

THE
PRINCETON FESTIVAL



Sondra Radvanovsky
with Victor Starsky and the
Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, June 6 at 8pm

Saturday, June 6, 2026 – 8pm

The Princeton Festival

Performance Pavilion

Morven Museum & Garden

Sondra Radvanovsky
with Victor Starsky and the
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Sondra Radvanovsky, *soprano*

Victor Starsky, *tenor*

Rossen Milanov, *conductor*

Princeton Symphony Orchestra

Giuseppe Verdi

Overture to *La forza del destino*

“Pace, pace, mio Dio!” from *La forza del destino*

“Celeste Aida” from *Aida*

“Teco io sto” from *Un ballo in Maschera*

Pietro Mascagni

Intermezzo from *Cavalleria rusticana*

Giacomo Puccini

“Recondita armonia” from *Tosca*

“Mario! Mario!” from *Tosca*

“Vissi d’arte” from *Tosca*

INTERMISSION

Ruggero Leoncavallo

Intermezzo from *Pagliacci*

Giacomo Puccini

“In questa regia” from *Turandot*

“Nessun Dorma” from *Turandot*

“Tu, tu, amore? Tu?” from *Manon Lescaut*

Crisantemi

Umberto Giordano

“La mamma morta” from *Andrea Chénier*

“Vicino a te” from *Andrea Chénier*

GLENMEDE

Many thanks to Glenmede for their sponsorship of opening weekend.

This concert is made possible by the generous support of Donna and Donald Deieso, Anastasia Marty, Costa and May Papastephanou, and Philip Lian and Joan Mueller. Additional support is from Bel Air Investment Advisors, Corient, Kerry Perretta, Stark & Stark, Anne and Adrian Trevisan, and Philip Wey.

This performance includes a 20-minute intermission.



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ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Edward T. Cone Music Director **ROSSEN MILANOV** looks forward to collaborating in 2026-27 with established and emerging artists of the orchestral world and helming the PSO's popular June performing arts celebration – The Princeton Festival.

Respected and admired by audiences and musicians alike, he has established himself as a conductor with considerable national and international presence. In addition to leading the PSO, Mr. Milanov is the music director of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra.

During his eleven-year tenure with The Philadelphia Orchestra, he conducted more than 200 performances. In 2015, he completed a 15-year tenure as music director of the nationally recognized training orchestra Symphony in C in New Jersey and in 2013, a 17-year tenure with the New Symphony Orchestra in his native city of Sofia, Bulgaria.

Mr. Milanov has collaborated with Komische Oper Berlin (Shostakovich's *Lady Macbeth of Mtzensk*), Opera Oviedo with

the Spanish premiere of Tchaikovsky's *Mazepa* and Bartok's *Bluebeard's Castle* (awarded best Spanish production for 2015), and Opera Columbus (Verdi's *La Traviata* and *Rigoletto* and Tchaikovsky's *Eugene Onegin*). He has been seen at New York City Ballet and collaborated with some of the best-known choreographers of our time such as Mats Ek, Benjamin Millepied, and most recently Alexei Ratmansky in the critically acclaimed revival of *Swan Lake* in Zurich with Zurich Ballet and in Paris with La Scala Ballet.

Mr. Milanov is deeply committed to music education, presenting Link Up education projects with Carnegie Hall and the Orchestra of St. Luke's and leading the PSO's annual BRAVO! concerts for thousands of school children.

He was named Bulgaria's Musician of the Year in 2005; he won a 2011 ASCAP award for adventurous programming of contemporary music at the PSO; and he was selected as one of the top 100 most influential people in New Jersey in 2014. In 2017, he was recipient of a Columbus Performing Arts Prize awarded by The Columbus Foundation. He is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School.

Photo by Stephen Pariser



SONDRA RADVANOVSKY is a globally renowned soprano, celebrated as “one of the most profoundly moving opera artists on the planet” (Operawire). She is widely regarded as one of the finest living Verdi and Puccini

sopranos, and is among the world’s preeminent interpreters of the bel canto repertoire.

In the 2025-26 season, Ms. Radvanovsky brings her “extraordinary” (New York Times) portrayal of Puccini’s *Tosca* to stages around the world, including Teatro di San Carlo, Opéra National de Paris, and Slovenia’s Ljubljana Festival. She will also return to another iconic role, Cherubini’s riveting *Medea*, bowing again in David McVicar’s lush production at Lyric Opera of Chicago, and she brings her signature performance of Puccini’s *Turandot* to the Bayerische Staatsoper.

On the concert stage, Ms. Radvanovsky will join the American Symphony Orchestra for a star-studded Christmas Night Opera Gala at Carnegie Hall, and will appear alongside tenor Freddie De Tommaso at the Teatro di San Carlo for a program of works by Verdi, Puccini, and Mascagni. She will also perform songs and arias in recital at the Palau de la Música in Barcelona,

accompanied by pianist Anthony Manoli, as well as in concert for the Princeton Festival.



Tenor **VICTOR STARSKY** received critical acclaim this season for his performance as Manrico in Sarasota Opera's production of Verdi's *Il Trovatore*. He made his role debut as Dick Johnson in Puccini's *La Fanciulla del West* with Wichita Grand Opera, and performed as tenor soloist in the Wichita Symphony's performance of Verdi's *Requiem*. Mr. Starsky returns to the Princeton Festival, where he is honored to sing alongside world-class soprano Sondra Radvanovsky, followed by the role of Lt. B. F. Pinkerton in their production of Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*. In 2026-27, Starsky will make his European debut singing his first Calaf in Scottish Opera's production of *Turandot*, and returns to Sarasota Opera to debut the role of Števa in Janáček's *Jenůfa*.

In 2025, Starsky sang the role of Enzo in Ponchielli's *La Gioconda* with Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Mario Cavaradossi in Princeton Festival's production of *Tosca*, and the title character in Verdi's *Stiffelio* with Sarasota Opera. Starsky's 2024 season featured role and company debuts as Maurizio in *Adriana*

Lecouvreur with Pittsburgh Festival Opera, Nemorino in *L'Elisir D'Amore* with Charlottesville Opera, and Jim Casy in MasterVoice's Carnegie Hall presentation of Ricky Ian Gordon's *The Grapes of Wrath*, as well as the role of Don José in Sarasota Opera's production of *Carmen*. In 2023, Starsky made his debuts as Radamés in Verdi's *Aïda* and George Gibbs in Rorem's *Our Town* at Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theater. He sang Roméo in Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* with New York City Opera and Rodolfo in *La Bohème* with Wichita Grand Opera.

Assistive listening devices and large print programs are available in the outdoor lobby.

**No audio or video recording or photography permitted.
Dates, times, artists, and programs subject to change.**

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