



**MARIINSKY**  
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA

# **Coverage Highlights**

October 31, 2012

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

## Arts Community Eager to Get Back to Work

Pia Catton

October 30, 2012

The storm has passed, but "The Tempest" will rage on—at least at the Metropolitan Opera House, where Thomas Adés's opera, based on Shakespeare's drama, will be performed on Wednesday evening as planned.

The Met, which canceled its performances on Monday and Tuesday, was one of many cultural institutions making decisions late into Tuesday afternoon about their schedules in the wake of transportation and power issues across the area. After closing doors, canceling performances and taping shows in empty studios (in the case of late-night hosts David Letterman and Jimmy Fallon), the city's arts community is eager return to business. With many of the city's arts venues located above Midtown and outside the damaged areas, most setbacks were not related to damages, but to the inability of audiences, staff and performance to reach the venues.



At the Metropolitan Opera on Tuesday, pedestrians gathered to see whether the shows would be going on.

Peter Gelb, the Metropolitan Opera's general manager, opted to move forward when it became clear that public transportation options—in the form of buses—would be available to the company's hundreds of employees, from orchestra to chorus to stage hands.

"This production of 'The Tempest,' besides being a hit, only has a run of eight performances," Mr. Gelb said. "This is the third of eight, and it would be a great shame to miss it."

Even if the audience is slow to return—a likely scenario given Mayor Bloomberg's assertion that it could be days before subway service is restored—Mr. Gelb said it was imperative that the orchestra not miss its Wednesday rehearsal of the new production of "Un Ballo in Maschera," which is slated to have its premiere on Nov. 8. But he said he had plenty of confidence in the Met's audience of "strong-willed New Yorkers" needing their cultural fix. "I expect the audience will get here," he said.

Also at Lincoln Center, the New York Philharmonic announced the cancellation of the "Rush Hour" concert scheduled for Wednesday evening.

Across town, the Metropolitan Museum of Art said that further announcements would be made at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday morning. While the building and collections are secure, staffing is the key challenge and hours may be limited.



In Midtown on Tuesday, many eyes were still glued to the crane that had nearly collapsed in the storm and was dangling above West 57th Street and America's most historic concert venue, Carnegie Hall. The venue announced the cancellation of the Mariinsky Orchestra's Wednesday performance. (Refunds are available.) A new date for the performance by harpist Suzanna Klintcharova, who was scheduled for Weill Recital Hall on Wednesday, will be announced. Thursday's performance by the Orchestra of St. Luke's was not canceled as of this writing.

The Vivian Beaumont Theater posted a note about cancelled performances.

Downtown, where much of Sandy's wrath was felt, the New Museum is without power and will not open on Wednesday. The museum's email and phone server is down, but the staff is posting updates on [Facebook](#) [FB -3.79%](#) and Twitter.

On Broadway, many Wednesday performances were scheduled to go on, although the first performance of "A Christmas Story" was moved from Nov. 5 to Nov. 7 due to the loss of rehearsal time onstage, according to a statement by producer Gerald Goehring.

In downtown Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Academy of Music sustained only minor leakage, and the taped broadcasts of "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" were able to proceed on Tuesday afternoon. "A lot of people won't be able to make it, but we will get some walk-up traffic," said BAM president Karen Brooks Hopkins. "Everybody is getting stir-crazy."

The venue canceled Wednesday's performance of the theatrical work "red, black & GREEN: a blues," but patrons can potentially attend later performances, as the Fishman Space has flexible seating.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203335504578089210977532912.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052970203335504578089210977532912.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

# Classicalite

## Hurricane Sandy Forces Carnegie Hall to Close Its Doors

O'Jay Burgess

October 30, 2012



[Hurricane Sandy](#) interrupts the cultural institutions in New York City with [Carnegie Hall](#) seeing major changes to its schedule.

Hurricane Sandy has left a literal path of death and destruction killing at least 10 and injuring many. It has left property damaged, homes and businesses without power in Manhattan and in other parts of the "Empire State."

The city has been forced to cease all traffic coming into its roads and its rail and subway systems have been temporarily suspended due to flooding and other Sandy related incidents.

Carnegie Hall which is situated in Manhattan has confirmed that it has cancelled shows slated for the tail end of October.

