

The poster features a central blue silhouette of a conductor with arms raised, holding a baton. Behind the conductor is a blue silhouette of a city skyline with a Ferris wheel on the left and fireworks exploding above the buildings. The background is dark blue with a gradient.

**TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY**  
**PRESENTS**  
**SPRING 2024**  
***A British Fantasia***

**DATES**  
MAY 5, 2024  
SUNDAY 2:30 P.M.  
FERGUSON HALL  
STRAZ CENTER  
  
MAY 7, 2024  
TUESDAY 8:00 P.M.  
MAY 12, 2024  
SUNDAY 2:30 P.M.  
PALLADIUM THEATER  
  
MAY 10, 2024  
FRIDAY 8:00 P.M.  
NEW TAMPA PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER

**PROGRAM**  
**POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE**  
NO. 1 IN D-MAJOR,  
"LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY"  
EDWARD ELGAR  
  
**CONCERTO FOR BASSOON,**  
**STRINGS, & PERCUSSION**  
GORDON JACOB  
MARK SFORZINI,  
BASSOON SOLOIST  
  
**ENIGMA VARIATIONS, OP. 36**  
EDWARD ELGAR

The Tampa Bay area has its share of cultural events and the Tampa Bay Symphony is one of many you can choose to patronize. In fact, the Florida orchestra also plays in Saint Petersburg at the Mahaffey theater. But the Tampa Bay symphony makes it home at the Palladium theater on 5th Ave., North. if you have an opportunity to purchase a ticket, I highly recommend that you do so. You will not be disappointed.

# TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY

MARK SFORZINI - MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Sunday, May 5, 2024 • 2:30pm**

Straz Center • Ferguson Hall • 1010 N MacInnes Place, Tampa

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 • 8pm & Sunday, May 12, 2024 • 2:30pm**

Palladium Theater • 253 Fifth Avenue North, St. Petersburg

**Friday, May 10, 2024 • 8pm**

New Tampa Performing Arts Center • 8550 Hunters Village Road, Tampa

## PROGRAM: A BRITISH FANTASIA

*Pomp & Circumstance*  
*March No. 1, Op. 39*

Edward Elgar  
(1857 – 1934)

*Concerto for Bassoon, Strings,*  
*& Percussion (1947)*

Gordon Jacob  
(1895 – 1984)

1. Allegro
2. Adagio
3. Rondo: Allegro giocoso

Mark Sforzini, Bassoon

## INTERMISSION

*Variations on an Original*  
*Theme "Enigma", Op. 36*

Edward Elgar  
(1857 – 1934)

- Theme (Enigma: Andante)
- Variation I (L'istesso tempo) "C.A.E."
- Variation II (Allegro) "H.D.S.-P."
- Variation III (Allegretto) "R.B.T."
- Variation IV (Allegro di molto) "W.M.B."
- Variation V (Moderato) "R.P.A."
- Variation VI (Andantino) "Ysobel"
- Variation VII (Presto) "Troyte"
- Variation VIII (Allegretto) "W.N."
- Variation IX (Adagio) "Nimrod"
- Variation X (Intermezzo: Allegretto) "Dorabella"
- Variation XI (Allegro di molto) "G.R.S."
- Variation XII (Andante) "B.G.N."
- Variation XIII (Romanza: Moderato) "\*\*\*\*"
- Variation XIV (Finale: Allegro) "E.D.U."

The symphony provides four concerts per year starting in May and going through the following year ending in May or June. This is the last symphony of the 23-24 season. It was called British Fantasia. This performance was a symphony of the best British composers of classical music in the 18th and 19th century. We were not disappointed.





Pop and Circumstance by the composer, Elgar is a classic. His famous works of the Enigma were also played. Equally fascinating was Jacob's symphony for the bassoon. Each was just an absolute treat to have. The venue is so intimate that you can literally reach out and touch the musicians. You just can't appreciate being this close to this level of music until you do it.







