BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER

Seascapes, Reconciliation, and a Descent into Madness

Thursday, February 26, 2026 · 20:00 · Philharmonie Berlin

Tugan Sokhiev, conductor · Noah Bendix-Balgley, violin · Bruno Delepelaire, cello

	TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME	MIN
1	**MENDELSSOHN** 1809–1847 *The Hebrides, Overture in B minor, Op. 26 ("Fingal's Cave")*	10′
2	**BRAHMS** 1833–1897 *Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Orchestra in A minor, Op. 102 ("Double Concerto")*	33′
3	**BERLIOZ** 1803–1869 *Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14*	50′
	TOTAL MUSIC	93′

Felix Mendelssohn

1809–1847

The Hebrides, Overture in B minor, Op. 26 ("Fingal's Cave")

10 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK

In the summer of 1829, the twenty-year-old Mendelssohn embarked on a walking tour of Scotland with his friend Karl Klingemann. Having just made a successful London debut, he was free to indulge his passion for landscape painting and to absorb the wild scenery that had inspired Walter Scott and Ossian.

Johannes Brahms

1833–1897

Concerto for Violin, Cello, and Orchestra in A minor, Op. 102 ("Double Concerto")

33 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK

The Double Concerto, completed in 1887, was Brahms's final orchestral work and carried a private purpose beyond its musical aims. For more than thirty years, the violinist Joseph Joachim had been one of Brahms's closest friends and most important musical collaborators. But their relationship had

ruptured in the early 1880s when Joachim's marriage to the mezzo-soprano Amalie collapsed. Brahms, fond of Amalie, sided with her, and the wounded violinist broke off contact.

Hector Berlioz

1803–1869

Symphonie fantastique, Op. 14

50 minutes

ABOUT THE WORK

In September 1827, the twenty-three-year-old Berlioz attended a Paris performance of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and fell catastrophically in love. The object of his obsession was the Irish actress Harriet Smithson, playing Ophelia. He pursued her relentlessly, writing love letters that went unanswered. She refused even to meet him.

Tonight's artists

Noah Bendix-Balgley *violin*

First Concertmaster

Bruno Delepelaire *cello*

First Principal Cello

CONCERT PROGRAMS

https://concertprograms.eu/concerts/bp-2026-02-26-sokhiev

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