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Classic Arts News

America/Beautiful, Carlisle Floyd's 100th, Encanto, and More: What's Happening in Classic Arts This Week

Find out what's happening in the opera, concert, and dance scene in NYC.

June 15, 2026

By Natan Zamansky





Min Kwon

From Alpine symphonies to Appalachian operas, the classic arts scene in New York is never quiet. Here is just a sampling of some of the classic arts events happening this week.

American Ballet Theatre's summer season at the Metropolitan Opera kicks off June 17 with Kevin McKenzie's production of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*. ABT will give two weeks of *Swan Lake* performances this summer, opening the season June 17-20, and then closing the season July 13-18.

Death of Classical presents selections from pianist Min Kwon's *America/Beautiful*, a set of 76 solo piano variations on "America the Beautiful" commissioned from a long list of composers including Jake Heggie, Augusta Read Thomas, Vijay Iyer, and more. Kwon, joined by special guests, will give si
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Christopher James Ray will lead a centennial celebration of American opera composer Carlisle Floyd at Carnegie Hall June 20. Jake Heggie will host the evening, which will feature the choirs of Florida State University and the University of Houston, with soprano Gabriella Reyes, mezzo-soprano Susan Graham, baritone Edward Nelson, baritone Reginald Smith Jr., and bass-baritone Ryan McKinny as soloists. The concert will feature excerpts from Floyd's operas, including *Susannah*, *The Passion of Jonathan Wade*, *Willie Stark*, and *Cold Sassy Tree*.

The Orchestra of St. Luke's 2026 Bach Festival continues at Carnegie Hall June 16 with a Bach and Mozart program featuring works for violin and orchestra, with conductor and violinist Renaud Capuçon leading the orchestra in Mozart's Rondo for Violin and Orchestra in C Major, and Bach's Violin Concerto in A Minor, among other works.

Carnegie Hall will also host performances this week from the Masterwork Festival Choruses and Youth Choir (June 15); the National Orchestral Institute Philharmonic (June 17); the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato (June 18); and the New England Symphonic Ensemble (June 21).

The 92nd Street Y's Classical Chorus will give a concert June 20. The concert is free and open to the public, and will include works by Mozart, Brahms, Eric Whitacre, Thomas Morley, and Randell Thompson.

Step Afrika! continues its residency at the Joyce Theater through June 21 with its production of *The Migration: Reflections on Jacob Lawrence*. Inspired by the painter Jacob Lawrence's 60-panel *The Migration Series*, the production fuses dance, history, and visual art to showcase African American history and culture.