

ARTS

6LACK, Sun June, and More Best Bets for Nov. 2–8

The Romanian Film Fest starts now, Sub-Radio come home, a symphony explores the universe, Lilly Maier discusses her new book, Baltimore's 6LACK plays the Anthem, and Austin's Sun June visit DC9.

NOVEMBER 2ND, 2023

Sunday: Black Hole Symphony at the National Academy of Sciences



The Black Hole Symphony in Massachusetts; Courtesy of Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

From the upcoming Black Hole Symphony on Nov. 5, composer **David Ibbett** wants you to be as moved as he is by the complexity and beauty of our universe. A chance

encounter between Ibbett, who is equally passionate about science as he is music, and **Anna Barnacka**, a scientist at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics (CfA), led to the birth of an epic multidisciplinary project to explore black holes through sound. “Black Holes are not just cosmic vacuum cleaners, sucking in everything in sight,” Ibbett tells *City Paper*. “Instead, they are engines of light and creation, living at the hearts of galaxies, including our own.” They decided to share this story through the universal language of music. In collaboration with the CfA and Black Hole Initiative, this symphony is an immersive new production from the [Museum of Science, Boston](#), and the [Multiverse Concert Series](#). It’s been so well received in Massachusetts—selling out all 13 performances so far, Ibbett says—that their team is excited to partner with the National Academy of Sciences to share the piece with national audiences in D.C. Do you need an existing understanding of the cosmos to attend the event? Ibbett says absolutely not. “This concert is the perfect entry point to learn more about these wonders of the universe through science, music, and immersive visuals,” he adds. “Music has a unique ability to reach beyond the barriers of society, making it the perfect medium to share the complex details of science in a way that resonates with everyone.” Couple the symphonic journey through space and time with mesmerizing visuals by animators from the Charles Hayden Planetarium, and collective wonder will result. “From wonder comes further curiosity, and a sense of gratitude to take care of our world, and society which enables these [scientific] discoveries,” Ibbett says. Expect to experience a hidden universe beyond the scope of your eyes. *Black Hole Symphony starts at 3 p.m. on Nov. 5 at the National Academy for Sciences, 2101 Constitution Ave. NW. [eventbrite.com](#). Free, but a photo ID and registration are required.* —**Irene Bantigue**