

BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER

From Earth to Heaven: Brahms and Scriabin

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 · 20:00 · Philharmonie Berlin

Kirill Petrenko, conductor · Janine Jansen, violin

TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME		MIN
1	BRAHMS 1833–1897 <i>Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D major, Op. 77</i>	40'
2	SCRIABIN 1872–1915 <i>Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 43 "Le divin poème" (The Divine Poem)</i>	50'
TOTAL MUSIC		90'

Johannes Brahms

1833–1897

Concerto for Violin and Orchestra in D major, Op. 77

40 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK

The Violin Concerto, composed in the summer of 1878, was Brahms's only work for solo violin and orchestra, and it ranks among the supreme achievements of the concerto literature. It

was written for Joseph Joachim, his oldest musical friend. The two had known each other for a quarter century by then, and their artistic partnership was one of the most fruitful in musical history.

WHAT TO LISTEN FOR

The grandeur of the orchestral introduction, establishing the concerto's symphonic character from the start. In the slow movement, the famous oboe melody that so irritated Sarasate, though the violin's elaboration of it is equally beautiful. The finale's Hungarian spirit reflects Brahms's lifelong love of Hungarian popular music and his friendship with Joachim.

Alexander Scriabin

1872–1915

Symphony No. 3 in C minor, Op. 43 "Le divin poème" (The Divine Poem)

50 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK

The Third Symphony, composed between 1902 and 1904, marks a turning point for Scriabin. It is the first major work in which he explicitly incorporated his philosophical and mystical ideas, and those ideas would dominate the rest of his creative life.

WHAT TO LISTEN FOR

The motto themes in the introduction, which bind the entire symphony together. The contrast between the turbulent “Struggles” and the languorous “Sensual Delights.” In the finale, notice how the music grows increasingly ecstatic, building to a peroration of almost unbearable intensity. The symphony’s concluding pages are among the most overwhelming in all of late-Romantic music.

Tonight’s artists

Janine Jansen *violin*

Janine Jansen, born in Soest in 1978, is one of the most charismatic and admired violinists in the world. From a musical Dutch family, she studied with Coosje Wijzenbeek, Philippe Hirschhorn and Boris Belkin, and has built a career of the highest distinction as soloist and chamber musician, recording widely and founding the International Chamber Music Festival in Utrecht. She is the LSO’s Portrait Artist this season. Renowned for the intensity, communicative warmth and fearless commitment of her playing, she also has a long creative partnership with the composer Richard Dubugnon, who has written several works for her, which makes her the natural soloist for tonight’s premiere.

CONCERT PROGRAMS

<https://concertprograms.eu/concerts/bp-2026-01-28-petrenko>

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