Igudesman & Joo: BIG Nightmare Music with the Minnesota Orchestra
Sarah Hicks, conductor | Aleksey Igudesman, violin | Hyung-ki Joo, piano

Live at Orchestra Hall
Saturday, May 11, 2019, 8 pm | Orchestra Hall

The program for tonight’s concert will be announced from the stage.
There will be one intermission.

Violinist Aleksey Igudesman and pianist Hyung-ki Joo have taken the world by storm with their unique and hilarious theatrical concerts. Combining comedy with music, their clips on YouTube have gathered over 45 million hits. They have appeared on many of the world’s stages, and have been invited to perform with orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, London Philharmonic, Tonhalle Orchester Zürich and Orchestra dell’Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia.

Besides touring their duo shows A Little Nightmare Music, AND NOW MOZART and Play It Again, the pair frequently collaborate with symphony orchestras on their titles Clash of the Soloists, UPBeat and BIG Nightmare Music. They have paired with many of the world’s most respected musicians to feature them in their skits of musical mayhem, including this season’s premiere of The Clone with Yuja Wang at Carnegie Hall. They have also teamed up with actor John Malkovich for their album You Just Have to Laugh and their show The Music Critic. They have shared the stage with artists from Billy Joel to Joshua Bell.

As composers, Igudesman and Joo have been commissioned by orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Symphony, Dusseldorf Symphony, Vienna Symphony and Tonhalle Orchester Zürich. They have collectively released over 50 publications on Universal Edition, and their film and concert music is performed all over the world.


Sarah Hicks, the Minnesota Orchestra’s principal conductor of Live at Orchestra Hall, has led a broad range of programs since joining the Orchestra as assistant conductor in 2006. In July she will lead the Orchestra in a Musical Feast concert celebrating food and music, as well as a collaboration with The Moving Company exploring the life of composer-pianist Clara Schumann. During the 2019-20 season, she will conduct performances with Cloud Cult and a tribute to Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald featuring Capathia Jenkins and Tony DeSare; Home for the Holidays performances; the Sam & Sarah concert series co-hosted with Orchestra violist Sam Bergman; and live performances of movie scores as the complete films Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back, Up and It’s a Wonderful Life are shown on a large screen. More: minnesotaorchestra.org.

Aleksey Igudesman plays with a bow made by the Boston-based bowmaker, Benoit Roland, and on a Santo Seraphin violin from the year 1717, which is kindly loaned to him by ERSTE BANK. Aleksey Igudesman plays on handmade strings by Thomastik Infeld. Hyung-ki Joo is a Steinway Artist. Aleksey Igudesman and Hyung-ki Joo wear clothing by CLEOFÉ FINATI–Haute Couture, 100% made in Italy.