



## November Program



November 7 - Houston Symphony Principal Cellist Brinton Averil Smith and his wife Evelyn Chen, Piano

*Special Night program at 7:00 p.m.*

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

**18220 Upper Bay Rd. Houston, TX 77058**

American cellist Brinton Averil Smith has been the principal cellist of the Houston Symphony since 2005, and is also a faculty member of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University and the Aspen Music Festival. He and his wife, concert pianist Evelyn Chen, are known for their interpretations of Chopin and the newly rediscovered cello concerto of Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, which they play together with Evelyn Chen playing the orchestral reduction on the piano. Click on the following [link](#) to learn more about this amazing discovery which Brinton Smith performed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra. You will not want to miss this exciting duo!



# Ride to the HSO Performance



## Favorite Masters - Sunday Matinee

1. Andrés Conducts Schuman - September 24, 2017
2. Mozart's Jupiter Symphony - October 22, 2017
3. Ravel's Daphnis and Chloé - February 4, 2018
4. Hilary Hahn Celebrates Bernstein - February 25, 2018
5. Tchaikovsky's Sleeping Beauty - April 8, 2018
6. Emanuel Ax Plus the Rite of Spring - May 20, 2018

Call Houston Symphony: (713) 224-7575 to purchase your concert seats.

\* Bus Ride is \$100 for the 6 concert season or \$20/concert, space available

\* Bus departs Bay Area Park & Ride at 1 PM; arrives for lunch or pre-concert lecture.

Please call Jim Moore @ 281-461-3623 for more information or to make reservations

Mail Check to Jim Moore  
4106 Placid Stream Ct  
Houston, TX 77059

Make Check payable to HSLBA and in Memo write: HSO Bus Rides



## B-Sharp Luncheons

**B# Series** - This popular educational program features a presentation on various aspects of music by members of the Houston Symphony and/or locally or nationally renowned speakers. The format includes the speaker and a question-answer time followed by a light lunch. The three-program series is available by subscription to League members and their guests and will be held at Houston Country Club. Dates are: October 31, Vicky Dominguez, Houston Symphony COO, January 30, 2018, Robin Kesselman, Principal Bass, Houston Symphony, Spring 2018 TBA. For more information, contact, Carol Vartian [gloriamaris@comcast.net](mailto:gloriamaris@comcast.net) or Elba Villarreal [elba\\_lilia@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elba_lilia@sbcglobal.net).

## October - Ragtime and Klezmer!



Richard Dowling wowed us with his virtuosic ragtime playing and extensive knowledge about Scott Joplin.



We were honored by a visit from the fifth grade class of St. Thomas the Apostle School in Nassau Bay.



New member Angela Mendoza and her guest Olga.



New members Sook and Donn Van Arsdall



Klezmer - the exciting and hauntingly beautiful music of Eastern European Jews was the music of the evening with the talented and fun Marcia Sterling and Dan Strba at Music at the Museum.



Every October the HSLBA teams with the Bay Area Museum Guild for a wonderful event called Music at the Museum. Fabulous food, wine and music always make for a magical evening at the Bay Area Museum.



## A Musicological Moment with Martha

November 17-19, the Houston Symphony Orchestra program will feature Rachmoninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini." This incredible *tour de force* is like a piano concerto, but instead of 4 movements, there are 24 variations on a theme written by Paganini. Between 1802 and 1817, Niccolò Paganini, probably the greatest violin virtuoso who ever lived, wrote 24 Caprices for Solo Violin. The main theme of these caprices has inspired no less than 31 other composers from Brahms to Andrew Lloyd Webber to write their own variations on Paganini's theme. By far, the most well



known is Rachmoninoff's version. Last spring, the Concerto Competition winner gave an electric performance of this piece at Jones Hall. Each variation lasts little more than a minute and yet each variation is unique in style. Variation number 18 is the most well known in popular culture. It has been background for TV shows and movies such as "Groundhog Day." It has been performed as a ballet and is a very popular program selection for figure skating. You can see the great Japanese figure skater Mao Asada [here](#) in a 2006 performance of Variation 18 Andante cantabile. The Symphony program will also feature two other composers – Blacher and Lutoslawski – who have been inspired to

write variations on Paganini's Theme. For tickets, click [here](#). PS, if the links don't automatically open, you can copy and paste in your browser.

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