

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

Contact: Therese McDevitt, Communications Director
tmcdevitt@artisnaples.org | 239-254-2794

Website: artisnaples.org

Facebook: facebook.com/ArtisNaples

Twitter: [@artisnaples](https://twitter.com/artisnaples) | Instagram: [artisnaples](https://www.instagram.com/artisnaples)

WORLD-RENOWNED BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER MAKES FLORIDA DEBUT NOVEMBER 21 AND 22 AT ARTIS—NAPLES

***Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko
Marks First U.S. Tour with the Orchestra***

NAPLES, FL (November 9, 2022) – The Berliner Philharmoniker, recognized as one of the finest orchestras in the world, will make its Florida debut at Artis—Naples on November 21 and 22 as part of its first tour of the United States in six years. The orchestra has toured the U.S. 23 times previously, and this is the first time that a venue in Florida has been part of a tour. This also marks the first U.S. tour with Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko at the podium.

“It is both a privilege and an honor to host the Berliner Philharmoniker and Kirill Petrenko for this momentous debut,” said CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen. “We are thrilled to play a role in introducing the live sounds of one of the world’s finest orchestras to Naples audiences.”

Andrea Zietzschmann, general manager of the Berliner Philharmoniker, said that the orchestra has been thinking about the Southwest Florida community since Hurricane Ian devastated the area. “The orchestra is excited to be making its Florida debut—on its 24th U.S. tour—in Naples and we send our very best wishes to the communities affected by the hurricane as they recover,” Zietzschmann said. “There has been a long friendship with Kathleen, who has been eager to welcome us, and the artistic leadership of Artis—Naples, so we were thrilled to program these concerts as part of Maestro Petrenko’s first U.S. tour with the orchestra. We look forward to continuing to build an American family of friends for the Berliner Philharmoniker.”

Other cities on the U.S. tour are Ann Arbor, Boston, Chicago and New York.

The repertoire for the Naples performances includes works by Mozart, Korngold, Mahler and Andrew Norman. American violinist and Berliner Philharmoniker Concertmaster Noah Bendix-Balgley performs as soloist in Mozart’s Violin Concerto No. 1 on the November 21 concert, with Mahler’s monumental Symphony No. 7 on the November 22 program. In addition to these familiar pieces, works by Norman and Korngold will be performed for the first time in the U.S. by the Berliner Philharmoniker.

These Berliner Philharmoniker performances are part of the Artis—Naples Visiting Orchestras series, which also includes performances by The Cleveland Orchestra with Franz Welser-Möst and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with Riccardo Muti this season. The series is sponsored by a generous gift from Judy and Verne Istock.

Tickets and additional information can be found at artisnaples.org.

Below is a recent Artis—Naples Q&A with Berliner Philharmoniker General Manager Andrea Zietzschmann:

We are thrilled to welcome the Berliner Philharmoniker and Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko to Naples for its Florida debut. What is the significance of this moment to the orchestra?

We are really excited to come to Naples for the first time. This is the Berliner Philharmoniker's 24th tour to the U.S., and it's the first time coming to Florida. For some time, we have been aiming to visit new places and new concert halls, so this tour is an exciting time for us.

The two performances entail dramatically different programming. Can you provide any insight into the program, and how it was decided?

The program selection is always a long process. When we tour internationally, we always try to bring core repertoire, such as Mahler's Symphony No. 7. The way Kirill Petrenko does this piece is outstanding. He did his Berlin opening on Mahler's Seventh Symphony and has presented it several times in total. It's been an outstanding experience to watch the progression. But we don't always try to bring *only* the standards; the other program may challenge the audience since it isn't played as often. Korngold's symphony is a piece Kirill Petrenko really believes in, and this is the first time the orchestra will have performed it. We also wanted to feature our American concertmaster, Noah Bendix-Balgley, for this tour of America on the Mozart Violin Concerto! So, for this program, the idea is also to bring in a living American composer, Andrew Norman, who is very well known with us. Kirill Petrenko already conducted one of Norman's pieces, and he wanted to bring one of those pieces here on this tour.

What can Naples concertgoers expect from these historic performances?

Perhaps most notably, this is the Berliner Philharmoniker's first tour with Kirill Petrenko. It will, no doubt, be a performance of stunning artistic quality and an incredible visual display. With the Berliner Philharmoniker, you get a mix of quality, passion, history, tradition and a very special sound which Petrenko is really working on developing even further. Many may know of the orchestra and its recordings but may never have had an opportunity to hear and see it live on a stage, so here is an opportunity.

ARTIS—NAPLES

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen, we offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida's arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region. The Naples Philharmonic has enjoyed a history of working with world-class music directors, with Andrey Boreyko being the fourth and most recent. Following the completion of Boreyko's eighth and final season in 2022, a search is underway for the Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director position. Other podium leadership includes Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, celebrating 13 years in this role in the 2022-23 season and bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, conductor Radu Paponiu was named assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth

Orchestra, and in 2019 he was promoted to associate conductor. Starting with the 2022-23 season, Alvin Ho has joined the artistic team as assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum's broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are The Baker Museum's collections of American and Mexican modern art, including significant gifts from the collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources. At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Smithsonian Institutions—to enrich the Southwest Florida community. In fall 2020, Artis—Naples celebrated the opening of an 18,000-square-foot expansion of The Baker Museum, designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, that created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. Each season thousands of Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 3,400 households who give \$75 or more, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival's continued excellence and growth. In 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine's "Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World," and in 2022 celebrates its 14th year in the community.

###