## AI AND SEO

How Clarity in Organic Search Helps You Thrive in the Age of Chatbots

alp

Dan Titmuss

League of American of Orchestras Conference

INTERACTIVE



Dan Titmuss Senior Consultant, SEO



#### Your Website is like a Building

## Agenda

The Changing Search Landscape The Threat to Google Evolving with Search 5 Technical Tips Content (it still matters!) Takeaways

#### Let's split the room. Who remembers this guy?

#### Let's split the room. Who remembers this guy?



#### Let's split the room. Who remembers this guy?

It sold for \$1.95 billion in 2005

#### CAPACITY INTERACTIVE

The New Hork Times

#### Diller Betting on Internet in Bid to Buy Ask Jeeves

🕆 Share full article

By Saul Hansell March 22, 2005

For years, Barry Diller of IAC/InterActiveCorp has been searching for the right blend of companies that will realize his lofty predictions about the future of Internet commerce. Now the latest object of his search is search.

Mr. Diller announced yesterday that his company would buy Ask Jeeves, a distant fifth in the search market dominated by Yahoo and Google, for stock valued at \$1.95 billion.

InterActiveCorp shareholders wondered whether the acquisition was a sign of Mr. Diller's brilliant deal making or a bad bet on a small player that will never be able to compete with its far bigger rivals.

One sign that the deal may bolster Mr. Diller's reputation was the complaints that ensued among Ask Jeeves shareholders who said that the price was too low.

## We all know what happened next...



Unsplash: Jared Subia

## **GOOGLE SEARCH**

#### **Branded Search**

People looking for you.



#### **Non-Branded Search**

People looking for stuff like you.



#### **Upper-Funnel Search**

People looking for stuff you know about.



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Reddit · r/classicalmusic

#### Google

#### pittsburgh symphony tickets

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#### Pittsburgh Symphony Tickets

Learn More & Buy Tickets – There Is a Seat for You at Heinz Hall. Explore the Pittsburgh Symphony's 2024-2025 Season. Hear the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Led by Music Director Manfred Honeck. Get...

Concert Calendar · View Ticket Options · 25/26 Season · PSO Official Site · Lord of the Rings

#### Sponsored

#### GO GoTickets https://www.gotickets.com

nttps.// www.gotickets.com

Heinz Hall Tickets | Tickets On Sale Now | Heinz Hall 2025 Tickets

Secure Your Seats Today for Events at Heinz Hall. Great Inventory & Secure Checkout.

#### Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

https://pittsburghsymphony.org > calendar

#### Upcoming Events and Tickets for Pittsburgh Symphony ...

**Pittsburgh Symphony** OrchestraClick here to go back to the home page · Time Out · Show me... · Spotlight on African American Composers · Brahms' Fourth Symphony.

#### By Date

Show me... · Thu, May 29, 2025 · Fri, May 30, 2025 · Sat, May 31 ...



**Google has made around** \$700 billion over the last 20 years from Google Ads.

## The Messiah Antonio Stradivari is worth around \$20 million

\$700 billion is around 35,000 of these violins.



Before you say anything, I know this is just a random violin.



## Google's business model relies on helping people find answers in the best way possible.

Source: me

## THE GRADUAL AND SUDDEN INCREASE IN AI

## Tech giants, corporations, and utilities are set to spent \$1 Trilion on Al over the next 5 years.

https://www.goldmansachs.com/insights/articles/will-the-1-trillion-of-generative-ai-investment-pay-off

#### That's like... 50,000 Messiah Antonio Stradivari violins.



The actual picture of the Messiah didn't look good in this slide.

## perplexity

is this search engine better than Google?									
Q :	Search 🛛 🕅 Researc	ch		÷	⊕ ⊘	→			
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## Perplexity saw a 275%

### jump in monthly active users from Q3 2024 to Q1 2025.

https://felloai.com/2024/12/perplexity-ai-everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-ai-search-engine/

## 27%

of consumers now use Gen AI for at least half of their internet searches.

