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**Pasadena Symphony Association**  
**Pasadena Symphony & POPS**  
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For full artist bios and high-res images visit: <https://pasadenasympphony-pops.org/mozart-turkish-violin-concerto-2025-press-release/>

**ACCLAIMED VIOLINIST STEFAN JACKIW TRANSPORTS YOU TO THE EXOTIC WITH  
MOZART'S "TURKISH" VIOLIN CONCERTO**

*Orchestra extends drive to replace student instruments lost in Eaton fire.*

**Pasadena, CA – The Pasadena Symphony** continues its 2024-25 season under the baton of Music Director Brett Mitchell with **Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5 "Turkish"** on **Saturday, March 22, 2025** with performances at **2:00pm** and **8:00pm** at **Ambassador Auditorium**. Avery Fisher winner Stefan Jackiw will transport you to the exotic with **Mozart's** lavish **"Turkish" Violin Concerto**. Trailblazing composer **Adolphus Hailstork's Baroque Suite** will open the program, bridging the way to **Prokofiev's** impeccably crafted **Classical Symphony** and a delightful suite from **Stravinsky's** ballet **Pulcinella**.

Virtuoso violinist **Stefan Jackiw** makes his Pasadena debut performing the Mozart "Turkish" Concerto. Hailed for having "talent that's off the scale" (*Washington Post*), Jackiw has been playing violin since the age of four and is a recipient of the prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. He has captivated audiences around the globe with his pure and poetic playing as a soloist for major orchestras, and tours frequently with fellow Junction Trio partners, pianist Conrad Tao and cellist Jay Campbell, as well as pianist Jeremy Denk.

During the concerts, the Pasadena Symphony will continue their **instrument drive** to replace instruments lost in the Eaton Fires for Pasadena Symphony Youth Orchestra students and the Pasadena Unified School District. The drive will take place during the Mozart "Turkish" concerts **at Ambassador Auditorium on March 22 from 12-4pm and 6-10pm**. Gently used orchestra instruments will be accepted, but please do not bring instruments in need of major repair. To provide monetary support for the instrument drive, you may give at [pasadenasympphony-pops.org/donate](https://pasadenasympphony-pops.org/donate).

The Pasadena Symphony provides a vibrant experience specially designed for the music lover, the social butterfly or a date night out. Arrive early for the pre-concert discussion **Insights** with **KUSC host Brian Lauritzen** and **Music Director Brett Mitchell**, enjoy a bite or a glass in the Symphony Lounge, a posh setting along Ambassador Auditorium's beautiful outdoor plaza with a full-service beverage center serving coffee, spirits, and wine, plus sandwiches, soup, appetizers and dessert before the concert and during intermission.

All concerts are held at Ambassador Auditorium, 131 South St. John Ave, Pasadena, CA. Single tickets start at \$49 and may be purchased online at [www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org](https://www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org) or by calling (626) 793-



7172.

#### IF YOU GO:

- **What:** The Pasadena Symphony presents **Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5 “Turkish”**  
**Brett Mitchell**, conductor  
**Stefan Jackiw**, violin  
  
**Adolphus Hailstork** Baroque Suite  
**Mozart** Violin Concerto No. 5 “Turkish”  
**Prokofiev** Classical Symphony  
**Stravinsky** Suite from *Pulcinella*
- **When:** Saturday, March 22, 2025 at 2:00pm and 8:00pm
- **Where:** Ambassador Auditorium | 131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105
- **Cost:** Tickets start at \$49.00
- **Parking:** Valet parking is available on St. John Ave for \$25. General parking is available in two locations for \$15 in advance, \$20 onsite: next to the Auditorium (entrance on St. John Ave) at the covered parking structure, and directly across the street at the Wells Fargo parking structure (entrance on Terrace at Green St). ADA parking is located at the above-ground parking lot adjacent to the Auditorium (entrance on St. John Ave.) for \$15. Parking may be pre-purchased or purchased onsite. **Parking purchased onsite is cash only.**

#### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

##### **Brett Mitchell** **Music Director**

Hailed for presenting engaging, in-depth explorations of thoughtfully curated programs, American conductor **Brett Mitchell** is in consistent demand on the podium at home and abroad. In March 2024, he was named Music Director of the Pasadena Symphony, beginning an initial five-year term with the 2024-25 season. He has also served as Artistic Director & Conductor of Oregon’s Sunriver Music Festival since 2022.