[Lang Lang](#) and Friends a benefit concert for the Chinese pianist charity organization which featured the likes of [Joshua Bell](#) and [Dee Dee Bridgewater](#) set for Oct. 30 has been cancelled. The new date for the event is now June. 3, 2013 and the tickets purchased for the October show will be honored for the new date.

Also scheduled for the night was An Evening at the Spoleto Festival, this too has been cancelled but no rescheduled date has been issued. Carnegie Hall has advised patrons to hold on to their tickets pending instructions from them.

Oct. 31 showing of the Mariinsky Orchestra with Valery Gergiev has been cancelled as well. Carnegie has told customers that those who paid via credit card will be given automatic refunds and those who purchased tickets with cash can return them to the Carnegie Hall Box Office to receive their refund.

While on the same night the show with Suzanna Klintcharova presented by ArtFusion Paris has been postponed and Carnegie wants patrons to hold onto their tickets as a rescheduled performance is set to be announced in the near future.

<http://www.classicalite.com/articles/748/20121030/hurricane-sandy-forces-carnegie-hall-close-doors-lang-lang-dee-bridgewater-joshua-bell-mariinsky-orchestra-valery-gergiev.htm>

## Mariinsky Orchestra rendition startlingly dark

Andy Thomason

October 30, 2012

It is fitting that, on the eve of Chapel Hill's autumnal extravaganza, the Mariinsky Orchestra visited Memorial Hall to deliver one of its own.

On its second night in town, the St. Petersburg, Russia-based ensemble performed Igor Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring," the center of Carolina Performing Arts' year-long centennial celebration, "The Rite of Spring at 100."

Just this weekend, the University hosted a conference that brought scholars on the work from around the world to campus, giving an academic focus to Stravinsky's revolutionary composition.



The orchestra's Tuesday show was CPA's first live performance of the score of the work. Its choreography, seeped in pagan themes, notoriously caused the work's first ever audience to riot.

Hours before Halloween, the holiday that most closely matches Stravinsky's focus, the Mariinsky Orchestra, conducted by the commanding Valery Gergiev, provided a timely program for the packed crowd.

Its take on "The Rite of Spring" was satisfying, lending effective emphasis to the rhythmic innovations, percussive mastery and the technically amazing trombone glissandos.

The characteristic fits and tears proved enough to rattle some 21st century cages.

But at points the convention-busting antics of Stravinsky seemed, well, conventional. Of course, an interpretation that measures up to the genius of its composer might be too much to expect from any orchestra.

"The Rite of Spring," though it drew a standing ovation, wasn't the most affecting item on the program.

The orchestra led off with Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 6, a work that also explores the theme of spring. The Russian composer's name has become synonymous with subversion, and the symphony's hulking first section set an uncertain tone.

Its following two movements — both faster and flightier — gave the orchestra a chance to show off its versatility.

But the heart of the show was what immediately followed intermission — the U.S. premiere of Rodion Shchedrin's "Cleopatra and the Snake." Featuring soprano Ekaterina Goncharova, the work is an

interpretation of the final scene of Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra," in which the Egyptian queen kills herself by snakebite.

The performance of Goncharova, clad in a long green dress, was arresting. And although the dialogue was sung in Russian, the work's themes — the darker shades of power and youth — were made plain.

On the whole, for a performance seeped in youth and spring, Tuesday night was startlingly dark.

And for a campus that has seen two of its members' lives claimed under mysterious circumstances in less than two months, this revelation is altogether appropriate.

While the program's explicit novelty may have been the focus, its scarier side was lost on no one.

<http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2012/10/mariinsky-orchestra-rendition-startlingly-dark>



## The World Orchestra for Peace

October 31, 2012



**Airs Thursday, November 1 at 11:00 a.m.** In celebration of Sir Georg Solti's 100th birthday Red River Radio is very pleased to offer a broadcast of The World Orchestra for Peace performed at Chicago's Orchestra Hall and conducted by Valery Gergiev.

The World Orchestra for Peace was founded in 1995 by Sir Georg Solti at the request of Boutros Boutros-Ghali for a concert in Geneva marking the 50th anniversary of the United Nations in 1995. Led by Valery Gergiev, the orchestra is an ensemble of the finest musicians selected from more than 60 orchestras in 35 countries (most are concertmasters or section principals in their own ensembles), including several members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. They all give their services freely - coming together only on special occasions - to reaffirm Sir Georg's belief in 'the unique strength of music as an ambassador for peace.'