Source: https://www.askattest.com/our-research/consumer-adoption-of-ai-report-2025













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#### This is especially true in people aged 18-24.

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https://www.forbes.com/sites/johnko etsier/2024/03/11/genz-dumpinggoogle-for-tiktok-instagram-associal-search-wins/

CAPACITY INTERACTIVE

#### % of users who are searching with each platform by age



#### **Google dipped below 90% for the first time in 10 years recently.**

#### Search Engine Market Share Worldwide



CAPACITY INTERACTIVE

https://gs.statcounter.com/search-engine-market-share



Al is probably the most important thing humanity has ever worked on. I think of it as something more profound than electricity or fire.

—Sundar Pichai, Alphabet & Google CEO



## Spoiler: It is actually the washing machine

(but AI is still pretty important)

#### Al Overviews are here to stay.



## Back in 2016 43% of Google searches end without a click.

https://searchengineland.com/google-search-zero-click-study-2024-443869

# In 2024, nearly **60%** of Google searches end without a click.

https://searchengineland.com/google-search-zero-click-study-2024-443869



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es, there are several events scheduled at Carnegie Hall this month, cluding performances by Juilliard at Zankel Hall, Anne-Sophie Mutter,	×		
nd Mitsuko Uchida, among others. 🥏	Carnegie Hall: Official Website		
ere's a quick rundown of some of the upcoming events at Carnegie Hall in oril 2025:	Upcoming Events * Apr 3, 2025 7:30 PM. Juilliard at Zankel Hall. Zankel Hall. * Apr 3, 2025 8 PM. Anne-Sophie Mutter		
April 3rd:	🚯 Carnegie Hall		
<ul> <li>Juilliard at Zankel Hall (7:30 PM)</li> </ul>	Carnegie Hall Citywide		
<ul> <li>Anne-Sophie Mutter, Violin, with Lambert Orkis, Piano (8 PM)</li> </ul>	Upcoming Events * Sunday. Apr 6. 2025. Carnegie Hall Presents. Carnegie Hall Citywide: The Met Orchestra		
April 9th:	Gy Carnegie Hall		
<ul> <li>Mitsuko Uchida, Piano (8 PM)</li> </ul>			

#### **AI Mode**

Announced in beta: March 2025 Launched for all customers:

Like, three weeks ago.



## People will start to explore information in a different way.




# Must we just...take a leap of faith?



# Must we just...take a leap of faith?

No!

# A few of you have been around for a while.

https://symphony.org/features/time-signatures-2024/

### CAPACITY I<u>NTERACTIVE</u>



### **Orchestras and Symphonies**

Handel + Haydn Society (1815) NY Philharmonic (1842) St. Louis Symphony (1880) Boston Symphony (1881) Detroit Symphony (1887) Chicago Symphony (1891) New Haven Symphony (1894) Cincinnati Symphony (1895) Pittsburgh Symphony (1895)



# HOW TO EVOLVE WITH SEARCH



## Google's business model relies on helping people find answers in the best way possible.

Source: me

## **Remember,** Google told people to eat glue.





## **Certainty and trust is essential.**

Merlin: Look, I'm a bag haha



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# The Met is clear about their stroller policy in the Visitor Guidelines.

https://www.metmuseum.org/policies/visitor-guidelines

### CAPACITY INTERACTIVE



### What can I bring with me?

- Small backpacks are allowed but must be worn on your front or carried in your hand.
- Water is allowed in a secure bottle. No other liquids are permitted.
- Strollers and front-facing baby carriers are welcome. Please note that some exhibitions do not allow strollers. Jogging strollers and wagons are not allowed.
- Mobility scooters are allowed.
- Service dogs are welcome.



## Our core SEO philosophy still rings true: focus on building helpful, reliable, people-first content.

Vidhya Srinivasan, Google's Vice President of Ads and Commerce at GML in May 2025

# LET'S TALK SEO



Search engine optimization (SEO) is the process of improving a website's visibility in search engines.



