



At the top of her game: composer Joan Tower is celebrated at Maverick's woodland 'chapel' (right)



Santa Fe Opera

Santa Fe, NM, 27 June – 23 August
santafeopera.org

In 1957, John Crosby launched Santa Fe Opera, now a destination festival that lures visitors from far and wide to savour opera under a New Mexico night sky. Luring them this year is a new production of Puccini's *La bohème* and, conducted by James Gaffigan, Wagner's *The Flying Dutchman* in a festival first. Director Louisa Muller stages Britten's Henry James-derived *The Turn of the Screw*, which joins Verdi's *Rigoletto* and a revival of Mozart's *Marriage of Figaro*.

Maverick Concerts

Hurley, Woodstock, NY, 28 June – 14 September
maverickconcerts.org

Maverick marks Ravel's 150th birthday and the 60th of Russell Platt (whose Clarinet Concerto is premiered in a new chamber ensemble guise). Its woodland 'chapel' also resonates to the sound of women composers, most particularly that of Hudson Valley doyenne Joan Tower. A Woodstock summer ends with the world premiere of her String Quartet No. 6, and she's the soloist for her 2022 *Love Letter* for piano. Clara Schumann is fêted, Joan Baez celebrated, and, in 'Fauré at Sunset', Michael Stephen Brown plays the complete piano Nocturnes.

NEILL LARSON, GETTY

Aspen Music Festival and School

Aspen, CO, 2 July – 24 August
aspenmusicfestival.com

Aspen is a Mecca for the musically curious and boasts over 400 events each season. Soprano Renée Fleming joins conductor Robert Spano as co-artistic director, and headlining this year is the world premiere of Christopher Theofanidis's opera *Siddhartha, She*. There's also the US premiere of Thomas Adès's *The Origin of the Harp* and new music by Anna Clyne, Nico Muhly and Matthias Pintscher. Among Aspen debutants are pianist Pierre-Laurent Aimard, conductor Stéphane Denève, and duos from violinist Patricia Kopatchinskaja and cellist Sol Gabetta.

Grand Teton Music Festival

Jackson Hole, WY, 3 July – 23 August
gtmf.org

Beethoven's Ninth Symphony has been absent from Wyoming's spectacularly sited festival for almost a decade, but that gets put right when music director Donald Runnicles conducts the Festival Orchestra on opening night. The recently introduced operatic strand continues with a semi-staged performance of Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, the Gateway Series includes crack vocalists Chanticleer, and mezzo Sasha Cooke premieres a song cycle by Alex Turley.

Colorado Music Festival

Boulder, CO, 3 July – 3 August
coloradomusicfestival.org

Eclecticism and risk-taking are conductor Peter Oundjian's twin ambitions for the festival he's curated since 2019. Against the majestic Rockies, Chautauqua Auditorium is home to a handpicked Festival Orchestra of players from across two continents. A chamber strand invites the Dover and Brentano string quartets, while 'Music of Today' includes the world premiere of Joan Tower's new sax concerto *Love Returns*.

Newport Classical Music Festival

Newport, RI, 4–22 July
newportclassical.org

Whether in the historic mansions that dot Rhode Island or the al fresco delights of King Park and Norman Bird Sanctuary, Newport Classical shows there's more to the city than its sporty golden age. Festival composer-in-residence is Cris Derksen; anniversary Ravel proliferates; and as well as visiting artists the Gesualdo Six and violinist Leila Josefowicz, the US premiere of a new work by David Lang awaits.

Festival Napa Valley

Napa Valley, CA, 5–20 July
festivalnapavalley.org

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