT: \$_____

Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Security Code _____

Name(s) _____

Print as you would like it to appear in all Music Guild program listings.

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: Home (_____) _____ Office/Cell (_____) _____

Email _____

Contact Us

E-mail:

info@MusicGuildOnline.org

Mailing Address:

St. Matthew's Music Guild
PO BOX 16088
Encino, CA 91416

Concert location:

St. Matthew's Church
1031 Bienveneda Ave.
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272



Non-profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Los Angeles, CA
Permit 1417

2025-2026 SEASON



**WORLD-CLASS MUSIC
CLOSE TO HOME**