

July 28, 2026

## **George Enescu Philharmonic 2026–2027 Season**

**Martha Argerich, Mikhail Pletnev, Vasily Petrenko, Steven Isserlis, Christian Zacharias, Christian Tetzlaff, Patricia Kopatchinskaja and Robert Treviño headline an exceptional roster of artists**

- **Also appearing throughout the new Season are Andrea Marcon, Michał Nesterowicz, Ariane Matiakh, Julian Rachlin, Javier Perianes, Maxime Pascal, Alexandre Bloch, Axel Kober, Alena Hron, Julia Hagen, Frank Dupree and David Fray**
- **The new Season brings together more than 100 distinguished international and Romanian conductors and soloists, over 60% of whom will appear with the Orchestra for the first time**
- **This Season also marks the highly anticipated inaugural tenure of acclaimed American conductor Robert Treviño as Principal Conductor of the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra**
- **Distinguished by bold artistic vision and exceptional breadth, the Season presents an impressive concentration of artistic talent, featuring numerous premieres alongside rarely performed masterworks**
- **Valentin Șerban serves as Artist-in-Residence of the George Enescu Philharmonic for the 2026–2027 Season**

## **Opening of the 2026–2027 Symphonic Season**

The 2026–2027 Symphonic Season opens on **Thursday, 1 October**, and **Friday, 2 October**, with two gala concerts conducted by **Mikhail Pletnev**, featuring the legendary pianist **Martha Argerich** in her long-awaited debut in the Philharmonic's Symphonic Season.



## Opening of the 2026–2027 Chamber Season

On **29 September**, **Martha Argerich** returns to inaugurate the George Enescu Philharmonic's Chamber Season for the second time, joined by two outstanding artists of the international music scene: mezzo-soprano **Magdalena Kožená** and pianist **Iddo Bar-Shai**.

*"The 2026–2027 Season marks a defining moment in the evolution of the George Enescu Philharmonic. Following two remarkable Seasons distinguished by both the artistic caliber of their programs and the exceptional musicians who have performed on our stage, the Philharmonic has clearly reached a new level of artistic maturity and international excellence. This trajectory is further strengthened by the beginning of Robert Treviño's tenure as Principal Conductor of the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra. A conductor of international distinction, his artistic vision and leadership bring fresh ambition and renewed momentum to the Orchestra.*

*The 2026–2027 artistic program is both bold and compelling, bringing together an extraordinary concentration of artistic talent while presenting works that have not been performed at the Philharmonic - or, in some cases, anywhere in Romania - for more than a century. In doing so, the Philharmonic reaffirms its commitment to artistic excellence and to rediscovering the richness of the classical music heritage."*

— **Marin Cazacu, General Director of the George Enescu Philharmonic**

The 2026–2027 Season is presented under the **Beethoven Year** banner, **commemorating Beethoven's bicentenary in 2027**. Celebrated worldwide as a moral force and one of the defining figures of classical music, Beethoven remains an enduring symbol of freedom, human dignity and fraternity.

To mark the occasion, the George Enescu Philharmonic places Beethoven's music at the heart of its artistic programming throughout 2027. During the second half of the 2026–2027 Season and the first half of the 2027–2028 Season, the Orchestra will perform the complete cycle of Beethoven's symphonies and concertos.

## Robert Treviño Begins His Tenure as Principal Conductor

The 2026–2027 Season marks the inaugural year of **Robert Treviño** as **Principal Conductor of the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra**. On **25 and 26 March 2027**, Treviño returns to the podium to lead the Orchestra in a program pairing **Beethoven's Coriolan Overture, Op. 62**, **Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor, Op. 30**, with **Alexander Gavrylyuk** as soloist, and **Richard Strauss's** symphonic poem **Ein Heldenleben**. The performance of Strauss's monumental score will be recorded by the prestigious Finnish label  **Ondine Records**.



Ahead of the opening of the new Season, Treviño will also conduct the George Enescu Philharmonic Orchestra at the **74th Ravello Festival** in Italy. On **26 August 2026**, the Orchestra will perform an open-air concert on the iconic **Belvedere Terrace of Villa Rufolo**, one of the Festival's most celebrated venues, in a program devoted to the music of **George Enescu** and **Sergei Rachmaninoff**.

