



2024-2025 SEASON PROGRAMMING

(chronological order)

Saturday, July 6, at 11 am, 2 pm & 5 pm

Sunday, July 7, at 1 pm

Bluey's Big Play

Brown Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Chiang Family Series

Tickets: \$35-\$70; \$125 VIP Experience

Back by popular demand! The Emmy award-winning children's series is bigger than ever with *Bluey's Big Play*. Join the Heelers in their first live theatre show, featuring brilliantly created puppets, an original story, new music, and all your favorite characters. This is *Bluey* as you've never seen it before, brought to real life.

Thursday, August 15, at 7:30 pm

Frankie Quiñones

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Tickets: \$45.50-\$69.50

Frankie Quiñones is a comedian, actor, and creator of the viral CholoFit exercise routines. He stars as Luis in Hulu's critically acclaimed *This Fool*, for which he was nominated for Best Supporting Actor in a New Scripted Series by the Film Independent Spirit Awards, and recurs on FX's *What We Do in the Shadows*.

Friday, August 23, at 7 pm

Saturday, August 24, at 7 pm

Sunday, August 25, at 3 pm

Houston Mariachi Festival

Brown Theater, Wortham Center

Tickets: \$19-\$125 (FRI & SUN) \$19-\$155 (SAT)

Celebrate our Hispanic culture with some of the best mariachi musicians and ballet folklórico dancers from across Texas, including Oscar De La Rosa singing with mariachi, Mariachi 7 Leguas, Mariachi Mariposas, Mariachi Imperial de America, México en Danzas Grupo Folklórico, *America's Got Talent* star Eduardo Antonio Treviño, and more. See complete programming details at performingartshouston.org.

Tuesday, September 3, at 7:30 pm

Wednesday, September 4, at 7:30 pm

Thursday, September 5, at 7:30 pm

Friday, September 6, at 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 7, at 7:30 pm

Sunday, September 8, at 7:30 pm
Tuesday, September 10, 7:30 pm
Wednesday, September 11, at 7:30 pm
Thursday, September 12, at 7:30 pm
Friday, September 13, at 7:30 pm
Saturday, September 14, at 7:30 pm
Sunday, September 15, At 7:30 pm
At the Illusionist's Table
Eldorado Ballroom
Tickets: \$375; \$75 wine pairing add-on

After sell-out runs across the globe, *At the Illusionist's Table* debuts in Houston at the Eldorado Ballroom. World-renowned illusionist Scott Silven hosts evenings of fine dining and storytelling interwoven with mind-bending illusions and mystical mentalism. Candles flicker. Whisky pours. Conversation stirs. Before the night is over your thoughts will transcend, mysteries will materialize, and your dreams will be revealed.

Limited to 28 guests per performance. Tickets include prix fixe dinner crafted by James Beard Award finalist Chris Williams, with a wine paring add-on available.

Saturday, September 14, at 7:30 pm
Counterpoint: Conrad Tao & Caleb Teicher
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Part of the Tudor Family Dance Series
Tickets: \$19-\$109

Pianist and composer Conrad Tao and tap dancer and choreographer Caleb Teicher reimagine an Aria from Bach's *Goldberg Variations*, Art Tatum's demented stride piano, Arnold Schoenberg's ironic take on the Viennese waltz, and more, exploring the counterpoint between their perspectives. Threading it all together, a work that bridges traditions, approaches, and styles—Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

Join the artists onstage for a post-show Opening Night Party, a \$100 add-on supporting Performing Arts Houston's Learning & Community programs.

Thursday, September 19, at 7:30 pm
An Evening with Jenna Bush Hager
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Tickets: \$39-\$99; \$250 VIP Experience

Hager is the co-host of NBC's *TODAY with Hoda & Jenna* and author of New York Times bestsellers including *Everything Beautiful in Its Time: Seasons of Love and Loss* and *Ana's Story: A Journey of Hope*. The humanitarian and former first daughter and granddaughter makes her Performing Arts Houston debut with an inspiring evening of conversation and storytelling. VIP Experience includes premium seat, signed book, and meet & greet with Jenna Bush Hager.

