

ARTS



A SEASON OF FIRSTS

The San Diego Symphony announces its 2018-19 schedule
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EXPLORING THE ISLANDS

Jeep, yacht and helicopter tours are highlights of a vacation to three Hawaiian islands
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San Diego veterinarian publishes her first book
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SECTION E

The San Diego Union-Tribune

SUNDAY • APRIL 8, 2018

ARTS + CULTURE



JIM COX PHOTO

DRIFTING TOGETHER

Old Globe's world premiere 'The Wanderers' weaves together disparate stories of people looking for something more

BY JAMES HEBERT

The last time the fast-rising playwright Anna Ziegler was at San Diego's Old Globe Theatre, it was with "The Last Match," the story of an intense rivalry between two top tennis pros.

Now she's back with another world-premiere work — one that's more of a doubles match. But "The Wanderers" is not about tennis, and the play finds Ziegler working without a net in more ways than one.

The new piece, which just began performances at the Balboa Park theater, sets out to tie together a pair of relationship stories that could hardly seem more different.

One is the tale of an arranged marriage between two Orthodox Jews from a strict Hasidic community. The other is

"The Wanderers"

When: In previews. Opens Friday, 7 p.m. Tuesdays-Wednesdays (plus 2 p.m. April 25); 8 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays (no matinee today or April 22). Through May 6.

Where: Old Globe's Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, Balboa Park

Tickets: About \$30-\$86 (discounts available)

Phone: (619) 234-5623

Online: theoldglobe.org

an account of a coy and candid online correspondence between a best-selling author and a Hollywood star.

And if those sound like two separate plays entirely, it turns out that's exactly how "The Wanderers" started out.

As Ziegler tells it, the Globe and its artistic director, Barry Edelstein, commissioned her to write a new piece right after the February 2016 premiere of "The Last Match," a play that eventually was to land off-Broadway last fall.

One complicating factor: Ziegler was due to have a baby that September and wanted to finish a draft before that blessed event.

So she began writing a play about an arranged marriage in a Hasidic community, a topic that had long fascinated her.

While she was working on that, The New York Times published an email correspondence between the novelist Jonathan Safran Foer and the movie star Natalie Portman. Zieg-

SEE 'WANDERERS' • E5

From left: Daniel Eric Gold, Ali Rose Dachis, Janie Brookshire, Dave Klasko and Michelle Beck from "The Wanderers." Anna Ziegler's play will have its world premiere Friday at the Old Globe Theatre in Balboa Park.

ARTS **SUN DAY**

Lang Lang

ROBERT ASCROFT PHOTO

San Diego Symphony
2018-2019 SeasonTicket information appears on
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Jacobs Masterworks

Oct. 6-7: Beethoven's Symphony No. 7, featuring Edo De Waart, conductor, and Joyce Yang, piano; with Ippolito's Nocturne; Grieg's Piano Concerto

Oct. 12 and 14: Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, featuring Edo de Waart, conductor, and Joyce Yang, piano; with Bates' Garages of the Valley; Mozart's Symphony No. 40

Nov. 2 and 4: Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Prokofiev Symphony No. 7, featuring David Danzmayr, conductor, and Conrad Tao, piano; with world premiere of new San Diego Symphony-commissioned work by Javier Álvarez, featuring text by Juan Felipe Herrera

Nov. 16-17: "Bernstein and His World," featuring Steven Sloan, conductor, and Orli Shaham, piano; with U.S. premiere of Noam Sheriff's Lenny; Copland's Appalachian Spring; Ives' The Unanswered Question; Bernstein's Symphony No. 2: The Age of Anxiety

Nov. 30 and Dec. 2: Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5; Turkish and Dvorák's Symphony No. 6, featuring Johannes Debus, conductor, Jeff Thayer, violin; with Lutoslawski's Little Suite

Dec. 7-8: Vivaldi and Bach, featuring Johannes Debus, conductor, and Avi Avital, mandolin; with Purcell's arrangement of Britten's Chacony; Vivaldi's "Winter" from The Four Seasons; Arensky's Variations on a Theme by Tchaikovsky; Bach's Concerto No. 1 in D minor; Ljadov's The Enchanted Lake; Stravinsky's "Divertimento" from The Fairy's Kiss

Jan. 11-13, 2019: Payare and Weilerstein, featuring Rafael Payare, conductor, and Alisa Weilerstein, cello; performing R. Strauss' Don Juan; Britten's Symphony for Cello and Orchestra; Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10

Jan. 18 and 20: "The Young Romantics," featuring Michael Francis, conductor, and Rodolfo Leone, piano; performing Mendelssohn's The Hebrides (Fingal's Cave); Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1; Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique

Jan. 19: Beyond the Score: Berlioz's Symphonie fantastique, featuring Michael Francis, conductor

Jan. 25 and 27: "Matt's Playlist: Echoes of the Future," featuring Matthew Aucoin, conductor, performing Adès's These Premises Are Alarmed; Beethoven's Symphony No. 1, 1st movement; Norman's Play, Level 1; L. Boulanger's D'un matin de printemps; Stravinsky's Funeral Song; Aucoin's Excerpts From Crossing; Schubert, Symphony No. 9 ("Great"), 4th movement