I took an opportunity to take some photographs of the symphony before they started to play. There is of course no recording during the performance. It's astonishing every time they say it but these are 80 Volunteer musicians. Read that last sentence several times in order for you to understand it. These are 80 talented, artistic people that volunteer their time to play for the enjoyment of the audience. It really is a blessing to have this level of talent this close and available.





Always go with family and friends. Many will say that they don't like classical music but they've never heard it. I think once you sit through a symphony, especially with this Conductor, you really appreciate it. But there's a reason that this symphony is recommended above others and I'll explain that shortly. Buy some tickets take some friends and really have a good time and enjoy some classical music like you've never heard before.



The Conductor is not shown here because it's before the performance. But what this Conductor does is unique and different. He will tell you the background of the piece, the history of the composer, and what each of the scores was written to represent. Who knew that this information was even available or that works of classical music even had this depth of detail.



You learn all kinds of small little details of the piece. The conductor would first play each of the movements and go over what's significant about each. He will show you how the sections transition, how the melodies are created by different sections of each of the instruments and other details that I cannot even go into here without taking too long. It really makes the music come alive. It allows you to follow the music if you're a novice. You understand that the scores are written because of certain histories or life-changing events that the composers suffered or lived through. It brings some music to a new level of understanding and appreciation..





The Palladium theater is not very large. But that's what makes this experience so intimate. It takes your experience to the level where you really are so close to the musicians that you feel part of the music. The theater is set to undergo renovations and the seats will be changed. It's amazing to consider that the seats are so old that underneath each folding bench seat is a hat rack. But even though they are serviceable, they are very hard. It seems like the old timers are a lot tougher in many ways than we first described. We are much softer as a generation and like to sit on cushier more comfortable seats.







The lobby is very small, but beautifully finished with faux beam work and painted ceilings. There is a concession stand where you can buy wine and beer and soft drinks with snacks. They do not take credit cards for some bizarre reason and you have to use cash. Although they seem to be saving the 3% fee, which they could easily add to product, it takes forever to make change. Many times you're not able to get anything from the concession because the lines are just too long. They are too long because it takes too much time to make change. Any event it is there if you want any refreshments at intermission.







The front of the building is constructed to look like a classical Roman temple. Anyone that's been to Rome or has studied classical works understands what this portico layout means. Also inside the stoas are banners that will tell you in succession from right the left what's coming. You will never find that the entire front of the theater is NOT covered with banners. It's that busy. The symphony is just one of the many, many, artistic acts and events that you can see at the Palladium. You should subscribe to the Palladium website and you can't go wrong. They also have a venue downstairs and a small bar area, which makes it even more intimate.



This theatre really is a fantastic resource to have in the city. As I tell many people when I take them to an event, you would normally pay a lot of money for this.

This is the conductor of the symphony. He did a virtuoso solo performance with the bassoon of Jacob's work. It was spectacular to watch. We were in the second row from the front and he was literally standing right in front of us. It was a tour de force of artistic talent. What a wonderful artistic display that we could see Five or 10 feet in front of us. Fantastic.



