Festival of the Arts
Boca
Festival of the Arts Boca

Feb. 28-March 10, 2019

The Force is with this year’s Festival of the Arts Boca, which returns Feb. 28 to March 10. The annual celebration of art, culture and ideas includes award-winning orchestras and presidential historians, world music and jazzy poetry—and a special screening of the film that launched a $65 billion media franchise. Read on to learn more about the festival’s 2019 headliners.
**Schedule**

**FEBRUARY 28TH, 7:00 PM**  
**Authors & Ideas:** Doris Kearns Goodwin - Pulitzer Prize-winning author and presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will talk about her latest book *Leadership in Turbulent Times.*  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 1, FRIDAY, 7:30 PM**  
**Film with Live Orchestra:** *Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope*  
The Symphonia with Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor, in John Williams’ epic Academy Award-winning score.  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*

**MARCH 2, SATURDAY, 4:00 PM**  
**Documentary Film:** *Bending the Arc* – This film tells the story of idealistic young doctors who helped change the way public health issues are addressed in developing nations.  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 2, SATURDAY, 7:30 PM**  
**Concert:** *Rhapsody in Blue - An Evening of Orchestral Favorites*  
The Symphonia, Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor, with pianist Shelly Berg  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*

**MARCH 3, SUNDAY, 4:00 PM**  
**Authors & Ideas:** Constitutional scholar and author Jeffrey Rosen will speak about the Constitution in the 21st century.  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 3, SUNDAY, 7:00 PM**  
**Concert:** *Pink Martini - *“A rollicking around-the-world musical adventure ... if the United Nations had a house band in 1962, hopefully we’d be that band.”*  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*

**MARCH 4, MONDAY, 7:00 PM**  
**Authors & Ideas:** *Panel discussion: “Global Public Health Today and Tomorrow”* featuring Dr. Agnes Binagwaho, Thomas J. Bollyky and moderator Dr. Felicia Knaul  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 5, TUESDAY, 7:00 PM**  
**Authors & Ideas:** *Robert Pinsky – PoemJazz*  
Former Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky will read his poetry while accompanied by a small jazz ensemble.  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 6, WEDNESDAY, 7:00 PM**  
**Authors & Ideas:** Pulitzer Prize-winning writer David Sanger will discuss the subject of his new book, *The Perfect Weapon: War, Sabotage and Fear in the Cyber Age.*  
*Cultural Arts Center*

**MARCH 8, FRIDAY, 7:30 PM**  
**Concert:** *An evening of Classical Russian Ballet* featuring stars of the Russian National Orchestra and Bolshoi Ballet  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*

**MARCH 9, SATURDAY, 7:30 PM**  
**Concert:** *Nu Deco Ensemble* – This innovative group based in Miami is a virtuosic and eclectic chamber orchestra designed for the 21st century.  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*

**MARCH 10, SUNDAY, 7:00 PM**  
**Concert:** *10-time Grammy Winner Arturo Sandoval* and his band  
*Mizner Park Amphitheater*
The SYMPHONIA

The SYMPHONIA, a world-class chamber orchestra, is dedicated to keeping classical music flourishing in South Florida. Founded in July 2004, The SYMPHONIA is called a “gem of an orchestra” by music critics because of the high caliber of its musicians, guest artists and programming. The SYMPHONIA performs a repertoire blending classic with contemporary works, offering compositions from diverse composers. As part of its mission of “engaging and inspiring traditional and new audiences,” the orchestra presents “Meet the Orchestra,” a program that allows children to interact with musicians at dress rehearsals and enjoy an instrument “petting zoo.”

Arturo Sandoval

A protégé of the legendary jazz master Dizzy Gillespie, Arturo Sandoval was born in Artemisa, a small town in the outskirts of Havana, Cuba. Sandoval began studying classical trumpet at the age of 12, and he evolved into one of the world’s most acknowledged guardians of jazz trumpet and flugelhorn, as well as a renowned classical artist, pianist and composer. He is one of the most dynamic and vivacious live performers of our time, and he has been seen by millions at the Oscars, Grammys and Billboard Awards.

In 2013, Sandoval was a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He has received 10 Grammy Awards and has been nominated 19 times. He has also received six Billboard Awards and an Emmy Award, the latter for his composition work on the underscore of the HBO movie based on his life, “For Love or Country.” He has recorded with everyone from Dizzy Gillespie and Woody Herman to Josh Groban and Tony Bennett, Johnny Mathis, Frank Sinatra, Rod Stewart and many more. He has performed with the leading international symphony orchestras; with John Williams and the Boston Pops; and in the Super Bowl with Tony Bennett and Patti LaBelle.

Star Wars: A New Hope with Live Orchestra

The SYMPHONIA will present “Star Wars: A New Hope” in concert featuring screenings of the complete film with Oscar-winning composer John Williams’ musical score performed live to the film. The concert will be led by acclaimed conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos.

