



Around the World in Four Orchestras

Take a musical trip halfway around the globe without leaving your seat.
Tiffany Parks shares how.

Four world-class orchestras from four far-flung cities take part all month in a celebration of music and diversity, organized by Rome's own Santa Cecilia Academy. The musical journey begins on 9 September, with the **Qatar Philharmonic Orchestra**. Conductor Han-na Chang will lead the ensemble in an ambitious program that includes Tchaikovsky's *Symphony no. 5*, *Seemorgh* by Behzad Ranjbaran, and Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto no. 2* with soloist Boris Berezovskij. The next stop on the music train is Mexico City, on the 12th. Founded in 1936, the **Orquestra Filarmonica Nacional de Mexico** is the oldest symphonic ensemble in that vast city. Jan Latham-Koenig graces the podium and the pieces on offer are, fittingly, works by celebrated Latin American composers: Rodrigo's *Concerto di Aranjuez*, *La Vida Breve* by Manuel La Falla, Piazzolla's *Adios Nonino* and *Homage to Liege*, among others. On 15 September, Brazil gets into

the action with a performance by the **Orquestra Sinfonica Juvenil da Bahia** (pictured above). This acclaimed youth orchestra showcases exceptional students between the ages of 15 and 22 from across Brazil. The budding musicians will perform alongside a musical legend, pianist Martha Argerich, an artist who has devoted much of her career to the education of young musicians. The program is as thrilling as it is diverse, with Bernstein's *Symphonic Dances* from *West Side Story*, Tchaikovsky's beloved *Piano Concerto no. 1*, and *Bachianas Brasileiras* no. 4 by Villa Lobos. The voyage comes to an end on the 29th, with an appearance by the **Turkish National Youth Philharmonic**. Founder and conductor Cem Mansur leads the orchestra, made up of 100 extraordinary young musicians, and special guest violinist Laura Marzadori (pictured left). On the bill are Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto*, *Dance of the Seven Veils* from Strauss's *Salome*, and *Pictures at an Exposition* by Mussorgsky (p57).