Friday, September 20, at 7:30 pm

Aba Diop Trio

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Global Voices Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$89

The Aba Diop Trio (Aba Diop, Noumoucounda Cissoko, and Jason Hosier) transmits a wholly new genre of West African sabar fusion music. Featuring the propulsive rhythms of Diop's sabar drum, the dulcet tones of Cissoko's kora (a 21-stringed double-bridged African harp-lute), and the elastic fluidity of Hosier's jazzy, meditative guitar riffs, this unique collaboration interweaves the *griot* storytelling traditions from thousands of years with Sufi mysticism and rock and jazz influences. The overall effect is a mesmerizing amalgam, tethered to an ancient impulse while offering a current—and deeply listenable—reflection of our shared humanity.

Saturday, September 28, at 7:30 pm

Twyla Tharp Dance

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Tudor Family Dance Series

Tickets: \$29-\$99

***Ocean's Motion* (1975)**

Music by Chuck Berry

Dancers: Miriam Gittens, Daisy Jacobson, Skye Mattox, Reed Tankersley, Jake Tribus

***Brel* (2024)**

Music by Jacques Brel Dancers: Daniel Ulbricht

***The Ballet Master* (2024)**

Music by Simeon ten Holt & Antonio Vivaldi

Dancers: Miriam Gittens, Daisy Jacobson, Skye Mattox, John Selya, Reed Tankersley, Jake Tribus, Daniel Ulbricht

All works choreographed by Twyla Tharp

Revolutionary choreographer Twyla Tharp celebrates her 60th anniversary with a boundary-breaking program featuring new works plus a revival of *Ocean's Motion* (1975) featuring the music of rock and roll pioneer Chuck Berry. Unpredictable and dynamic, seamlessly blending streetwise nonchalance and unconventional movement styles, Tharp's creations solidify her place as one of the great artists of our time.

Dancer Affiliations:

Miriam Gittens (Gibney Company), Daisy Jacobson (LA Dance Project), Skye Mattox (Tharp Collaborator), John Selya (Tharp Collaborator), Reed Tankersley (Tharp Collaborator), Jake Tribus (Gibney Company), Daniel Ulbricht (New York City Ballet)

Wednesday, October 2, at 7:30 pm

Conrad Tao, Piano

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Admiral Transfer Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$79

Debussy *Études* Book I
Conrad Tao Improvisation for Lumatone
Arlen/Tatum *Over the Rainbow* (trans. Conrad Tao)
Conrad Tao *Keyed In*
Schumann *Auf einer Burg* (arr. Conrad Tao for Lumatone)
Debussy *Études* Book II

Conrad Tao is the quintessential 21st century artist. Houston audiences will be among the first to experience Tao's Carnegie Hall mainstage debut program, featuring his work as a composer and Debussy's remarkable *Études*.

Friday, October 18, at 7:30 pm

Aida Cuevas: *Canta Juan Gabriel 40 años después*

Jones Hall

Part of the Global Voices Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$129

GRAMMY and Latin GRAMMY-winning icon Aida Cuevas leads a mariachi spectacular celebrating Mexico's bestselling artist, Juan Gabriel. Dubbed "The Queen of Ranchera Music," Cuevas performs some of the greatest hits from Gabriel's career, including *Te Lo Pido Por Favor*, *Te Sigo Amando*, *La Diferencia*, and more. With a 46-year career and 41 album releases to her credit, Cuevas continues her unswerving devotion to traditional mariachi music and for her mastery of its demanding vocal forms.

Saturday, October 19, at 7:30 pm (in English with Spanish subtitles)

Sunday, October 20, at 1 pm (in Spanish with English subtitles)

Coco Live-to-Film Concert

Jones Hall

Part of the Chiang Family Series

Tickets: \$19-\$109

Disney Pixar's *Coco* Live-to-Film Concert features a screening of the complete film with Oscar and GRAMMY-winning composer Michael Giacchino's musical score performed by the 20-member Orquesta Folclórica Nacional de México. In addition to the original score by Giacchino, *Coco* also features the Oscar-winning song "Remember Me" by Oscar-winning songwriters Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, and additional songs co-written by Germaine Franco and co-director and screenwriter Adrian Molina.