# Clarity in SEO will result in clarity in AI.

## Agenda

The Changing Search Landscap The Threat to Google Evolving with Search 5 Technical Tips Content (it still matters!) Takeaways

# **TECHNICAL SEO** Search Files

## The robots.txt file

Always found at: yoursite.org/robots.txt Different to a robots tag on the page.

 $\rightarrow$ С 25 sfsymphony.org/robots.txt ← ĥ User-agent: \* Disallow: /App\_Data/ Disallow: /App\_Code/ Disallow: /bin/ Disallow: /ClientBin/ Disallow: /Home/ Disallow: /kentico12\_admin/ Disallow: /seatme/ Disallow: /Offer/ Disallow: /TicketVoucher/ Disallow: /Discover-the-Music/festival-pages/NEW Disallow: /Discover-the-Music/festival-pages/Corporate Disallow: /Data/Event-Data/Program-Notes/

Sitemap: https://www.sfsymphony.org/sitemap.xml



There's rarely an SEO emergency...

Unsplash: Lalithmalhaar Gudi



# ...but a noindex tag WILL stop your pages from appearing.

<meta name="robots" content="noindex">

Unsplash: Lalithmalhaar Gudi

### **Sitemap Files**

Usually (preferably) .xml files.

Should include every page you want to appear.

Shouldn't include any page you don't want to appear.

You can have multiple sitemap files.

Source: http://carnegiehall.org/sitemap.xml

### CAPACITY INTERACTIVE



This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it. The document tree is shown below.

```
v<urlset xmlns="http://www.sitemaps.org/schemas/sitemap/0.9">
 ▼<url>
    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/Blog</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-04-02</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-04-21</lastmod>
  </url>
 ▼<url>
    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/Cart/Special-Instructions</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-02-07</lastmod>
  </url>
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    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/Cart/Series-Seating</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-02-07</lastmod>
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    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/Cart/Event-Seating</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-02-07</lastmod>
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    <loc>https://www.carnegiehall.org/Subscribe/Subscription-Notice</loc>
    <lastmod>2025-02-08</lastmod>
   </url>
```

## Perfect your sitemap.xml file.

It's your "proposal" of what the crawler should be looking at.

### Remove (or fix) Non-Indexable URLs.

Every URL in the sitemap should be indexable.

Make sure you don't have broken links, redirects, etc. in the sitemap.

## Make sure every crawlable URL is in the sitemap file.

If a URL is clickable from a page on the site, it should be in the sitemap.

### Think about "orphan" URLs.

All URLs in the sitemap should be linked to on site somewhere, if possible.

Try to avoid URLs that are in the sitemap but not found on the site.

Add it to the robots.txt file and Search Console

# **TECHNICAL SEO** Search Accounts

## Search Console

Your account with Google to access organic search data. You can also see how Google is crawling your site.

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## Google Business Profile

Your account with Google that covers the brick and mortar location.

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Concerts & Events in NY	С	
View Carnegie Hall's upcoming	events schedule and calendar	
A Short History		
A Short History. Since it opened	d in 1891, Carnegie Hall has set the	
Carnegie Hall Presents		
An incredible world of music co	omes alive on our stages this	
Box Office & Visitor Info	mation	
Guided Tours - Carnegie Hall FA	AQs - Read Now - Rose Museum	
About		
Leadership and Staff - History	and Rose Archives - Careers	
More results from carnegiehall	org »	
eople also ask 🔅		







# TECHNICAL SEO SEO Tags

## SEO Tags control how you appear on the SERP.





San Francisco Symphony https://www.sfsymphony.org > Buy-Tickets > lord-of-th...

### The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers | Film With Live ...

Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the San Francisco Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8–10, 2025. Official Site.



