



St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra

stéphane denève : music director

19:20
140th season

Joshua Gersen, conductor
Webster University Chorale
Trent A. Patterson, director

Friday, December 20, 2019, at 7:00PM
Saturday, December 21, 2019, at 2:00PM

Home Alone – Film with Live Orchestra

JOHN WILLIAMS *Home Alone*
(b. 1932)

*This program is a presentation of the complete film **Home Alone** with a live performance of the film's score, including music played by the orchestra during the end credits. Please remain seated until the conclusion of the credits.*

There will be one 25-minute intermission.

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX Presents
A JOHN HUGHES Production
A CHRIS COLUMBUS Film

Home Alone

MACAULAY CULKIN
JOE PESCI
DANIEL STERN
JOHN HEARD
and CATHERINE O'HARA

Music by
JOHN WILLIAMS

Film Editor
RAJA GOSNELL

Production Designer
JOHN MUTO

Director of Photography
JULIO MACAT

Executive Producers
MARK LEVINSON & SCOTT ROSENFELT
and TARQUIN GOTCH

Written and Produced by
JOHN HUGHES

Directed by
CHRIS COLUMBUS

Color by DELUXE®



Film screening of Home Alone courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox.
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PRODUCTION CREDITS

Home Alone – Film with Live Orchestra produced by Film Concerts Live!, a joint venture of IMG Artists, LLC and The Gorfaine/Schwartz Agency, Inc.

Producers: Steven A. Linder and Jamie Richardson

Production Manager: Rob Stogsdill

Production Coordinator: Sophie Greaves

Worldwide Representation: IMG Artists, LLC

Supervising Technical Director: Mike Runice

Technical Director: Chris Szuberla

Music Composed by John Williams

Music Preparation: Jo Ann Kane Music Service

Film Preparation for Concert Performance: Ramiro Belgardt

Technical Consultant: Laura Gibson

Sound Remixing for Concert Performance: Chace Audio by Deluxe

The score for *Home Alone* has been adapted for live concert performance.

With special thanks to: Twentieth Century Fox, Chris Columbus, David Newman, John Kulback, Julian Levin, Mark Graham and the musicians and staff of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra.

WWW.FILMCONCERTSLIVE.COM

A NOTE FROM THE COMPOSER

Ever since *Home Alone* appeared, it has held a unique place in the affections of a very broad public. Director Chris Columbus brought a uniquely fresh and innocent approach to this delightful story, and the film has deservedly become a perennial at Holiday time.

I took great pleasure in composing the score for the film, and I am especially delighted that the magnificent St. Louis Symphony Orchestra has agreed to perform the music in a live presentation of the movie.

I know I speak for everyone connected with the making of the film in saying that we are greatly honored by this event... and I hope that tonight's audience will experience the renewal of joy that the film brings with it, each and every year.



—John Williams



John Williams with SLSO Music Director Stéphane Denève



JOSHUA GERSEN

Joshua Gersen recently concluded his tenure as the Assistant Conductor of the New York Philharmonic, where he most notably made his subscription debut in 2017 on hours' notice to critical acclaim filling in for Semyon Bychkov.

Previous conducting posts include the Music Director of the New York Youth Symphony, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation Conducting Fellow of the New World Symphony, where he served as the assistant conductor to the symphony's Artistic Director Michael Tilson Thomas. There, he led the orchestra in various subscription, education, and family concerts, including the orchestra's renowned PULSE concert series. He made his conducting debut with the San Francisco Symphony in the fall of 2013 and has been invited back numerous times to conduct a variety of concerts, most recently replacing Tilson Thomas on short notice for a subscription series in June.

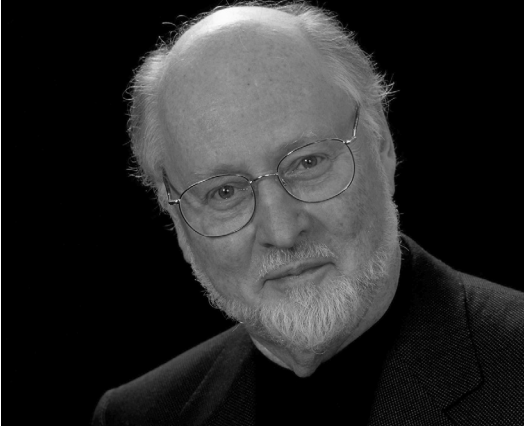
Other recent guest conducting appearances include performances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Hannover Opera, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony Orchestra, North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, and the Colorado Music Festival.

Mr. Gersen is the recipient of a 2015 and 2016 Solti Foundation U.S. Career Assistance Award, the winner of the Aspen Music Festival's prestigious 2011 Aspen Conducting Prize and the 2010 Robert J. Harth Conducting Prize, and as a result served as the festival's assistant conductor for the 2012 summer season under Robert Spano.

Also a prolific composer, both Mr. Gersen's String Quartet No. 1 and Fantasy for Chamber Orchestra have been premiered in New England Conservatory's celebrated Jordan Hall. He has had works performed by the New Mexico Symphony and the Greater Bridgeport Symphony. His work as a composer has also led to an interest in conducting contemporary music. He has conducted several world premieres of new works by young composers with the New York Youth Symphony as part of their esteemed First Music Program, and with the New York Philharmonic as part of their Very Young Composers program, and has also collaborated with many prominent contemporary composers including John Adams, Steve Reich, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Christopher Rouse, Steven Mackey, Mason Bates, and Michael Gandolfi. As principal conductor of the Ojai Music

Festival in 2013, Gersen led numerous performances by celebrated American composers such as Lou Harrison and John Luther Adams.

Mr. Gersen made his conducting debut at age 11 with the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra and his professional conducting debut five years later when he led the Greater Bridgeport Symphony in a performance of his own composition, *A Symphonic Movement*. Mr. Gersen is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, where he studied conducting with the esteemed Otto Werner Mueller, and of the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied composition with Michael Gandolfi. As an educator, Mr. Gersen has worked often with students and ensembles at the Juilliard School, the Manhattan School of Music, Boston University, and the Curtis Institute of Music. He is the interim Director of Orchestras at Boston University for the 2019-20 school year.



JOHN WILLIAMS

In a career spanning more than five decades, John Williams has become one of America's most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage, and he remains one of our nation's most distinguished and contributive musical voices. He has composed the music for more than 100 films, including all nine *Star Wars* films, the first three *Harry Potter* films, *Superman*, *Memoirs of a Geisha*, *Home Alone*, and *The Book Thief*. His 45-year artistic partnership with director Steven Spielberg has resulted in many of Hollywood's most acclaimed and successful films, including *Schindler's List*, *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial*, *Jaws*, *Jurassic Park*, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, the *Indiana Jones* films, *Saving Private Ryan*, *Lincoln*, *The BFG*, and *The Post*. Mr. Williams has composed themes for four Olympic Games. He served as music director of the Boston Pops Orchestra for fourteen seasons and remains its Laureate Conductor. He has composed numerous works for the concert stage including two symphonies and concertos commissioned by many of America's most prominent orchestras. Mr. Williams has received five Academy Awards and 51 Oscar nominations (making him the second-most nominated person in the history of the Oscars), seven British Academy Awards, 24 Grammys, four Golden Globes, and five Emmys. In 2003, he received the Olympic Order (the IOC's highest honor) for his contributions to the Olympic movement. In 2004, he received the Kennedy Center Honors, and in 2009 he received the National Medal of Arts, the highest award given to artists by the U.S. Government. In 2016 he received the 44th Life Achievement Award from the American Film Institute – the first time a composer was honored with this award.