

Season's best 5 stage picks

Theater and classical music events shine this season in Houston. From a transgender pioneer in American theater to a young, talented French cellist, downtown Houston is bustling in November with talent and passion onstage. These shows are not to be missed.

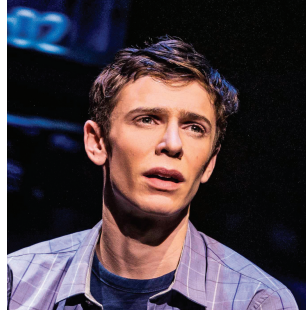
Wei-Huan Chen



Taylor Mac

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, NOV. 5

Taylor Mac may be the most important living American theater maker. The transgender artist is known for "A 24-Decade History of Popular Music," a wide-ranging, political/musical mashup marathon of a show for which Mac was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. Mac comes to Houston as part of University of Houston's 2019 Mitchell Artist Lecture.



'Dear Evan Hansen'

HOBBY CENTER, NOV. 12-24

What's been the Broadway musical that's driven the most fandom since "Hamilton"? That would be "Dear Evan Hansen," a story about a boy with crippling anxiety who forms an unlikely relationship with a grieving family because of a lie. Bring the tissues — this is a tearjerking, but ultimately heartwarming affair.



Ax plays Beethoven

JONES HALL, NOV. 15-17

Grammy Award-winning pianist Emanuel Ax has been a staple of the modern symphony scene for decades, and for good reason. Hardly any other pianist in the world matches his skill, experience and subtle touch. Ax performs Beethoven's gorgeous Piano Concerto No. 1 with the Houston Symphony.



Camille Thomas

HOBBY CENTER, NOV. 22

Thomas was the first cellist signed by the prestigious Deutsche Grammophon label in more than four decades. She shows off her talent with pianist Roman Rabinovich in a rich program that includes Beethoven and Brahms.



'Baby Screams Miracle'

MATCH, NOV. 22-DEC. 15

If you haven't heard of Clare Barron, go watch this play and you won't forget her name. Barron is at the forefront of American playwriting, penning dramatic tours de force such as "Baby Screams Miracle," about a family in a chaotic world. The Catastrophic Theatre stages this play.

'Stuff I Love' pops up at Paloma & Co.

Texas native Natalie Bloomingdale is bringing her curated retail site, The SIL (aka the Stuff I Love), to Paloma & Co. on Nov. 20 and 21. Shoppers looking for one-of-a-kind designer pieces will find plenty to swoon over as Bloomingdale offers hard-to-find pieces and online exclusives. At the Houston pop-up, she'll feature designers such as Dallas' Tish Cox (ready-to-wear), Austin's Cassandra Collections (jewelry), Los Angeles'

Keehn Deutch (ready-to-wear), New York's Chasseur de Mode (fur) and Houston's own Hayden Lasher (handbags). In 2015, Bloomingdale married James Bloomingdale of the famous retail company, and now she splits time between Los Angeles and Dallas. Paloma & Co., owned by designer Paloma Contreras, is at 2705 Bammel, 713-637-4310; shoppalomaandco.com.

Joy Sewing



THE SIL POP-UP WILL FEATURE TEXAS DESIGNERS, INCLUDING TISH COX OF DALLAS.