Working widely as a guest conductor, Mr. Mitchell’s recent engagements have included appearances with the Dallas, Detroit, Edmonton, Fort Worth, Houston, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, National, North Carolina, Oregon, San Antonio, San Francisco, and Vancouver symphonies; the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl; the Cleveland and Minnesota orchestras; the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra; the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra; the Grant Park Festival Orchestra; and a two-week tour with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra. Mr. Mitchell also regularly collaborates with the world’s leading soloists, including Yo-Yo Ma, Renée Fleming, Itzhak Perlman, Kirill Gerstein, Conrad Tao, Rudolf Buchbinder, James Ehnes, Augustin Hadelich, Leila Josefowicz, and Alisa Weilerstein.



From 2017 to 2021, Mr. Mitchell served as Music Director of the Colorado Symphony in Denver; he previously served as Music Director Designate during the 2016-17 season. During his five-season tenure, he is credited with deepening the orchestra's engagement with its audience via in-depth demonstrations from both the podium and the piano. He also expanded the orchestra's commitment to contemporary American repertoire—with a particular focus on the music of Mason Bates, Missy Mazzoli, and Kevin Puts—through world premieres, recording projects, and commissions. In addition, Mr. Mitchell spearheaded collaborations with such local partners as Colorado Ballet, Denver Young Artists Orchestra, and El Sistema Colorado. In summarizing his tenure, *The Denver Post* wrote that "Mitchell has been a bright and engaging presence over the years, delving into the history of certain well-worn pieces while leading expert renditions of them."

From 2013 to 2017, Mr. Mitchell served on the conducting staff of The Cleveland Orchestra. He joined the orchestra as Assistant Conductor in 2013, and was promoted to Associate Conductor in 2015, becoming the first person to hold that title in over three decades and only the fifth in the orchestra's hundred-year history. In these roles, he led the orchestra in several dozen concerts each season at Severance Hall, Blossom Music Center, and on tour.

From 2007 to 2011, Mr. Mitchell led over one hundred performances as Assistant Conductor of the Houston Symphony. He also held Assistant Conductor posts with the Orchestre National de France, where he worked under Kurt Masur from 2006 to 2009, and the Castleton Festival, where he worked under Lorin Maazel in 2009 and 2010. In 2015, Mr. Mitchell completed a highly successful five-year appointment as Music Director of the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, where an increased focus on locally relevant programming and community collaborations resulted in record attendance throughout his tenure.

As an opera conductor, Mr. Mitchell has served as music director of nearly a dozen productions, principally at his former post as Music Director of the Moores Opera Center in Houston, where he led eight productions from 2010 to 2013. His repertoire spans the core works of Mozart (*The Marriage of Figaro* and *The Magic Flute*), Verdi (*Rigoletto* and *Falstaff*), and Stravinsky (*The Rake's Progress*) to contemporary works by Mark Adamo (*Little Women*), Robert Aldridge (*Elmer Gantry*), Daniel Catán (*Il Postino* and *Salsipuedes*), and Daron Hagen (*Amelia*). As a ballet conductor, Mr. Mitchell most recently led a production of *The Nutcracker* with the Pennsylvania Ballet in collaboration with The Cleveland Orchestra during the 2016-17 season.

In addition to his work with professional orchestras, Mr. Mitchell is also well known for his affinity for working with and mentoring young musicians aspiring to be professional orchestral players. His tenure as Music Director of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra from 2013 to 2017 was highly praised, and included a four-city tour of China in June 2015, marking the orchestra's second international tour and its first to Asia. Mr. Mitchell is regularly invited to work with the talented young musicians at this country's high-level training programs, such as the Cleveland Institute of Music, the National Repertory Orchestra, Texas Music Festival, Sarasota Music Festival, and Interlochen Center for the Arts. He has also served on the faculties of the schools of music at Northern Illinois University (2005-07), the University of Houston (2012-13), and the University of Denver (2019, 2022-23).