**MARK SFORZINI**



**SYMPHONY FRIENDS  
(\$25 TO \$249)**

Timothy Allen	Jan Highsmith	Celeste Noren
Alison Beth Robinson Fund	David Hill	Carolyn Nygren
Felix Amarante	Lee Kasner	Wendy Parker
Amazon Smile Foundation	Cynthia Kesty	Michael Perry
Kelly & Matt Bowen	Ralph Kleinlein	Gregory Rosasco
Lauren Collier	Sharon Koelsch	Wendy Routman
Janet Costin	Glenn & Gail Lenhard	Stephen Ruocco
Jack & Nancy Day	Joyce Lovely	Linda Schatz
Anne Decker	Richard & Susan Luehrs	Karen Segars
Destasio Family Giving Fund	Donald & Julie Macnary	Dean & Linda Sever
Maribel & David Dumin	Andrew L. Mahon	Sydni Shollenberger <i>In honor of Mozelle Bell</i>
Angela Epperson	Dorothy Marvel	Suzanne & Nicholas Simonelli
Yolanda Fagan	Michael Mason	Sylvia Smith
Sarah Ficquette	Paul McGartoll	Sherry Snoke
Arthur Finegold	Donna McGrew	Louis Sorrento
Gordon Joel Gilbert & Mrs. Michele Kidwell Gilbert	Charlotte McQuiston	Maggie Stevens
Laurel Greene	Kathleen Michaels	W. Michael Thornton
Richard Halverson	Riziero Montanari	Katharine Walvick
William Hein	Barbara Moritz	Krista Whipple
	Killeen Mullen	

And what a treat for me. I gave a measly hundred dollars to the symphony and this Donation got my name listed as a benefactor. It's both a sad and pleasant surprise. Sad that only \$100 gets you listed and a surprise in that I did not expect to see my name. But if you buy a ticket, you always have a choice of providing a donation. And please do that. The 24-25 season will soon come out and the expected works will be published. It's shocking that a season ticket is only \$60 for four performances. You simply cannot buy this value anywhere else for near this price. It's a fantastic opportunity for anyone in St. Petersburg. If you miss it, I'm glad you do because it will be less crowded for me.

# Save The Dates!

SEASON 2024 - 2025

## FALL 2024

*La Gazza Ladra* Overture - Rossini  
Rhapsody for Flute and Orchestra - Pasquale Tassone  
2023-2024 International Composition Competition Winner  
Christina Condon, flute  
Symphony No. 7 in A major, Op. 92 - Beethoven

**Sunday Nov 3, 2024 - 2:30 pm** Ferguson Hall, Straz Center, Tampa  
**Friday Nov 8, 2024 - 8 pm** New Tampa Performing Arts Center, Tampa  
**Sunday Nov 10, 2024 - 2:30 pm** Palladium Theater, St. Petersburg

## WINTER 2025

Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16 - Grieg  
Quang Vo, piano  
Symphony No. 1 in E minor, Op. 39 - Sibelius

**Friday Feb 14, 2025 - 8 pm** New Tampa Performing Arts Center, Tampa  
**Sunday Feb 16, 2025 - 2:30 pm** Ferguson Hall, Straz Center, Tampa  
**Tuesday Feb 18, 2025 - 8 pm** Palladium Theater, St. Petersburg

## SPRING 2025

2024-2025 International Composition Competition Winner  
2024-2025 Jack Heller Young Artist Competition Winner  
Scheherazade, Symphonic Suite, Op. 35 - Rimsky-Korsakov

**Sunday May 4, 2025 - 2:30 pm** Ferguson Hall, Straz Center, Tampa  
**Friday May 9, 2025 - 8 pm** New Tampa Performing Arts Center, Tampa  
**Sunday May 11, 2025 - 2:30 pm** Palladium Theater, St. Petersburg

Check [tampabaysymphony.org](https://tampabaysymphony.org) for 2024-2025  
programming details as they are released for next season.  
While you're there, sign up to our mailing list to receive  
the latest updates directly to your mailbox!

## IMPORTANT NOTICE



TO AVOID ADDITIONAL FEES (AND SCAMS!) TICKETS  
SHOULD BE PURCHASED THROUGH THE FOLLOWING  
WEBSITES ONLY:

[TAMPABAYSYMPHONY.ORG](https://TAMPABAYSYMPHONY.ORG)  
[STRAZCENTER.ORG](https://STRAZCENTER.ORG)  
[MYPALLADIUM.ORG](https://MYPALLADIUM.ORG)

OR, USE THE QR CODE AT LEFT TO GO  
TO THE TAMPA BAY SYMPHONY TICKETS PAGE DIRECTLY

Keep Smiling!  
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