
PRESS RELEASE



The Flynn Adds Big-Name Shows in the Winter and Spring: Itzhak Perlman, Anais Mitchell, and Many More

BURLINGTON, VT — The Flynn's 2021-2022 season is underway and now **a variety of exciting new shows have been added to the winter and spring calendar**. This new collection of shows is headlined by the world's preeminent violinist **Itzhak Perlman on March 29, 2022** and *Hadestown* creator and folk-rock superstar (and Vermont native) **Anais Mitchell on February 19, 2022**.

The just-announced shows also include a legendary collaboration between **Amadou & Mariam and The Blind Boys of Alabama**, the return of the renowned **Mark Morris Dance Group**, Irish music favorites **Lúnasa**, and hypnotic Indian drone-funk specialists **Brooklyn Raga Massive**. Flynn members get early access to tickets. **Tickets are on sale now for Flynn members**. Tickets go on sale to the public on November 26. **Get tickets and become a Flynn member at flynnvt.org**.

"We're back and better than ever," said Flynn Executive Director Jay Wahl. "And we've got a jam-packed spring line-up full of rare opportunities to encounter world-class talents and international journeys through new rhythms, sounds, and laughter. Our spring will include the legendary violin playing of Itzhak Perlman, the local-turned-national songwriting and Broadway hitmaker Anais Mitchell, the first-person political comedic perspectives of Hasan Minhaj, the sultry jazz of Diana Krall, the showstopping rags-to-riches story of Frankie Valli in *Jersey Boys*, and so much more. The reopening of the Flynn has been sensational, and we're just getting started."

Itzhak Perlman, Anais Mitchell, and all these new shows join previously-announced performances such as Ayodele Casel's genre-hopping tap-dance premiere, the family-friendly circus troupe Flip Fabrique, holiday treats from local partners, and the Flynn's spectacular Broadway season that begins on New Year's Eve with the return of the annual celebration Burlington Does Broadway, co-produced by Lyric Theatre Company and Vermont Symphony Orchestra. **Tickets for these shows are on sale now at flynnvt.org**.

FLYNN 2021-2022 SEASON SHOWS:

Ayodele Casel – December 10 on the Main Stage

World-famous tap dancer Ayodele Casel has broken out in a big way over the last couple years. She has performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, Madison Square Garden, and off-Broadway in Savion Glover's *Downtown: Live Communication*. At the Flynn, she will perform her latest project, *Chasing Magic*, a celebration of artistic encounters that is a vibrant, collaborative showcase for her cool, genre-defying footwork. For this show, she will be

PRESS RELEASE



joined by acclaimed Grammy-winning Latin jazz luminary Arturo O'Farrill. Sponsored by Holman Immigration Law.

Burlington Does Broadway – December 31 on the Main Stage

Ring in the New Year at the Flynn with an evening dedicated to the bright lights and big city brio of Broadway. Lyric Theatre Company and the Vermont Symphony Orchestra unite for this star-studded annual tradition, lovingly reimagining Golden Age standards and contemporary classics, and showcasing Vermont's finest singers and musicians. As the community comes together to turn the page on another year, the Flynn Main Stage erupts with epic show tunes on a night to remember.

Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar – January 20 on the Main Stage

Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar are a renowned gospel/neo-soul collective hailing from Augusta, Georgia, known for their opulent harmonies, clever musical theater covers, and beautiful, anthemic originals. The ensemble, organized in 2009, has performed with gospel greats such as William McDowell, Kierra "Kiki" Sheard, Richard Smallwood, VaShawn Mitchell, Earnest Pugh, and James Fortune. Led by passionate, multi-hyphenate vocalist Trey M. McLaughlin, The Sounds of Zamar celebrate community through the undeniable power of many voices coming together as one. Their concerts are invigorating, soul-stirring experiences that transcend genres, generations, and cultural boundaries. Sponsored by the University of Vermont Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Josie Leavitt – January 21-22 in Flynn Space

Cutting her teeth in NYC in the early '90s—at fabled clubs like Caroline's and the Comic Strip—Josie Leavitt moved to Vermont in 1996 and has made an indelible stamp on the local comedy scene. Her new show builds on her hilarious and cathartic 2018 set, *So This Happened*, which chronicled her breast cancer diagnosis.

Flip Fabrique – February 2 on the Main Stage

Québec City-based cirque troupe Flip Fabrique, led by acrobatic comedian Jamie Adkins, return to present a new show, *Six °*. On the stage, six envelopes contain six mysterious invitations for six strangers. The guests have arrived, but one is missing. What if the sixth person, the missing connection, was you? Flip Fabrique's ingenious brand of acrobatic physical comedy makes everyday situations extraordinary. *Six °* explores the sweet madness of waiting, the intricate beauty in a correspondence, and unexpected encounters through slapstick comedy, juggling tricks, and breathtaking feats of acrobatics. Sponsored by AARP.

