

The HAMPTONS FESTIVAL *of* MUSIC

Michael Palmer, Artistic Director

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THE HAMPTONS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC ANNOUNCES 2023 CONCERT SEASON

February 6, 2023

East Hampton, NY— **The Hamptons Festival of Music** (TH·FM) returns for a full season of orchestral concerts featuring **The New American Sinfonietta**, a 41-member orchestra comprised of top-level musicians and principal players with major North American orchestras led by TH·FM Artistic Director, **Michael Palmer**.

Following the success of its inaugural season in September 2022, TH·FM will continue to deliver on its core missions to enhance the quality of community cultural life through live performances of great classical orchestral masterworks in intimate spaces.

TH·FM's 2023 mainstage concerts will return to LTV Studios on September 3, 8, and 10, featuring some of classical music's most notable works, including Debussy's *Afternoon of a Faune*, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella Suite*, Ginastera's *Variaciones Concertantes* and Brahms' *Variations on a Theme of Haydn*. The festival season also includes two iconic works from the symphonic masterwork repertoire: Mozart's *Symphony #41 ("Jupiter")* and Beethoven's trail-blazing *Symphony #3 ("Eroica")*. The 2023 festival season will also feature the world premiere of David Leisner's *Wayfarer*, a concerto for guitar and orchestra written for the internationally renowned classical guitarist and returning guest artist Pepe Romero. Star soprano Maria Valdes also returns in a performance of Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*.

"We will continue our mandate to provide the community and the players with a rich and rewarding experience of the great works of orchestral literature," noted Maestro **Michael Palmer**, TH·FM Artistic Director. He continued to highlight his vision for the 2023 concert programs by saying, "Each of our three programs will feature at least one iconic orchestral masterwork to showcase further the caliber of artists that make up The New American Sinfonietta."

"Patrons who attended part or all of our inaugural season can attest that a TH·FM concert experience is unique and memorable on so many levels," said **Michael Yip**, TH·FM Executive Director. "We bring the audience into the music, up close and personal. It is an all-encompassing experience - you not only hear it, you see it, and you literally feel the music as it surrounds you. TH·FM's 2023 festival season will continue to deliver on our special brand of classical music experience, and we look forward to bringing 'Music and Art in Concert' back to the Hamptons this September."

Be a part of this unique opportunity to participate in something new and exciting to the Hamptons arts and cultural scene. Show your support for bringing this exceptional orchestral experience to the Hamptons through the Festival's website at thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com. Tickets and VIP passes for TH·FM's 2023 concert season will be available in March. All passes and ticket purchases are considered charitable contributions and will receive a tax deduction.

ABOUT MAESTRO MICHAEL PALMER

Michael Palmer (born 8 May 1945, Indianapolis, Indiana) is an American orchestral conductor.

Palmer began his professional career at age 21 when he became Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 1967, under its legendary Music Director Robert Shaw, and was later named Associate Conductor. In that capacity, he founded and became the first director of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra in 1974. In 1975 he was one of the first young American conductors selected as an EXXON/Arts Endowment Conductor by the National Endowment for the Arts.

He left the ASO in 1977 to become Music Director of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra (1977– 1990), followed by the posts of Music Director of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra (1989– 1997) and the American Sinfonietta (1991–2002), with whom he toured Europe for 10 consecutive seasons. Since 1993 he served as Founder and Artistic Director of the Bellingham Festival of Music (Bellingham, Washington) and as of 2023, is Conductor Laureate.

Palmer also was Guest Conductor for three seasons for the Houston Symphony Orchestra (1978– 1981) and Co-Principal Guest Conductor of the Denver Symphony Orchestra (1979–1982) and has made international appearances as a conductor in Canada, Europe, and China. He has also held academic conducting posts as Director of Orchestras for Wichita State University (1999–2004) and Distinguished Professor of Orchestral Studies at Georgia State University (2004–present).

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

The Hamptons Festival of Music (TH·FM) is the brainchild of Maestro Michael Palmer, who has established, maintained, and sustained the Bellingham Festival of Music, the premier orchestral music festival in the Pacific Northwest, for over 29 years. (www.bellinghamfestival.org)

Maestro Palmer recognized the artistic gravitational pull of Long Island's East End, which is deeply rooted in the works of many legendary artists. He set in motion plans to create a similar yet unique classical music and festival experience, specifically serving the local, year-round residents in East Hampton and the surrounding hamlets and villages.

Following the success of its inaugural pilot season, TH·FM returns to the Hamptons to provide concertgoers the opportunity to experience full orchestral concerts in the intimate performance space at LTV Studio 3. Festival performances will present audiences with unforgettable experiences of live performances of some of the greatest classical masterworks.

TH·FM features internationally recognized guest artists performing with The New American Sinfonietta, the resident orchestra of TH·FM. This orchestra comprises top orchestral musicians from

across the US, Canada, and abroad, including many who hold principal positions with leading orchestras and ensembles.

WEBLINKS:

For more information about Maestro Michael Palmer, visit: maestropalmer.com

For more information about TH·FM, visit: thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com

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