

The HAMPTONS FESTIVAL *of* MUSIC

Michael Palmer, Artistic Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Hamptons Festival of Music Announces New Venue Partnership and Exciting 2025 Program Lineup

November 12, 2024

East Hampton, NY – The Hamptons Festival of Music (TH·FM) is thrilled to announce a new venue partnership with St. Luke’s Episcopal Church in East Hampton Village beginning with its 2025 MainStage festival season. This strategic move underscores TH·FM’s commitment to deepening its connections within the local community and enhancing the festival’s accessibility and appeal. Located in the heart of East Hampton, St. Luke’s offers a centralized location ideal for engaging our core audience.

“Our decision to partner with St. Luke’s is rooted in several key factors reflecting the growth of TH·FM. Namely, the location in the heart of East Hampton Village and access to two incredible performance spaces, each unique in its own way, allowing us to feature the virtuosity of our exceptional musicians from The New American Sinfonietta” said TH·FM Executive Director Michael Yip. “Also, this marks the pinnacle of the partnership that we have been building and developing over the past year, with Father Ben and the fine team at St. Luke’s!”

“I am very enthusiastic about our move to St. Luke’s and look forward to bringing our next season of MainStage orchestra concerts to you, from the acoustically intimate Hoie Hall and Sanctuary,” added TH·FM Artistic Director Michael Palmer.

The transition to St. Luke’s Episcopal Church marks a pivotal step in TH·FM’s growth. The proximity to East Hampton Village aligns with our audience demographics, providing an intimate, authentic environment that enhances the concert experience. Our former venue, LTV, was an excellent starting point. This shift reflects TH·FM’s evolution and standing as one of the East End’s most anticipated cultural events.

“We are grateful for the support we have had from LTV and their teams during our formative years,” said Michael Yip. “It has been a pleasure to be a part of LTV’s growth over the past years.”

2025 MainStage Festival Highlights

Our 2025 season promises an unforgettable experience, bringing world-class orchestral performances right to the heart of East Hampton. MainStage concerts are scheduled for **September 6, 11, and 14, 2025** at St. Luke's Episcopal Church. With this new venue as our home, the festival is poised to elevate the region's cultural landscape even further, attracting patrons from near and far.

We look forward to sharing the full program details in the coming weeks.

Holiday Harmony in Hoie Hall

Experience the enchanting melodies of the season at "Songs of the Seasons: A Classical Christmas Concert" on Thursday, December 19, 2024, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Hoie Hall, St. Luke's Episcopal Church in East Hampton Village, NY. Delight in a festive evening with TH·FM's beloved soprano, Greer Lyle, and Associate Conductor Logan Souther as they present a program designed to spread holiday cheer through classical music. Tickets and detailed program information will be available soon; don't miss this highlight event of the holiday season. Visit our website's updated event page for details: <https://www.thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com/season>.

The Hamptons Music Club Series

As part of TH·FM's ongoing dedication to community engagement, we are also excited to announce the launch of the *Pay-What-You-Wish Series* with The Hamptons Music Club, a five-part virtual lecture and discussion program led by Associate Conductor Logan Souther and musicians from the New American Sinfonietta orchestra. These sessions begin on November 17, with all proceeds going toward subsidizing tickets at our MainStage events for students and communities with limited access to classical music.

Hamptons Music Club Series Dates:

- **November 17:** *Music That Moves Us: The Emotional Power of Classical Music*
- **December 15:** *Unlocking the Stories Behind the Music*
- **January 12:** *Great Composers, Real People: The Lives Behind the Music*
- **February 16:** *Classical Music in Everyday Life: From Movies to Commercials*
- **March 16:** *Your Soundtrack for Life: Creating Personal Connections with Classical Music*

Visit our website's updated event page for details:

<https://www.thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com/season>.

Support Our Vision to Make East Hampton a Premier Music Destination

As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, TH·FM relies on generous contributions from our supporters. Each donation directly impacts our mission to bring world-class music experiences to the East End. We invite you to support us in various ways, from financial gifts to volunteering to house musicians. For more information on how you can support TH·FM, please visit <https://www.thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com/support>.



ABOUT MAESTRO MICHAEL PALMER

Michael Palmer (born May 8, 1945, in Indianapolis, Indiana) is an American orchestral conductor. Palmer began his professional career at age 21 when he became Assistant Conductor of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 1967 under its legendary Music Director, Robert Shaw. Palmer was later named the ASO's Associate Conductor. In that capacity, he founded and became the first director of the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra in 1974. In 1975 Palmer was one of the first young American conductors selected as an EXXON/Arts Endowment Conductor by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Palmer left the ASO in 1977 to become Music Director of the Wichita Symphony Orchestra (1977–1990), followed by the posts of Music Director of the New Haven Symphony Orchestra (1989–1997) and the American Sinfonietta (1991–2002), with whom he toured Europe for 10 consecutive seasons. Beginning in 1993, he served as Founder and Artistic Director of the Bellingham Festival of Music (Bellingham, Washington) and, as of 2023, is now Conductor Laureate.

Palmer also was Guest Conductor for three seasons for the Houston Symphony Orchestra (1978–1981) and Co-Principal Guest Conductor of the Denver Symphony Orchestra (1979–1982) and has made international appearances as a conductor in Canada, Europe, and China. He has also held academic conducting posts as Director of Orchestras for Wichita State University (1999–2004) and Distinguished Professor of Orchestral Studies at Georgia State University (2004–2023).

ABOUT THE HAMPTONS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

The Hamptons Festival of Music (TH·FM) is the brainchild of Maestro Michael Palmer, who has established, maintained, and sustained the Bellingham Festival of Music, the premier orchestral music festival in the Pacific Northwest, for over 29 years. (www.bellinghamfestival.org)

Maestro Palmer recognized the artistic gravitational pull of Long Island's East End, which is deeply rooted in the works of many legendary artists. He set in motion plans to create a similar yet unique classical music and festival experience, specifically serving the local, year-round residents in East Hampton and the surrounding hamlets and villages.

Following the success of its inaugural pilot and sophomore seasons, TH·FM returns to the Hamptons for a third consecutive year to provide concertgoers the opportunity to experience full orchestral concerts in the intimate performance space at LTV Studio 3. Festival performances will present audiences with unforgettable experiences of live performances of some of the greatest classical masterworks.

TH·FM features internationally recognized guest artists performing with The New American Sinfonietta, the resident orchestra of TH·FM. This orchestra comprises top orchestral musicians from across the US, Canada, and abroad, including many who hold principal positions with leading orchestras and ensembles.

WEBLINKS:

For more information about Maestro Michael Palmer, visit: maestropalmer.com

For more information about TH·FM, visit: thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com

FESTIVAL CONTACT:

E-mail: contact@thehamptonsfestivalofmusic.com

MEDIA CONTACT:

Mark Gresham
Lux Nova Media
e-mail: media@luxnovamedia.com
tel: 404-664-0759

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