TURNmusic – February 5 in Flynn Space

PRESS RELEASE



The contemporary chamber ensemble conducted by Anne Decker features a number of talented Vermont musicians, including Nic Cannizzaro, John Dunlop, Mary Rowell, and more. This season, Anne is working with composer/Middlebury professor Matthew Evan Taylor to center voices of BIPOC artists and composers. TURNmusic offers a fresh, new type of a hybrid concert experience that brings more of our community together to celebrate.

Anaïs Mitchell – February 19 on the Main Stage

The esteemed singer-songwriter, whose Broadway smash *Hadestown* won eight Tony awards, is joined on this tour by Bonny Light Horseman, a folk supergroup trio comprised of Mitchell, Eric D. Johnson (best known for his project Fruit Bats and stints with The Shins), and Josh Kaufman (instrumentalist and producer known for his work with Hiss Golden Messenger, Bob Weir, and The National). Bonny Light Horseman will perform selections from their Grammy-nominated album before Anaïs takes the spotlight to share new songs and audience favorites.

Hasan Minhaj – March 1 on the Main Stage

Hasan Minhaj brings his brand new show, *The King's Jester*, to the Flynn. A first-generation American, Minhaj joined *The Daily Show* as a correspondent in 2014. In 2017, he earned rave reviews for his performance hosting the White House Correspondents' Dinner, and for his Netflix comedy special *Homecoming King*, which garnered a Peabody Award. Hasan was also the host and creator of the weekly comedy show *Patriot Act*, which explores the modern cultural and political landscape through his unique comedic voice. Sponsored by CSE, Inc. and New Vitality.

Broadway's Next Hit Musical – March 4-5 on the Main Stage

Broadway's Next Hit Musical hits the sweet spot between parody and homage of NYC glitz and glamor. It's *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* meets the Tony Awards as the cast cobbles together a full-blown improvised musical based on audience suggestions, complete with uproarious dialogue and hairpin plot twists. In this show, every song is fresh, every scene is new, and every night is unpredictable. Under the direction of improv veterans Rob Schiffmann and Deb Rabbai, this troupe of top-notch improvisers creates a spontaneous evening of music and comedy on the fly.

Diana Burco – March 11 in Flynn Space

Colombian singer-songwriter Diana Burco longed for a stronger musical connection to her homeland and she found it in the accordion. In Colombia, the instrument grounds many of the country's gorgeous traditions—African, Latin, and indigenous—and plays a crucial part in the music of the Caribbean coast. Mastering instrumental and song traditions despite skepticism from her peers, she became the first woman nominated for a Latin Grammy in the traditional cumbia/vallenato category.

PRESS RELEASE



Lúnasa – March 17 on the Main Stage

Named for an ancient Celtic harvest festival in honor of the Irish god Lugh, Lúnasa was formed in 1997 by some of the greatest musicians from renowned Irish bands. From the start, their complex arrangements and contemporary flair set them apart from other Irish-folk revivalists, reshaping the boundaries of traditional music and showcasing some of the craftiest fiddle, pipe, and guitar work imaginable. High-profile collaborations as well as spirited concerts at the Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, and Glastonbury have secured Lúnasa's place as Celtic royalty.

John Cameron Mitchell's *The Origin of Love* – March 19 on the Main Stage

Hedwig's back! *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* co-creator, star, and Tony-winner John Cameron Mitchell breaks that blonde wig out of mothballs for this re-fab'd rock spectacle. Mitchell's cabaret-style show revisits his glam-rock masterwork through songs—*Wig in a Box*, *Wicked Little Town*, and *Origin of Love* included—and insider stories, informed by decades of successful detours through film directing (*Hedwig* adaptation, *Short Bus*, *Rabbit Hole*), further stage success, and TV roles (*Shrill*, *Girls*, *The Good Fight*). For "Hed-heads" and newcomers alike, *The Origin of Love* is a tantalizing tribute to one of alt-culture's most cherished creations. Funded in part by a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Green Mountain Cabaret - March 26 & April 30 in Flynn Space

Vermont's own neo-burlesque troupe Green Mountain Cabaret returns to Flynn Space this spring for two shows. Expect classic burlesque acts as well as some comedic pieces, all through a body-positivity lens that highlights safety and consent. Vermont's burlesque following has been steadily growing over the past few years and these shows will celebrate GMC's dedicated community and this thriving, liberating art form.

Itzhak Perlman – March 29 on the Main Stage

Itzhak Perlman is a classical music superstar. He has entertained royalty and presidents and collected essentially every recognition available for an artist in his field: 16 Grammys, Presidential Medal of Freedom, National Medal of Arts—the list goes on. Above all, after 60 years on the world stage, audiences still respond enthusiastically to his remarkable artistry and his irrepressible joy. On this evening, Perlman performs a recital alongside his longtime pianist Rohan De Silva. He also regales the audience with stories from his life and career, hosting a one-of-a-kind multimedia experience that digs deep into his archives. Sponsored by the Amy E. Tarrant Foundation.

