

**19/20 SEASON**

Wallis Annenberg  
Center for the  
Performing Arts

Press Release

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<https://thewallis.org/photos.php?id=235>

**Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts**

Presents

**GARRICK OHLSSON**

**Performing Solo Piano Works by Chopin and Brahms**

**Friday, November 8, 2019, 7:30 pm**

**Grammy-Winning Virtuoso Is Only American Ever to Win  
Poland's International Frédéric Chopin Piano Competition**

(Beverly Hills, CA, October 17, 2019) The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts presents acclaimed Grammy-winning pianist Garrick Ohlsson – the only American ever to win Poland's prestigious International Frédéric Chopin Piano Competition – in a program of solo works by Chopin and Brahms on Friday, November 8, 2019, 7:30 pm in the Bram Goldsmith Theater at The Wallis. Ohlsson, a musician of "razor-sharp accuracy (and) a sound so lush it almost glistens" (*The Seattle Times*), puts his unique musical stamp on Chopin's Nocturne in B-flat minor and Sonata in B minor. He also performs three sets of works by Brahms: Rhapsodies, Op. 79; Fantasien, Op. 16; and Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Op. 35 (Book II). Hailed for making "the essentially percussive piano sing like a meadowlark" (NPR), Ohlsson, among his considerable accomplishments, was featured in *The Art of Chopin*, a documentary film co-produced by Polish, French, British and Chinese television stations in recognition of the Chopin bicentenary in 2010. In recent years, the English label Hyperion re-released Ohlsson's 16-disc set of the *Complete Works of Chopin* followed by a 2-disc set featuring the complete Brahms piano variations.

A Preludes @ The Wallis pre-concert conversation moderated by Classical KUSC's Brian Lauritzen will be held before the concert at 6:30 pm. Preludes @ The Wallis includes a complimentary glass of wine.

"Garrick Ohlsson is among the world's leading interpreters of Chopin and Brahms," says The Wallis' Artistic Director Paul Crewes. "His Wallis debut program showcases his tremendous technical skill and artistry enhanced by the sparkling acoustics of The Wallis' Bram Goldsmith Theater."

Ohlsson, a native of White Plains, N.Y. who makes his home in San Francisco, began his piano studies at age eight, at the Westchester Conservatory of Music; at thirteen, he entered The Juilliard School, in New York City. His musical development has been influenced in completely different ways by a succession of

distinguished teachers, most notably Claudio Arrau, Olga Barabini, Tom Lishman, Sascha Gorodnitzki, Rosina Lhévinne and Irma Wolpe. Although he won First Prizes at the 1966 Busoni Competition in Italy and the 1968 Montréal Piano Competition, it was his 1970 triumph at the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, where he won the Gold Medal (and remains the single American to have done so), that brought him worldwide recognition as one of the finest pianists of his generation. Since then, he has made nearly a dozen tours of Poland, where he retains immense personal popularity. Ohlsson was awarded the Avery Fisher Prize in 1994 and received the 1998 University Musical Society Distinguished Artist Award in Ann Arbor, MI. He is also the 2014 recipient of the Jean Gimbel Lane Prize in Piano Performance from the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music.

Tickets, \$39 to \$99, are on sale now. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills. To purchase tickets and for more information, please call 310-746-4000 or visit [TheWallis.org/Garrick](http://TheWallis.org/Garrick).

**About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:**

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. The campus, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 275 dance, theater, opera, classical music, cinema and family programs since its doors opened in October 2013. Hailed as “au courant” (*LaLa Magazine*), The Wallis was lauded by *Culture Vulture*, which proclaims, “If you love expecting the unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis.” Its programming has been nominated for 48 Ovation Awards and seven L.A. Drama Critic’s Circle Awards. The campus itself, a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, has garnered six architectural awards. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), which serves as the theater’s dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and includes the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city’s history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is led by Chairman of the Board Michael Nemeroff, Executive Director & Chief Executive Officer Rachel Fine and Artistic Director Paul Crewes.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: [TheWallis.org](http://TheWallis.org).  
For downloadable photos, please visit: [TheWallis.org/Press](http://TheWallis.org/Press).  
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**EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:**

**WHAT:**

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Presents  
*GARRICK OHLSSON, piano*

**PROGRAM:**

BRAHMS Rhapsodies, Op. 79  
BRAHMS Fantasien, Op. 116  
BRAHMS Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Op. 35 (Book II)  
CHOPIN Nocturne in B-flat minor, Op. 9, No. 1  
CHOPIN Sonata in B minor, Op. 58

**WHEN:**

Friday, November 8, 2019, 7:30 pm  
Preludes @ The Wallis pre-concert talk, 6:30 pm

**RUN TIME:**

Running time is 110 minutes, including a 20 minute intermission.

**WHERE:**

Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts  
Bram Goldsmith Theater  
9390 N. Santa Monica Boulevard  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**TICKET PRICES AND INFORMATION:**

\$39 to \$99 (prices subject to change)

[TheWallis.org/Garrick](http://TheWallis.org/Garrick)

310.746.4000

Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services  
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

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