Since the release of the first “Star Wars” movie more than 40 years ago, the “Star Wars” saga has had a seismic impact on both cinema and culture, inspiring audiences around the world with its mythic storytelling, captivating characters, groundbreaking special effects and iconic musical scores composed by Williams. Legendary composer Williams is well known for scoring all eight of the “Star Wars” films to date, beginning with 1977’s “A New Hope,” for which he earned an Academy Award for Best Original Score. His scores for “The Empire Strikes Back,” “Return of the Jedi,” “Star Wars: The Force Awakens” and most recently “Star Wars: The Last Jedi” were each nominated for Best Original Score.
**Shelly Berg**

The *All Music Guide* says “Shelly Berg is one of the finest pianists around in the early 21st century playing modern mainstream jazz.” His latest recording project, *The Deep*, with bassist Dave Finck on Chesky Records, is widely praised for its versatility and virtuosity. His album *Blackbird*, recorded with the Shelly Berg Trio on the Concord Records label, reached No. 1 in U.S. jazz radio and garnered Record of the Year and Artist of the Year nominations (Jazzweek, 2005). A Steinway piano artist and multi-Grammy-nominated arranger and producer, Berg was nominated in the Best Arrangement, Instruments and Vocals category as co-arranger of “I Loves You Porgy / There’s a Boat That’s Leavin’ Soon for New York” from the album *Rendezvous* (2018), featuring jazz singers Clint Holmes and Dee Dee Bridgewater with the Count Basie Orchestra. He was also nominated for a Grammy in the Best Arrangement Accompanying Vocals category for his arrangement of “Be My Muse” on Lorraine Feather’s album *Flirting with Disaster* (2015), as well as his arrangement of “What a Wonderful World” on *Gloria Estefan: The Standards* (2014). Berg is artistic advisor for *Jazz Roots* at the Adrienne Arsht Center in Miami, musical director of The Jazz Cruise, and host of “Generation Next” on Real Jazz SiriusXM.

**Constantine Kitsopoulos**

Constantine Kitsopoulos has made a name for himself as a conductor whose musical experiences comfortably span the worlds of opera and symphony, where he conducts in such venues as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall and Royal Albert Hall, and musical theatre, where he can be found leading orchestras on Broadway.

Mr. Kitsopoulos is in his third season as music director of the Queens Symphony Orchestra and continues as general director of Chatham Opera, which he founded in 2005. This season Mr. Kitsopoulos also makes debuts with the New York Pops, Colorado Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Houston Symphony, Elgin Symphony and Westchester Philharmonic.

In addition to his orchestral and classical commitments, Mr. Kitsopoulos is much in demand as a theatre conductor, both on Broadway and nationwide. This past season, Mr. Kitsopoulos was conductor and music director for the Tony-nominated musical “A Catered Affair.” In 2007, he conducted the Tony-nominated “Coram Boy” and the American Conservatory Theatre production of Kurt Weill’s “Happy End.” Other musical theatre highlights include serving as music director and principal conductor of Baz Luhrmann’s production of Puccini’s “La Bohème,” and conducting the musical “Mambo Kings” in San Francisco in 2005.

**Nu Deco Ensemble**

Based in Miami, Nu Deco Ensemble is a virtuosic and eclectic chamber orchestra designed for the 21st century. Through exciting and adventurous classical music performances, Nu Deco Ensemble presents various styles of music, art and media collaborations in both traditional and alternative venues.

Working in conjunction with local musicians, composers, DJs, dancers, and visual and media artists, Nu Deco Ensemble creates a new hybrid of compelling musical and multimedia experiences. Blending masterful musicianship with a wide range of repertoire from classical to pop, Nu Deco Ensemble strives to be South Florida’s leader in genre-bending musical exploration.

Nu Deco Ensemble cultivates the education and development of tomorrow’s artists through digital and interactive educational performances, young composer readings and musician workshops, as well as master classes and competitions for youth. Through outreach, Nu Deco Ensemble aims to engage the community and present concerts for free to Miami’s multicultural neighborhoods, where exposure to live classical performance may be limited.
Russian National Orchestra

The Russian National Orchestra was founded in 1990 by pianist and conductor Mikhail Pletnev and today is widely recognized as one of the world’s top orchestras. Of its debut at the BBC Proms in London, the Evening Standard wrote, “They played with such captivating beauty that the audience gave an involuntary sigh of pleasure.” The RNO is also described as “a living symbol of the best in Russian art” (Miami Herald), “as close to perfect as one could hope for” (Trinity Mirror) and “astoundingly virtuosic” (Glasgow Herald).

The first Russian orchestra to perform at the Vatican and in Israel, the RNO maintains an active international tour schedule, appearing throughout Europe, Asia and the Americas. The RNO is a frequent visitor to major festivals such as Edinburgh, Shanghai and the BBC Proms. The orchestra presents its own RNO Grand Festival each September to open the Moscow season, and is the founding orchestra of Festival Napa Valley, held every July in California’s Napa Valley.

RNO concerts are regularly aired on National Public Radio in the United States, the European Broadcasting Union, and Russia’s Kultura channel. The orchestra’s critically acclaimed discography, launched with a 1991 CD cited as the best recording of Tchaikovsky’s “Pathétique” in history, now numbers more than 80 recordings on Deutsche Grammophon, Pentatone and other prestigious labels.