New Voices – April 2 in Flynn Space

PRESS RELEASE



The Flynn's New Voices series, which showcases New American musicians that live right here in Vermont, is being revived this spring. Each show features 2-4 artists/groups that highlight musical traditions from the different cultures represented in our community. Past artists include SINSiZZLe, A2VT, Grup Anwar, Vermont Hindu Temple, Sori Mori, Sabouyouma, and Mal Maiz. This series is curated by ethnomusicologist/Saint Michael's College professor Bill Ellis.

Diana Krall – April 12 on the Main Stage

Grammy-winning Canadian jazz singer Diana Krall is one of the most successful and recognizable jazz artists working today. She is acclaimed for her smooth, refined approach to the piano as well as her sensitive and enveloping voice that draws listeners in to her intimate and open-hearted music. She is the only jazz singer to have eight albums debut at the top of the Billboard Jazz Albums chart. She has garnered two Grammy Awards, ten Juno Awards, and has ten platinum albums to her name. She has collaborated with many iconic artists, including Tony Bennett, Paul McCartney, Barbara Streisand, and Ray Charles. Sponsored by PC Construction and AARP.

Brooklyn Raga Massive – April 22 on the Main Stage

In a veritable raga renaissance, Brooklyn Raga Massive, a prolific artist collective dedicated to creating and promoting cross-cultural understanding, includes some of the most adventurous devotees of the form. Weaving together droning contemporary orchestration and authentic 13th-century Indian classical, they effectively recreate the hypnotic feel of a legendary Terry Riley or Sam Rivers loft event. This collective of dozens of musicians unspools epic, prismatic music that counters the fast pace of modern life, creating an enveloping sonic environment that will leave you entranced. Sponsored by Dedalus Wines and the University of Vermont Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Funded in part by a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Hairspray – April 28 on the Main Stage

Set in 1962 Baltimore, this delirious, colorful smash hit adapted from John Waters' campy cult film tells the story of teenager Tracy Turnblad, who wants nothing more than to dance on her favorite TV show. At heart, this is a personal and relatable tale about inclusion and acceptance, told through the eyes and voice of a dreamer living in a vibrant-but-conflicted mid-century American city. The Broadway sensation, featuring hip-shaking R'n'B dance numbers—including *Welcome to the 60s*, *Good Morning Baltimore*, and *You Can't Stop the Beat*—and bouffants galore, won the Tony Award for best musical in 2003. Sponsored by New England Federal Credit Union.

Amadou & Mariam and The Blind Boys of Alabama – April 30 on the Main Stage

PRESS RELEASE



They hail from regions thousands of miles apart but they share an unbreakable kinship, mapping a variety of musical styles from Bamako to Birmingham. Malian musicians Amadou & Mariam have been ambassadors of African music for over 40 years, sharing their uplifting, up-tempo take on Afro-pop and Malian blues music all over the world. Recognized worldwide as living legends of gospel music, The Blind Boys of Alabama have been an American institution since the 1930s. The group helped bring gospel—jubilee and hard gospel, in particular—into the mainstream, their soulful harmonies and unshakable sincerity capable of stirring even the most secular crowd. Funded in part by a grant from the New England Foundation for the Arts.

Iliza Shlesinger – May 12 on the Main Stage

Iliza is one of today's funniest and most popular stand-up comedians. Her relatable delivery and remarkably frank storytelling has earned her a large and devoted following, a fanbase known for creating their own outrageous Iliza-inspired swag. She currently has five Netflix comedy specials to her name. Her latest special, *UnVeiled*, premiered in 2019 and delves into her rocky journey of getting married. As her fame has skyrocketed, Iliza has honed a unique and subversive comic voice that resonates with audiences who can relate to her down-to-Earth, hilariously blunt stories.

Mark Morris Dance Group – May 17 on the Main Stage

Mark Morris has been called "the most successful and influential choreographer alive" (*New York Times*). He formed the Mark Morris Dance Group in 1980 and has created a rich and rewarding collection of original choreography. The company's off-stage efforts are equally impressive; the dancers and teaching artists specialize in the use of dance techniques for Parkinson's disease movement therapy. MMDG's compassionate and inclusive approach to dance elevates their radiant, introspective stage repertoire. Their recitals, staged simply with pops of color, feature fluid, multi-part routines set to classical gems and contemporary music.

Jersey Boys – May 31 on the Main Stage

They were just four guys from Jersey with a sound nobody had ever heard, and the radio couldn't get enough. But while their harmonies were perfect on stage, off stage it was a very different story . . . Go behind the music of The Four Seasons in the true-life musical phenomenon—with its slick soundtrack, arresting group performances, and transportive period detail. Back at the Flynn after two massively popular, sold-out shows in 2017, *Jersey Boys* is the epitome of a jukebox musical experience, featuring immaculate takes on legendary top-ten hits *Sherry*, *Big Girls Don't Cry*, *Can't Take My Eyes Off You*, and many more. Oh, what a night! Sponsored by People's United Bank.

PRESS RELEASE

Media contact:

Oliver O'Sullivan, marketing content manager, oosullivan@flynnvt.org.