This all-star team comes together with renowned soprano Angela Gheorghiu, expressive bass René Pape and host Lady Solti for a spectacular celebration in honor of Sir Georg's 100th birthday.

<http://www.redriverradio.org/post/world-orchestra-peace>



## Valery Gergiev and the Stradivarius Ensemble dazzle in Toronto

Arthur Kaptainis

October 31, 2012



Possibly the most peripatetic conductor in the world, Valery Gergiev landed in Koerner Hall Friday night with the Stradivarius Ensemble, a group comprising 28 players from his Mariinsky Orchestra, although they sound more like an expansion of a typical symphonic string section, and on a good day. These Russians dig deep into their instruments, whatever the maker, and produce torrents of beautiful sound.

The most impressive element of this 100-minute no-intermission evening was Tchaikovsky's *Serenade*. What a visceral experience to be immersed in the noble chorale that frames the opening movement; what a pleasure to follow the weighty but mobile pulse of the waltz. The Stradivarius players could ease up to produce a more intimate sound in the soulful *Elegy*, and bring a folkish lilt to the finale. But the approach here was big and confident, and sound rosy and grand.

Before this came Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony Op. 110b. It could not be said that Gergiev and his charges captured the full autobiographical anguish this score communicates in its original form (as the String Quartet No. 8) but even if a few phrases were left to their own devices, the door-knocking had gravitas and the Russian tunes had spunk. And it would be hard to imagine a more glowing and perfectly tapered fadeout at the end.

First up was a strangely upbeat reading of Strauss's *Metamorphosen*. It was not a short performance at 30 minutes, and therefore not fast, but only toward the end of this valedictory work did we have a sense that phrases were being played deliberately and for full expressive value. We understood the piece to be a 1945 lament on the destruction of German civilization by reading the program notes.

All the same, Strauss's complex inner voicing was rendered with striking clarity. It says something about the bench depth of the Stradivarius Ensemble that the player in the concertmaster chair in Strauss was seen dutifully working on the third desk of the section in the Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky.

Wagging the fingers of his left hand while holding his trademark toothpick baton in his right, Gergiev had his head in the score for much of the Strauss and even some of the Shostakovich, although he still urged some impressive outpourings in the latter. Perhaps my slight reserve concerning his work on this night is based on experience of what he can achieve at his best.

There was sturdy applause for everything from the sold-out crowd, which included many Russian Torontonians. The encore was the *Aria* from Grieg's *Holberg Suite*.

<http://arts.nationalpost.com/2012/10/31/concert-review-valery-gergiev-and-the-stradivarius-ensemble-dazzle-in-toronto/>

## Carnegie Hall Cancelations Continue

Ronni Reich

October 31, 2012



Carnegie Hall is still dark following Hurricane Sandy, with performances for tonight and tomorrow canceled or postponed. On Monday, a crane near the building collapsed, forcing closure of 57th Street.

Tonight's appearance in the Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage by Valery Gergiev and the Mariinsky Orchestra has been canceled. Patrons who purchased tickets with a credit card will receive automatic refunds. Cash purchases will be refunded at the venue's box office.

A Weill Recital Hall concert by harpist Suzanna Klintcharova presented by ArtFusion Paris has been postponed. A new date has not yet been announced but patrons should wait for instructions from the hall.

Tomorrow's Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage performance by the Orchestra of St. Luke's with conductor Nicholas McGegan has been moved to June 1 at 8 p.m. Tickets for the original performance will be honored on the new date.

Tomorrow's Weill Recital Hall performance by pianist Wael Farouk will also take place June 1, at a time to be announced. Tickets for the original performance will be honored on the new date.

A Lang Lang and Friends benefit concert scheduled for Tuesday has been rescheduled for June 3, 2013. Tickets for the original performance will be honored on the new date.

An Evening at the Spoleto Festival presented by The Villa Firenze Foundation and Festival dei Due Mondi de Spoleto originally set for Tuesday has also been postponed to a later date. Patrons should hold on to tickets are await further instruction from the hall.