Born in Seattle in 1979, Mr. Mitchell holds degrees in conducting from the University of Texas at Austin and composition from Western Washington University, which selected him as its Young Alumnus of the Year in 2014. He also studied with Leonard Slatkin at the National Conducting Institute, and was selected by Kurt Masur as a recipient of the inaugural American Friends of the Mendelssohn Foundation



Scholarship in 2008. Mr. Mitchell was also one of five recipients of the League of American Orchestras' American Conducting Fellowship from 2007 to 2010.

## **Stefan Jackiw**

### **Violin**

Stefan Jackiw is one of America's foremost violinists, captivating audiences with playing that combines poetry and purity with impeccable technique. Hailed for playing of "uncommon musical substance" that is "striking for its intelligence and sensitivity" (*Boston Globe*), Jackiw has appeared as a soloist with the Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco symphony orchestras, among others.

In the 2024-25 season, Stefan Jackiw's schedule is studded with performances in the United States, Europe, and Asia. In the Winter of 2024, he will join the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland under Hans Graf's baton and debut with the Suwon Philharmonic, playing Tchaikovsky's violin concerto. Upon his return to the US in the Fall 2024, Jackiw will perform Sibelius' Violin Concerto with the Erie Philharmonic and Jacksonville Symphony. In the Spring, The Junction Trio will return to the 92NY stage to showcase a program featuring the world premiere of a New Work by John Zorn, followed by Jackiw's residence at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music in the Winter of 2025, where he will lead performances and masterclasses. Jackiw will then join the Pasadena Symphony for Mozart's Violin Concerto, along with a Junction Trio performance at Rockefeller University and a performance of Korngold's Violin Concerto with The Florida Orchestra in the Spring.

Jackiw opened his 2023-24 season returning to the New York Philharmonic to perform the Barber Concerto with Jaap van Zweden. His season also included a quadruple World Premiere of new works at Roulette, performances with the Taiwan Philharmonic, China National Symphony, and the Junction Trio's highly praised debut at Carnegie Hall.

Jackiw recently performed a new Violin concerto, written for him by Conrad Tao and premiered by the Atlanta Symphony and Baltimore Symphony. He has also premiered David Fulmer's concerto *Jauchzende Bögen* with Matthias Pintscher and the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen at the Heidelberger Frühling.

Jackiw tours frequently with his musical partners, pianist Conrad Tao and cellist Jay Campbell, as part of the Junction Trio. He also enjoys collaborating with pianist Jeremy Denk with whom he has toured the complete Ives Violin Sonatas, which the pair recorded for future release on Nonesuch Records. In 2019, he recorded Beethoven's Triple Concerto with Inon Barnatan, Alisa Weilerstein, Alan Gilbert and Academy St. Martin in the Fields.

Jackiw has performed in numerous major festivals and concert halls around the world, including the Aspen Music Festival, Ravinia Festival, Caramoor International Music Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, New York's Mostly Mozart Festival, the Philharmonie de Paris, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, the Celebrity Series of Boston, and the Washington Performing Arts Society.

Born to physicist parents of Korean and Ukrainian descent, Stefan Jackiw began playing the violin at the age of four. His teachers have included Zinaida Gilels, Michèle Auclair, and Donald Weilerstein. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University, as well as an Artist Diploma from the New England



Conservatory, and is the recipient of a prestigious Avery Fisher Career Grant. Jackiw plays a violin made in 1705 by Vincenzo Ruggieri. He lives in New York City.

## **Adolphus Hailstork**

### **Composer**

Adolphus Hailstork received his doctorate in composition from Michigan State University, where he was a student of H. Owen Reed. He completed earlier studies at the Manhattan School of Music under Vittorio Giannini and David Diamond, the American Institute at Fontainebleau with Nadia Boulanger, and Howard University with Mark Fax.

Dr. Hailstork has written across a variety of genres, producing works for chorus, solo voice, solo piano, organ, various chamber ensembles, band, and orchestra. His works have been performed by prestigious ensembles such as the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and the New York Philharmonic, under the batons of leading conductors such as James DePreist, Daniel Barenboim, Kurt Masur, and Lorin Maazel. The composer's music has been recorded by a variety of ensembles for the Naxos and Albany Records labels.