Despite his family's baffling generations-old ban on music, Miguel (voice of Anthony Gonzalez) dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol, Ernesto de la Cruz (voice of Benjamin Bratt). Desperate to prove his talent, Miguel finds himself in the stunning and colorful Land of the Dead following a mysterious chain of events. Along the way, he meets charming trickster Héctor (voice of Gael García Bernal), and together, they set off on an extraordinary journey to unlock the real story behind Miguel's family history. Disney and Pixar's *Coco* is directed by Lee Unkrich (*Toy Story 3*), co-directed by Adrian Molina (story artist *Monsters University*) and produced by Darla K. Anderson (*Toy Story 3*).

Tuesday, October 29, at 7:30 pm

David Sedaris

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Tickets: \$39-\$99

One of America's pre-eminent humor writers, a master of satire and incisive social critique, David Sedaris is beloved for his personal essays and short stories. He's the author of *Holidays on Ice*, *Naked*, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, and *Calypso*. In 2020, the New York Public Library voted *Me Talk Pretty One Day* one of the 125 most important books of the last 125 years. Join Sedaris for an evening of readings from both published and unpublished works plus a post-event book signing for all attendees.

Saturday, November 9, at 7:30 pm

Tenebrae: A Celestial Gift

The Church of St. John the Divine

Tickets: \$59, general admission

Orlande de Lassus	<i>Musica Dei donum</i>
Plainchant	<i>Pange lingua</i>
Philip Moore	<i>Morning Prayer</i>
Caroline Shaw	<i>and the swallow</i>
Anna Thorvaldsdottir	<i>Hey þú oss himnum á</i>
Joanna Marsh	<i>Evening Prayer</i>
Orlando Gibbons	<i>Drop, drop slow tears</i> (arr. Christian Forshaw)
Gregorio Allegri	<i>Miserere, mei Deus</i>

intermission

Tavener	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>
Joanna Marsh	<i>In Winter's House</i>
Sergei Rachmaninov	<i>Hymn to the Cherubim</i>
Anton Bruckner	<i>Virga Jesse floruit</i>
James MacMillan	<i>I saw Eternity the other night</i>
James MacMillan	<i>Miserere</i>

Under the direction of Nigel Short, English choir Tenebrae is one of the premiere singing groups in the world. Tenebrae returns for a special performance at The Church of St. John the Divine with a program spanning five centuries of sacred choral music, including Holst's majestic *Nunc dimittis* and Allegri's iconic setting of Psalm 51. Alongside these favorites, the choir showcases music by some of today's most exciting composers, including Caroline Shaw, Joanna Marsh, and Sir James MacMillan.

Tuesday, November 12, at 7:30 pm

Vitamin String Quartet: The Music of Taylor Swift, *Bridgerton*, and Beyond

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Admiral Transfer Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$79

With over 2 billion streams, Vitamin String Quartet (VSQ) is one of the most popular string ensembles in the world. Fresh off high-profile placements on the streaming smash *Bridgerton*, VSQ's latest tour features fresh arrangements of the cultural phenomenon that is Taylor Swift, performing spellbinding and innovative renditions of Swift's music alongside familiar hits from Billie Eilish, BTS, *Bridgerton*, and more.

Tuesday, December 10, at 7:30 pm
Ben Folds: *Paper Airplane Request Tour*
Jones Hall
Tickets: \$29-\$139

Widely regarded as one of the major music influencers of our generation, Folds' ever-expanding career of genre-bending music includes albums with Ben Folds Five, multiple solo albums, and numerous collaborative records. On his newest tour, audiences will share song requests via paper airplane.

