NORTH AMERICA & BEYONI

Aspen Music Festival and School

July 2 - August 24

Highlights of this historic Colorado festival and academy's 76th season include premieres of works by Christopher Theofanidis and Thomas Adès, and soprano Renée Fleming's debut as opera director (Così fan tutte). Also there'll be performances from violinist Gil Shaham, bass-baritone Davóne Tines, cellists Alisa Weilerstein and Sheku Kanneh-Mason, actresssinger Patti LuPone, conductors Stephane Denève and Vasily Petrenko and pianists Pierre Laurent Aimard, Yefim Bronfman and Lang Lang. aspenmusicfestival.com

Orchestra of St Luke's Bach Festival

June 3-24

The annual New York festival based at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall features early music ensemble Vox Luminis's director Lionel Meunier with soprano Gemma Nha and countertenor Reginald Mobley, French violinist and conductor Théotime Langlois de Swarte, pianist Angela Hewitt, and a performance of the Brandenburg Concertos. oslmusic.org/24-25/bach-festival

Bard SummerScape

June 27 - August 17

The multi-arts Bard SummerScape's 2025 return to Hudson Valley, NY, features the 35th Bard Music Festival: two weekends of concerts and panels on the theme of Martinů and his World (August 8-17). There's also a new production of Smetana's opera Dalibor; a world premiere from Pam Tanowitz Dance with original music by Caroline Shaw; the beloved Spiegeltent - and much more.

fishercenter.bard.edu/whats-on/ programs/summerscape

Beyond Baroque

October 23-26, 2025 November 8, 2025 February 12-15, 2026 April 30 - May 3, 2026

Through four short festivals of between one and four days in length, Early Music Seattle unites international artists with local Seattle artists, organisations and partners to celebrate the global interconnectedness of early music cultures. Among this season's worldrenowned ensembles and soloists taking part are Tafelmusik, Twelfth Night Ensemble, soprano and harpist Hana Blažíková and countertenor Philippe Jaroussky. earlymusicseattle.org

Blossom Music Festival

July 3 - September 7

The Cleveland Orchestra's summer residency in Ohio's Cuyahoga Valley National Park (which celebrates its 50th anniversary) features seven classical programmes including Jonathan Hayward's debut with the orchestra, conducting Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, and Elim Chan conducting Mahler's Titan Symphony. Among pops favourites is an evening with Grammynominated actress and singer songwriter Cynthia Erivo, and there are two film presentations. clevelandorchestra.com

Bravo! Vail Music Festival

June 19 - July 31

Set against Colorado's majestic Rocky Mountains, this major festival's orchestras for 2025 are the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Chamber Orchestra of Europe and Mexico's Sinfónica de Minería, with soloists including Yefim Bronfman playing both Brahms piano concertos. Chamber concerts, meanwhile, include a solo recital from violinist Gil Shaham. bravovail.org

Britt Music and Arts Festival

June 13-29

Set in Oregon's Rogue Valley, this festival's classical offering comes from the Britt Festival Orchestra and is this year led by conductors Damon Gupton, Chia-Hsuan Lin, Roberto Kalb and Norman Huvnh. The event begins with screenings of Jurassic Park accompanied live, and later highlights include Clayton Stephenson as soloist in Ravel's Piano Concerto in G. brittfest.org/britt-festival-orchestra

June in Buffalo

June 1-7

Based at the University of Buffalo, this combined festival and conference dedicated to contemporary composers offers an intensive schedule of seminars, lectures, workshops, open rehearsals and more, with public concerts featuring faculty composers and resident musicians. arts-sciences.buffalo.edu/ music21c/june-in-buffalo

Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music

July 27 - August 10

The 2025 edition of this Californian festival celebrates the legacy of queer and courageous voices that have shaped the event since 1961, Music Director Cristian Măcelaru and guest conductor

Daniela Candillari lead the festival orchestra and guests in works by more than twenty composers, including three world premieres and a new song-cycle by Jake Heggie. cabrillomusic.org

Caramoor

June 21 - August 3

The historic Caramoor estate in Katonah, NY, presents operas this year by Monteverdi and Telemann, alongside a sparkling concert lineup featuring the Orchestra of St Luke's with conductors Rafael Payare and Teddy Abrams, and violin and piano soloists Christian Tetzlaff and Garrick Ohlsson. There are also performances given by The Knights with mandolinist Chris Thile; Sō Percussion with Caroline Shaw: and the famed piano trio made up of Emanuel Ax, Leonidas Kavakos and Yo-Yo Ma. caramoor.org

Carmel Bach Festival

July 12-26

Set in the stunning Californian town of Carmel-by-the-Sea, this festival returns for its 88th season with a programme on the theme of Dialogues, exploring musical conversations across time via works such as Bach's Mass in B minor and The Art of the Fugue, Mozart's Requiem, Haydn's Harmoniemesse and works by Stravinsky and Jessie Montgomery. bachfestival.org

Colorado MahlerFest

May 14-18

Total immersion in Mahler is what's offered by this festival in Boulder. Colorado, under the artistic direction of conductor Kenneth Woods and supported by the Colorado MahlerFest Orchestra. This year it celebrates Defiance. Protest, Resistance and Remembrance, centred on Mahler's Sixth Symphony and expanding out via works including Ullmann's satirical opera Der Kaiser von Atlantis, oder, Die Tod-Verweigerung ('The Emperor of Atlantis, or, Death Goes on Strike') and Schulhoff's String Sextet. mahlerfest.org

Glimmerglass Festival

July 11 - August 17

Celebrating its 50th anniversary season, this opera festival (named after Otsego Lake, NY) is presenting mainstage productions of Puccini's Tosca, Sondheim's Sunday in the Park with George, Stravinsky's The Rake's Progress, the world premiere of Derek Bermel's

The House on Mango Street (based on Sandra Cisneros's classic book) and Ben Moore's youth opera Odyssey in Francesca Zambello's original production. glimmerglass.org

Grand Teton Music Festival

July 3 - August 23

Set in the foothills of Wyoming's Teton Mountain Range, this festival opens its 2025 programme with Music Director Sir Donald Runnicles conducting the festival orchestra and renowned soloists in Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The season concludes with Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel. Other highlights include violinist James Ehnes performing Brahms's Violin Concerto, Mahler's lesser heard Seventh Symphony and a piano recital given by Clayton Stephenson. atmf.org

La Jolla Music Society SummerFest

July 25 - August 23

This Californian festival takes Milestones as its theme for 2025, with dozens of the best classical musicians converging on La Jolla for four weeks of concerts curated by acclaimed concert pianist Inon Barnatan, Highlights include soprano Renée Fleming's SummerFest debut, and a Tasting Notes concert featuring chef and food writer J Kenii López-Alt.

theconrad.org/summerfest

Lake George Music Festival June 8-19

Located in the grounds of Lake George's historic Fort William Henry Hotel, this New York State festival directed by violinist Barbora Kolářová, composer Alyssa Weinberg and conductor Roger Kalia offers a collaborative retreat for instrumentalists seeking to advance intellectually, artistically and professionally within a tight-knit, nurturing community, without a formal faculty-student dichotomy. These musicians then perform in public concerts lakegeorgemusicfestival.com

Music from Land's End. Wareham

July 25-27, August 8-10

This Massachusetts festival presents concerts led by Artistic Director and violinist Ariadne Daskalakis and featuring special local and guest artists. Keep an eye on the website for the full schedule announcement. mlewareham.org/

56 GRAMOPHONE MAY 2025 gramophone.co.uk