The composer's early compositions include *Celebration!*, recorded by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in 1976, and two works for band, *Out of the Depths* and *American Guernica*, published in 1977 and 1983, both of which won national competitions. *Consort Piece for Mixed Septet*, commissioned by the Norfolk Chamber Ensemble and published in 1995, was awarded First Prize by the University of Delaware Festival of Contemporary Music. 1999 saw the premieres of Dr. Hailstork's Symphony No. 2, commissioned by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, as well as his second opera, *Joshua's Boots*, commissioned by the Opera Theatre of St. Louis and the Kansas City Lyric Opera.

Commissions from the early 2000s include *Earthrise*, a large-scale choral work premiered by James Conlon and the 2006 Cincinnati May Festival Chorus, *Two Studies on Chant Melodies* for the American Guild of Organists 2006 National Convention, and *Whitman's Journey*, a cantata for Chorus and Orchestra debuted by the Master Chorale of Washington, D.C at the Kennedy Center in 2006 under the direction of Donald McCullough. *Rise for Freedom*, an opera about the Underground Railroad, was first performed in 2007 by the Cincinnati Opera Company. Hailstork's *Serenade for Chorus and Orchestra*, commissioned by Michigan State University, and *Set Me on a Rock*, also for chorus and orchestra as commissioned by the Houston Choral Society, both premiered in 2008. *The Gift of the Magi*, commissioned by the Virginia Children's Chorus for Treble Choir and Orchestra, debuted in 2009.

The Orlando Philharmonic premiered *Zora, We're Calling You*, with a libretto by Elizabeth Van Dyke featuring text by Zora Neale Hurston, in 2011. In 2013, *I Speak of Peace*, commissioned by The Bismarck-Mandan Symphony in honor of President John F. Kennedy, was performed by the ensemble under the baton of Beverly Everett.

Some of Hailstork's newest works include *The World Called*, based on Rita Dove's poem *Testimonial*, for Soprano, Chorus and Orchestra, commissioned by The Oratorio Society of Virginia and premiered in 2018, and *Still Holding On*, an orchestral work commissioned by The Los Angeles Philharmonic and premiered in February of the following year. Commissioned by the Harlem Chamber Players in



commemoration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre, Hailstork's *Tulsa 1921* for Mezzo-Soprano, Harp, Percussion and Strings premiered on June 19th, 2021 in New York City. His *Symphony No. 4* was premiered by the Louisville Orchestra in February 2022, and his highly anticipated requiem cantata in memory of George Floyd, *A Knee on a Neck*, with text by Herbert Martin, was first performed by The National Philharmonic in March 2022. Dr. Hailstork's *Symphony No. 5* was premiered by the National Philharmonic in June 2023. Another large-scale work, *JFK: The Last Speech*, a co-commission by the Colorado Music Festival, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the National Symphony Orchestra, and Amherst College, received its premiere at the Colorado Music Festival in July 2023.

Dr. Hailstork has received honorary doctorates from the Manhattan School of Music, Michigan State University, and the College of William and Mary. He resides in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where he is professor emeritus at Old Dominion University.

## **ABOUT THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION**

Formed in 1928, the Pasadena Symphony and POPS is an ensemble of Hollywood's most talented, sought-after musicians. With extensive credits in film, television, recording and the orchestral industry, the artists of the Pasadena Symphony and POPS are some of the most heard in the world.

Brett Mitchell assumes the post of Pasadena Symphony Music Director on April 1, 2024. Michael Feinstein – the multi-platinum-selling, two-time Emmy and five-time Grammy Award-nominated entertainer dubbed “The Ambassador of the Great American Songbook” – leads the POPS as Principal Pops Conductor, succeeding Marvin Hamlisch. The Pasadena Symphony and POPS performs in two of the most extraordinary venues in the United States: Ambassador Auditorium, known as the Carnegie Hall of the West, and the Los Angeles Arboretum & Botanic Garden.

A hallmark of its robust education programs, the Pasadena Symphony Association has served the youth of the region for over five decades through the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras (PYSO). PYSO offers supplemental in-class instruction within the Pasadena Unified School District and eleven performance ensembles, serving over 700 4th-12th grade students from all over Southern California. The PYSO has performed at venues across the globe as well as on the television show *GLEE*.

The Pasadena Symphony Association provides people from all walks of life with powerful access points to the world of symphonic music. [www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org](http://www.pasadenasympphony-pops.org)

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