Friday, December 20, at 7:30 pm
Saturday, December 21, at 2 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, December 22, at 3 pm
Yippee Ki Yay
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Tickets: \$39-\$69

When gunmen seize an LA skyscraper, off-duty policeman John McClane is the hostages' only hope. This uplifting action romp (and unauthorized parody) pays affectionate tribute to the iconic 80s festive fan favorite. Essential viewing for Hans Gruber superfans and newcomers alike. This joyfully funny show premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2022 to critical and audience acclaim and won Best Comedy at the 2023 London Pub Theatre Awards. Recommended ages 14+.

Saturday, February 1 at 7:30 pm
Complexions Contemporary Ballet
Jones Hall
Part of the Tudor Family Dance Series
Tickets: \$29-\$139

For Crying Out Loud
Choreography by Dwight Rhoden
Music by U2

Hailed as a "matchless American dance company" by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, Complexions Contemporary Ballet transcends dance tradition through a groundbreaking approach to the art. Founded in 1994 by master choreographer Dwight Rhoden and the legendary Desmond Richardson, Complexions' foremost innovation is to remove boundaries, not reinforce them. The company blends methods, styles, and cultures from across the globe, and the result is a continually evolving form of dance that reflects the movement of our world—and all its cultures—as an interrelated whole.

In the 30 years since its inception, the company has witnessed a world becoming more fluid, more changeable and more culturally interconnected than ever. Today, Complexions Contemporary Ballet represents one of the most recognized and respected performing arts brands worldwide.

Saturday, February 8, at 7:30 pm
Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández
Jones Hall
Part of the Tudor Family Dance Series
Tickets: \$29-\$129

Founded in 1952 by choreographer Amalia Hernández, Ballet Folklórico is Mexico's most revered traditional dance company. Ballet Folklórico brings together the music, dance, and costumes of Mexican folklore, from pre-Colombian civilizations through the modern era.

Wednesday, February 12, at 7:30 pm
Sō Percussion with Shodekeh Talifero
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Part of the Admiral Transfer Music Series
Tickets: \$29-\$109

GRAMMY winners Sō Percussion join forces with Shodekeh Talifero to explore distinctive rhythms with breath art, vocal percussion, beatboxing, and physical percussion in *Vodalities*, a collaboration dedicated to three towering vocalists: Bobby McFerrin, Ella Fitzgerald, and Doug E. Fresh, the Original Human Beatbox.

Friday, February 14, at 7 pm
Saturday, February 15, at 2 pm & 7 pm
Jim Henson's *Fraggle Rock* Live
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Part of the Chiang Family Series
Tickets: \$19-\$100

When Gobo Fraggle discovers a legend about a long lost Fraggle treasure called the Great Song Stone, his pals Mokey, Boober, Wembley, and Red join him on an adventure to find it, and end up celebrating the greatest treasure of all— something much more special than they could have ever imagined!

The first-ever *Fraggle Rock* Live stage show is produced by The Jim Henson Company (*Fraggle Rock*, *The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*) with puppets created by Jim Henson's Creature Shop. Perfect for first-time theater goers and *Fraggle Rock* fans young at heart.

Thursday, March 6, at 7:30 pm
Friday, March 7, at 7:30 pm
New/Now: *Houston Artist Commissioning Project*
Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Tickets: Pick Your Price, \$0-\$250 supporting new works by Houston artists

New/Now is a springboard for Houston's working artists. Our city is one of the most diverse in the nation. As such, audiences can expect an evening that explores a wide range of arts traditions and stories from our communities. All tickets are offered on a sliding scale supporting new works by Houston artists. Look for complete details on the 2024-25 New/Now awards later this summer, at performingartshouston.org/newnow.

Saturday, March 8, at 7:30 pm

Meow Meow

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Tickets: \$39-\$119

At last! An evening of pure CHAOS. International siren and comedienne extraordinaire Meow Meow brings her glorious brand of subversive and sublime performance to Houston. The spectacular crowd-surfing queen of song creates an unforgettable evening of exquisite music and much mayhem. Prepare for Piazzolla tangos, Weill, Brecht, Brel, even Radiohead alongside original chansons. With Bowie and Pina Bausch as curators of her work, Meow is an award-winning phenomenon, from Shanghai to the dives of Berlin. Recommended ages 17+.

