
From Prague to Carnegie Hall A Musical Journey Worth Hearing

PRAGUE, October 29, 2025: In January 2026, Prague Philharmonia will embark on an exceptional concert tour across the United States of America. Under the baton of Chief Conductor Emmanuel Villaume, the Czech orchestra will perform in six cities across the American Southeast, culminating its musical journey with a concert at Carnegie Hall — one of the most iconic concert venues in the world.

The program of the U.S. tour reflects the tradition deeply rooted in the orchestra's DNA. Works by Beethoven, Mozart, Mendelssohn, and Dvořák represent the European musical heritage that Prague Philharmonia embodies both interpretively and artistically. In 2026, the United States will commemorate **250 years of independence**, and Prague Philharmonia joins these celebrations through the music of Antonín Dvořák, the most significant Czech composer, whose legacy is inseparably linked with America. The orchestra's U.S. tour continues its long-standing mission, established by its founder Jiří Bělohlávek, to cultivate relationships with international audiences and to bring Czech music to the world's leading stages. The orchestra now returns to the United States after 8 years.

"This tour is profoundly personal to me. I consider both the United States and Europe equally my home. It is a great honor to present Czech musical excellence, our soul and spirit to American audiences. I feel a deep sense of joy and responsibility in bringing my dear friends and colleagues from the Prague Philharmonia to the iconic stage of Carnegie Hall," says **Emmanuel Villaume**, Musical Director and Chief Conductor of Prague Philharmonia.

Prague Philharmonia has long pursued its artistic mission to present outstanding young talents with the potential to shape the future of classical music. This vision continues during the American tour, featuring collaboration with extraordinary soloists. **Blake Pouliot**, a charismatic French-Canadian violinist, brings freshness and youthful energy to Mozart's concerto, while the orchestra reunites with acclaimed American pianist **Andrew von Oeyen**, whose brilliant technique and profound expressiveness make him the ideal interpreter of Mendelssohn's romantic music.

The **Carnegie Hall** performance will also provide a special opportunity to meet friends and patrons of the orchestra and supporters of Czech culture in the United States. For patrons



attending the concert in person, a special experience package has been prepared including premium concert tickets, an exclusive post-concert gala with the artists, and personalized concierge service. The offer also includes an optional visit to the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York.

The concert at Carnegie Hall is held in partnership with the **Czech Center New York**. In the broader context of the 250th anniversary of American independence, Prague Philharmonia's concert can be seen as a gesture of cultural friendship. For Czech companies operating in the U.S. and American companies active in the Czech Republic, it represents an ideal opportunity to invite business partners to an exceptional evening of music and at the same time support a renowned Czech orchestra with a global reputation.

U.S. Tour Concert Dates

- January 20 – Vero Beach, Florida at Community Church
- January 21 – Gainesville, Florida at Curtis M. Phillips Center
- January 22 – Columbus, Georgia at River Center
- January 23 – Sandy Springs, Georgia at Byers Theatre
- January 24 – Opelika, Alabama at Center for the Performing Arts
- January 26 – New York City at Carnegie Hall, Stern Auditorium
- January 27 – New York City at Bohemian National Hall

About Prague Philharmonia

This season, Prague Philharmonia once again embraces its role as a living, interpretative organism, bringing thoughtfully curated musical concepts to the public while preserving its artistic autonomy.

As an orchestra without a state founder, it continues to develop long-term artistic and educational projects, publish original content, and maintain a high performance standard thanks to the support of its partners and patrons.

Founded in 1994 through the shared vision of **Jiří Bělohlávek** and a group of young, talented musicians, the Prague Philharmonia was born as a generational orchestra, full of energy and love for music. Its repertoire spans from Classicism and Romanticism to contemporary works. Though deeply rooted in chamber music and meticulous musical precision (inspired by the legacy of Jiří Bělohlávek), the ensemble has grown over 32 years into a flexible symphonic orchestra capable of emotionally powerful performances across a broad musical spectrum.

Under Bělohlávek's leadership, the ensemble quickly gained international recognition. From 2008 to 2015, the orchestra was led for six concert seasons by **Jakub Hrůša**, now regarded as the most acclaimed Czech conductor of his generation. Since 2015, the French conductor **Emmanuel Villaume** has been at the helm. The orchestra collaborates regularly with some of the world's most prestigious



festivals, including BBC Proms, Dresdner Musikfestspiele, and Prague Spring, and has performed in renowned venues such as Vienna's Musikverein, San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall, and Tokyo's Suntory Hall.

Prague Philharmonia has accompanied legendary stars like Luciano Pavarotti, Renée Fleming, Jonathan Tetelman, and Juliana Grigoryan. It also works with some of today's most esteemed conductors and soloists, while enthusiastically supporting a new generation of musical talent, including conductor Oscar Jockel, violinist Bomsori Kim, and tenor Pene Pati. The orchestra has recorded more than 90 albums for leading international and Czech music labels.

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