## **Artists of the 2026–2027 Season**

More than **60%** of the artists appearing throughout the 2026–2027 Season will make their first appearances with the George Enescu Philharmonic. They include some of today's most distinguished international musicians:

### **Conductors**

Alena Hron • Ariane Matiakh • Patricia Kopatchinskaja • Natalia Ponomarchuk  
Andrea Marcon • Andris Poga • Axel Kober • Asher Fisch • Pierre Bleuse

### **Pianists**

Alexandre Kantorow • Olga Kern • David Fray • Cédric Tiberghien

### **Violinists**

Christian Tetzlaff • Daishin Kashimoto • Veronika Eberle

### **Cellist**

Steven Isserlis

### **Vocal soloists**

Léo Vermot-Desroches • Julie Boulianne • Huw Montague Rendall • Jean Teitgen •  
Edwin Crossley-Mercer • Luigi Morassi • Theodore Platt • Stéphanie d'Oustrac •  
Anthea Pichanick • Nicolas Brooymans • Guillaume Andrieux • Bastien Rimondi •  
Marie-Eve Munger • Pauline Sabatier

The Season also welcomes back several internationally acclaimed artists who have established a close relationship with Romanian audiences, including **Mikhail Pletnev**, **Daniel Hope**, **Leonidas Kavakos**, **Vasily Petrenko**, **Christian Zacharias**, **Julian Rachlin**, and **Boris Giltburg**.

Among the Season's distinctive highlights are several appearances by internationally celebrated artists in the dual role of conductor and soloist. **Christian Zacharias** leads and performs in an all-Beethoven program (14/15 January), while **Patricia Kopatchinskaja** appears in the unique triple capacity of violin soloist, conductor and composer (21/22 January). **Frank Dupree** (18/19 March) and **Javier Perianes** (16/17 April) likewise take the stage as both conductor and soloist.

The Season also shines a spotlight on an outstanding younger generation of artists whose international careers continue to flourish, including **Edgar Moreau**, **Raphaëlle Moreau**, **Alexandre Kantorow**, **Julia Hagen**, **Aurélien Pascal**, **Ellinor D'Melon**, and **Christian Li**.



Romanian artists featured throughout the Season include **Mihaela Martin, Gabriel Bebeșelea, Tiberiu Soare, Alexandru Tomescu, Valentin Șerban, Ștefan Cazacu, Roxana Constantinescu**, and **Florian Mîțrea**.

## Artistic Program

Among the highlights of the 2026–2027 Season is the Philharmonic's first performance in its modern history of **Hector Berlioz's** oratorio ***L'Enfance du Christ*, Op. 25 (10/11 December 2026)**, conducted by **Maxime Pascal**. Bringing together **150 performers** on the Romanian Athenaeum's stage, the production features seven distinguished vocal soloists from France and the United Kingdom, whose celebrated careers have taken them to many of the world's leading opera houses.

Another landmark event of the Season will be the Philharmonic's first-ever performance of **Maurice Ravel's** opera ***L'Enfant et les sortilèges* (20/21 May 2027)**, presented under the baton of **Benjamin Lévy** with an outstanding international cast.

The Season also features some of the monumental works of the symphonic repertoire, including **Gustav Mahler's Symphonies Nos. 5 and 7**, **Richard Strauss's *An Alpine Symphony*, Op. 64**, and **Anton Bruckner's Symphony No. 4**, which will bring the Symphonic Season to its conclusion.

Other **major choral-orchestral works** featured throughout the Season include:

- **Luigi Cherubini** - Requiem (first performance at the George Enescu Philharmonic)
- **Sergei Prokofiev** - *Alexander Nevsky* Cantata
- **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** - Mass in C minor
- **Sergei Rachmaninoff** - The Bells
- **Gioachino Rossini** - Stabat Mater

The George Enescu Philharmonic continues its longstanding commitment to contemporary music. The 2026–2027 Season includes the **world premiere** of a new work by Romanian composer **Aurelian Băcan**, commissioned by the Philharmonic, as well as the **Romanian Athenaeum premiere** of a work by **Pascal Bentoïu**.

The Season will also celebrate the **Anatol Vieru Centenary** with a concert marking 100 years since the composer's birth. Contemporary repertoire is further represented by **Dumitru Capoianu's** *Chemări 77*, **Myriam Marbé's** *Serenata (Eine kleine Sonnenmusik)*, **Marius Constant's** *Rain, Steam and Speed from Turner, Trois Essais pour orchestre*, **György Ligeti's** *Concert Românesc*, and **Patricia Kopatchinskaja's** *Study No. 1*.