Wednesday, March 19, at 7:30 pm

Anoushka Shankar

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Global Voices Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$109

Placing the sitar front and center, nine-time GRAMMY nominee Anoushka Shankar incorporates traditional Indian and modern electric music into her work, producing a unique sound that transcends genres. Daughter of acclaimed musician Ravi Shankar, Anoushka's exposure to world cultures, from her upbringing in Delhi to her travel throughout the United Kingdom and Southern California, places her at the forefront as an activist, human rights ambassador, and highly sought after musician. Her mastery across styles has led to collaborations with artists like Nina Simone, Lenny Kravitz, Madonna, Eric Clapton, Elton John, and Sting.

Wednesday, March 26, at 7:30 pm

Les Arts Florissants: Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* at 300

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center

Part of the Admiral Transfer Music Series

Tickets: \$29-\$109

Baroque orchestra superstars Les Arts Florissants join fast-rising French virtuoso violinist Théotime Langlois de Swarte to commemorate Vivaldi's *Four Seasons*, first published 300 years ago in 1725. Langlois de Swarte frames the composer's masterpiece with music Vivaldi would have heard growing up in Venice along with some of his compositions showing his evolution and close identification with the natural world.

Friday, March 28, at 7:30 pm
Piano Battle: Andreas Kern vs. Paul Cibis

Jones Hall
Part of the Chiang Family Series
Tickets: \$29-\$99

Two pianists. Six rounds. Who will win? You decide! The brainchild of internationally acclaimed pianists Andreas Kern and Paul Cibis comes to Jones Hall where the two masters go head-to-head. Despite being friends in real life, mercy is the last thing on their minds when they're battling it out on stage. Winning the hearts of the audience is all that counts!

Saturday, March 29, at 7:30 pm
Kodō: *Warabe*

Jones Hall
Part of the Global Voices Music Series
Tickets: \$29-\$129

Let your soul dance to the rhythm of life. Exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, the taiko, Kodō forges new directions for a vibrant living art-form. Based in Sado Island, Japan, the group has circled the globe since their founding in 1981, giving over 7,000 performances on five continents. Their latest tour, *Warabe*, takes inspiration from the unique environment they call home to create new music brimming with originality.

Tuesday, April 1, at 7:30 pm
Ladysmith Black Mambazo

Jones Hall
Part of the Global Voices Music Series
Tickets: \$29-\$109

Ladysmith Black Mambazo celebrates the intricate rhythms and harmonies of their native South African music traditions. The *a cappella* group has gained worldwide attention through their 30 albums, including notable features on Paul Simon's *Graceland*, collaborations with Stevie Wonder, Dolly Parton, and Josh Groban, and an iconic 1996 performance with Nelson Mandela.

Tuesday, May 6, at 7:30 pm
A Conversation with Amor Towles

Jones Hall
Tickets: \$39-\$99

Towles is the author of the bestsellers *Rules of Civility*, *A Gentleman in Moscow* (newly adapted for television by Paramount+ and Showtime), and *The Lincoln Highway*, which debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, as well as the forthcoming short story collection *Table for Two*. Featuring a post-event book signing for all attendees.

Thursday, June 12, at 7:30 pm
A Conversation with Tan France

Cullen Theater, Wortham Center
Tickets: \$39-\$99; \$250 VIP

For Tan France, makeovers are about more than clothes—the experience addresses real issues, change, and acceptance on all sides. Join the fashion designer, star of Netflix’s Emmy-winning sensation *Queer Eye*, author of the New York Times best-selling memoir *Naturally Tan*, and one of the most sought-after personal stylists in the world for a far-reaching, fascinating, and inspiring lifting Pride Month evening of discussion. VIP Experience includes premium seat, signed book, and photo opportunity with Tan France.

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