

HERE, THERE, AND EVERYWHERE

A Boston Symphony opener to no-spill caps

By Neece Regis | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT SEPTEMBER 14, 2013



Cellist Alban Gerhardt.

Here

ALL-BRAHMS OPENS BOSTON SYMPHONY SEASON

Classical music lovers will not want to miss Boston Symphony Orchestra's new subscription season. Opening night (Sept. 21) features conductor Christoph von Dohnanyi leading an all-Brahms program with violinist Augustin Hadelich and cellist Alban Gerhardt (pictured below) performing the Double Concerto on a program with Brahms's Symphony No. 2. Other highlights of the coming season include four world and US premieres, a series of free public events, the reintroduction of open rehearsals, and a tour to China and Japan. Andris Nelsons, the BSO's new music director, will be conducting in October and March. 888-266-1200,

VINEYARD FESTIVALS IN CONNECTICUT

Celebrate the late summer bounty from Connecticut vineyards at two old-fashioned festivals (Sept. 21-22). Haight-Brown Vineyard in Litchfield hosts a Harvest Festival featuring outdoor wine tasting, vendors, food, harvest activities, and music. The \$20 admission includes a wine glass, wine tasting tour, wine activities, and parking. In New Preston, Hopkins Vineyard's 34th annual Harvest Festival Celebration includes live music, wine tasting, artisan cheese and pâté, wine glass, and estate grape sampling with the winemaker. Tickets \$25 online through Sept. 19; \$30 at door. 860-567-4045, www.haightvineyards.com; 860-868-7954, www.hopkinsvineyard.com

There

HOLIDAY-THEMED DISNEY CRUISES

Disney Cruise Line kicks off its fall season with Halloween on the High Seas, a new event featuring Halloween-themed parties, spooky storytelling experiences, trick-or-treating on the deck, mask making, pumpkin carving, and more. Available on three- and four-night Bahamas-bound cruises aboard the Disney Dream. (Departing Sept. 22-Oct. 31; excludes itinerary departing Sept. 29.) Also new: the first Very Merrytime Cruises create an onboard winter wonderland with tree-lighting ceremony, Santa meet-and-greet, themed crafts and activities for kids, and a life-size gingerbread house. Available on sailings to Bahamas and Caribbean. (Departing Nov. 9 to Dec. 31.) Prices vary by date, destination, and voyage. 800-951-3532, www.disneycruise.disney.go.com

HILTON HEAD RESORT REHAB

Relax in Southern comfort at the Westin Hilton Head Island Resort & Spa, a South Carolina oceanfront property with 416 rooms and suites. Having recently completed a \$30 million renovation, this four-diamond resort offers a new welcoming lobby with check-in pods replacing the front desk; an enhanced landscape with eco-friendly flora; a Botanical Conservatory; three refinished outdoor pools with new resort decking, private cabanas, fire pits, and fountains; spa and fitness studio; six restaurants and lounges, and more. Rates from \$249. 888-627-8551, www.westinhiltonheadisland.com

CHILDREN'S GARDEN DEBUTS IN DALLAS

On Sept. 21, the Dallas Arboretum debuts the Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden, an eight-acre, interactive laboratory that aims to teach life, earth, and environmental science to preschool and middle-school children. Seventeen indoor and outdoor galleries are each

designed around a key science theme. Features include a 240-foot walkway through a tree canopy; boardwalks through grass tunnels; plant and soil labs; a six-foot OmniGlobe for observing real time weather; 3-D mini-theater, and more. Also opening: Autumn at the Arboretum, an annual festival showcasing autumn flora and foliage, and pumpkin displays using more than 50,000 pumpkins (through Nov. 27). Adult \$15, children ages 3-12 \$10, additional fee to Adventure Garden \$3. 214-515-6500, www.dallasarboretum.org

Everywhere

VOICE-ACTIVATED TRAVEL APP

CheapAir.com, an airfare-shopping site, released a new mobile app featuring a voice-activated flight search (for iPhone 4S and above, and iPad 3) that allows you to book the best deals and flight options by talking instead of typing. Simply speak your preferred cities and dates, and the app will find matching results culled from hundreds of airlines, without the need to fill out a search form. Includes Price Drop Payback, guaranteeing a travel credit of up to \$100 if your fare drops after purchase. Free. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/cheapair/id571545335?mt=8>

NO-SPILL CAPS FOR KIDS

Travel with young children can be messy. Snack Trap has designed No-Spill Bottle Caps, a new hassle-saving product to eliminate accidents by active tots. Simply replace the original bottle cap of any leading water and juice drink with one of four adapter rings and the bottle is ready for no-spill drinking. Each package contains one red bottle cap and four ring adapters that are color-coded to fit a range of wide- and narrow-necked bottles. \$4.29. 248-828-7460, www.snacktrap.com