Pink Martini

Featuring a dozen musicians with songs in more than 25 languages, Pink Martini performs its multilingual repertoire on concert stages and with symphony orchestras throughout Europe, Asia, Greece, Turkey, the Middle East, Northern Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and North and South America. Pink Martini made its European debut at the Cannes Film Festival in 1997 and its orchestral debut with the Oregon Symphony in 1998 under the direction of Norman Leyden. Since then, the band has gone on to play with more than 70 orchestras around the world, including multiple engagements with the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, the Boston Pops, the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center, the San Francisco Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Seattle Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra at Royal Albert Hall. Television appearances include “The Late Show with David Letterman,” “Late Night with Conan O’Brien,” “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno,” “Later with Jools Holland” and a feature on “CBS Sunday Morning.”

In 2016, Pink Martini released its ninth studio album, Je dis oui!, featuring singers China Forbes, Storm Large, Ari Shapiro, fashion guru Ikram Goldman, civil rights leader Kathleen Saadat and Rufus Wainwright. The album’s 15 songs span eight languages (French, Farsi, Armenian, Portuguese, Arabic, Turkish, Xhosa and English), and affirm the band’s 23-year history of global inclusivity and collaborative spirit.
Agnes Binagwaho
Professor Agnes Binagwaho, M.D., M(Ped), Ph.D., is the vice chancellor of the University of Global Health Equity, an initiative of Partners In Health focused on changing the way health care is delivered around the world by training the next generation of global health professionals. She is a Rwandan pediatrician who completed her M.D. at the Universite Libre de Bruxelles and her M.A. in Pediatrics at the Universite de Bretagne Occidentale. She was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science from Dartmouth College and earned a Doctorate of Philosophy from the University of Rwanda College of Business and Economics. She worked for 20 years in the public health sector in Rwanda and is currently a senior lecturer in the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School and an Adjunct Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Dartmouth’s Geisel School of Medicine. Since 2016, she has been a member of the United States National Academy of Medicine and, since 2017, a fellow of the African Academy of Sciences. Professor Binagwaho has published more than 150 peer-reviewed articles.

Jeffrey Rosen
Jeffrey Rosen is the president and chief executive officer of the National Constitution Center, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate the public about the U.S. Constitution. Rosen is also professor at the George Washington University Law School and a contributing editor of The Atlantic. He is a highly regarded journalist whose essays and commentaries have appeared in the New York Times Magazine, on National Public Radio, in the New Republic, where he was the legal affairs editor, and The New Yorker, where he was a staff writer. He is the author of six books including, most recently, a biography of William Howard Taft, published as part of the American Presidents series.

Doris Kearns Goodwin
Doris Kearns Goodwin is a world-renowned presidential historian and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. She is the author of six critically acclaimed and New York Times best-selling books, including her most recent, The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism (November, 2013). Winner of the Carnegie Medal, The Bully Pulpit is a dynamic history of the first decade of the Progressive era, that tumultuous time when the nation was coming unseamed and reform was in the air. Steven Spielberg’s Amblin Partners has acquired the film and television rights to the book. Spielberg and Goodwin previously worked together on “Lincoln,” based in part on Goodwin’s award-winning Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln, an epic tome that illuminates Lincoln’s political genius, as the one-term congressman and prairie lawyer rises from obscurity to prevail over three gifted rivals of national reputation to become president. Team of Rivals was awarded the prestigious Lincoln Prize, the inaugural Book Prize for American History, and Goodwin in 2016 was the first historian to receive the Lincoln Leadership Prize from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation.
Robert Pinsky
Robert Pinsky is a poet, essayist, translator, teacher and speaker. His first two terms as United States Poet Laureate were marked by such visible dynamism—and such national enthusiasm in response—that the Library of Congress appointed him to an unprecedented third term. Throughout his career, Pinsky has been dedicated to identifying and invigorating poetry’s place in the world.

Known worldwide, Pinsky’s work has earned him the PEN/Voelcker Award, the William Carlos Williams Prize, the Lenore Marshall Prize, Italy’s Premio Capri, the Korean Manhae Award, and the Harold Washington Award from the City of Chicago, among other accolades.

Pinsky is a professor of English and creative writing in the graduate writing program at Boston University. In 2015 the university named him a William Fairfield Warren Distinguished Professor, the highest honor bestowed on senior faculty members who are actively involved in teaching, research, scholarship and university civic life.

Thomas J. Bollyky
Thomas J. Bollyky is a senior fellow for global health, economics and development at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He is also an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University. Bollyky directed the first CFR-sponsored Independent Task Force devoted to global health, entitled The Emerging Global Health Crisis: Noncommunicable Diseases in Low- and Middle-Income Countries. He is also the author of the new book Plagues and the Paradox of Progress: Why the World is Getting Healthier in Worrisome Ways.

David E. Sanger
David E. Sanger is a national security correspondent and a Times senior writer. In a 36-year reporting career for the New York Times, he has been on three teams that have won Pulitzer Prizes, most recently in 2017 for international reporting. His newest book, The Perfect Weapon: War, Sabotage and Fear in the Cyber Age, examines the emergence of cyberconflict as the primary way large and small states are competing and undercutting each other, changing the nature of global power.