Feb. 15-17: Augustin Hadelich Returns, featuring Cristian Macelaru, conductor, and Augustin Hadelich, violin, performing Janáček's Suite from The Cunning Little Vixen; Dvorák's Violin Concerto; Bartók's Dance Suite; Brahms' Selections From Hungarian Dances

March 1-2: De Waart conducts Mahler Symphony No. 4, featuring Edo de Waart, conductor, and Joëlle Harvey, soprano, with Barber's Knoxville: Summer of 1915

March 9-10: Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 2, featuring Robert Spano, conductor and Jorge Federico Osorio, piano, with Theofanis' Dreamtime Ancestors; Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2; Vaughan Williams' Symphony No. 2: A London Symphony

March 22-23: Puccini's Glorious Mass, featuring Speranza Scappucci, conductor; Leonardo Capalbo, tenor; Daniel Okulitch, baritone; Michael

SEE SCHEDULE • E4

Keeping things fresh

San Diego Symphony's 2018-19 season will include many firsts

BY GEORGE VARGA

Martha Gilmer is the CEO of the San Diego Symphony, not a gourmet chef. But when it comes to cooking up an annual, eight-month-long musical feast designed to appeal to an array of palates, she easily holds her own. ■ "The flavors complement each other — they are contrasting, but flow one to the other," Gilmer said. "Whatever the palate, the season is well-thought-out and classically prepared." ■ The proverbial proof in this borders-leaping aural pudding can be found in the upcoming 2018-2019 season.

It expertly mixes enticing artistic collaborations, proven musical favorites — some with new interpretations — and a host of fresh treats. Accordingly, no fewer than 13 guest artists will be making their San Diego debuts with the orchestra, which will showcase 14 compositions it has not performed before.

Topping this ambitious menu are Rafael Payare and Lang Lang.

Payare, a 37-year-old Venezuelan native, will conduct four concerts in January as part of the Jacobs Masterworks series. These will mark his debut as the San Diego Symphony's music director designate. He officially as-

sumes his new position on July 1, 2019. Chinese keyboard superstar Lang Lang, 35, will open the season on Oct. 6 and 7. He'll perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 24 in C minor, with Holland's esteemed Edo de Waart conducting.

The Wisconsin-based de Waart returns Oct. 12 and 14, when he will lead the orchestra in a pair of concerts billed as Rachmaninoff's Rhapsody, and again March 1 and 2 to conduct Mahler's hourlong Symphony No. 4 and Barber's Knoxville: Summer of 1915.

"We just had three days in London to start to talk with Rafael about how

SEE SYMPHONY • E4



Joshua Bell

PHILLIP KNOTT PHOTO

TALKING WITH ... Suzy Fincham-Gray

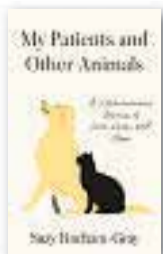
LOCAL VETERINARIAN SHARES STORIES OF UNFORGETTABLE PATIENTS

Debut author says her own pets have made her a better doctor

BY DENISE DAVIDSON

Research strongly suggests that humans who cohabit with pets — especially dogs and cats — live longer. Health benefits include stress reduction and social support. They provide unconditional love and become family members, too.

"My Patients and Other Animals: A Veterinarian's Stories of Love, Loss, and Hope" is San Diego author Dr. Suzy Fincham-Gray's first book. She will talk about her career and



"My Patients and Other Animals: A Veterinarian's Stories of Love, Loss, and Hope" by Suzy Fincham-Gray; Penguin Random House; 288 pages

Conversation with Suzy Fincham-Gray

When: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

Where: Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Ave., La Jolla

Phone: (858) 454-0347 (reserved seating)

Online: warwicks.com

love of helping pets at Warwick's on Tuesday night.

Q. What is one of the best life lessons you learned treating animals?

A. Without a doubt, the best part of my career as a veterinarian is my patients. I am still amazed on a regular basis by the lessons my patients have taught me. What resonates the most is to live in the moment. If I diagnose cancer in a cat or dog, the diagnosis doesn't change their behavior, they don't look at the world differently, and they don't worry about what the future holds.

Q. What motivated you to become a veterinarian?

A. It was a love of science that first drew me to veterinary medicine. From the age of 13, I spent every available school vacation volunteering at vet hospitals, animal shelters, dairy and sheep farms, and even a hedgehog hospital.

Q. How have your own pets affected your relationship with your clients?

A. My pets have easily taught me as much as veterinary textbooks and conferences about our relationships with the animals in our lives. Experiencing the illnesses and deaths of my own pets has given me a clearer and deeper understanding of the emotional distress my clients experience when their loved ones are sick.

Q. What is a rewarding part of your career? The hardest?

A. Unfortunately, my career as an internal medicine specialist means that I typically see the sickest dogs and cats with conditions that are difficult to diagnose and treat. But what keeps me going, even on the hardest days, are my patients. There are cats and dogs with chronic disease that I've been seeing for years, and getting to know them and their families is a privilege. Having to break the news of a grave prognosis or terminal diagnosis can be very challenging, and witnessing a family's grief for the loss of a beloved pet is always hard. Performing euthanasia is not the hardest part of the job for a

SEE FINCHAM-GRAY • E5