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## **SEO Tags control how you appear on the SERP.**

### Title Tag

<title>The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers | Film With Live Orchestra</title>

### Meta Description

<meta name="description" content="Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the San Francisco Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8–10, 2025. Official Site." />

## SEO Tags control how you appear on the SERP.

1 <!DOCTYPE html> 2 <html lang="en-us"> 3 <head> -4 s <title>The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers | Film With Live Orchestra 6 </title> <meta property="og:image" content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/SanFrancisco/media/SanFrancisco/Events/24-25/email-og/Web-</pre> OG\_2.jpg" /> <meta property="twitter:image" content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/SanFrancisco/media/SanFrancisco/Events/24-25/email-og/Web-</pre> 8 OG\_2.jpg" /> <meta property="og:title" content="The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers | Film With Live Orchestra</pre> 9 10 " /> <meta property="twitter:title" content="The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers | Film With Live Orchestra</pre> 11 12 " /> 13 <meta property="og:type" content="non\_profit" />
14 <meta property="og:url" content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/lord-of-the-rings" /> 15 <meta property="twitter:url" content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/lord-of-the-rings" /> 16 <meta name="twitter:card" content="summary\_large\_image"> 17 <meta name="twitter:site" content="@SFSymphony"> 18 <meta property="og:site\_name" content="San Francisco Symphony" /> <meta name="description" content="Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the San Francisco</pre> 19 Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8-10, 2025. Official Site. 20 " /> 21 <meta property="og:description" content="Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the San Francisco Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8-10, 2025. Official Site. 22 " /> <meta property="twitter:description" content="Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the</pre> 23 San Francisco Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8-10, 2025. Official Site. 24 " />

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	<html lang="en-us"></html>
3	<head></head>
4	<title>The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers   Film With Live Orchestra&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;</title>
7	<pre><meta content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/SanFrancisco/media/SanFrancisco/Events/24-25/email-og/Web-&lt;/pre&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;OG_2.jpg" property="og:image"/></pre>
8	<pre><meta content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/SanFrancisco/media/SanFrancisco/Events/24-25/email-og/Web-&lt;/pre&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;0G_2.jpg" property="twitter:image"/></pre>
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	<meta content="non_profit" property="og:type"/>
	<meta content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/lord-of-the-rings" property="og:url"/>
	<meta content="https://www.sfsymphony.org/Buy-Tickets/2024-25/lord-of-the-rings" property="twitter:url"/>
	<meta content="summary_large_image" name="twitter:card"/>
	<meta content="@SFSymphony" name="twitter:site"/>
18	<meta content="San Francisco Symphony" property="og:site_name"/>
19	
	Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8–10, 2025. Official Site.
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23	<pre><meta content="Watch The Two Towers on the big screen with live musical accompaniment by the &lt;/pre&gt;&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;~ .&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;San Francisco Symphony. Rated PG-13. May 8-10, 2025. Official Site.&lt;/th&gt;&lt;/tr&gt;&lt;tr&gt;&lt;th&gt;24&lt;/th&gt;&lt;th&gt;" property="twitter:description"/></pre>

# TECHNICAL SEO Schema





## Schema is basically just a way of describing an event.



### C A P A C I T Y I N T E R A C T I V E

## Schema can help get you higher on the SERP.



## Schema-based results help understanding.

classical concerts in sf X 🕴 🖸 🔍 Images News Videos Short videos Forums Maps More -All Tools -

San Francisco Symphony g-----

https://www.sfsymphony.org > Calendar

#### Calendar | Classical Concerts at San Francisco Symphony

Alban Berg 3 · Anna Clyne 1 · Anna Thorvaldsdottir 4 · Felix Mendelssohn 1 · Ferruccio Busoni 1. Show more. Soloist/Performer. Alexander Barantschik 1. Amos ...



Bachtrack https://bachtrack.com > city > san-francisco :

Classical music, opera, ballet and dance in San Francisco, ...

Use Bachtrack's search facility to find concerts, opera and dance events not only in this city but right around the world. Bachtrack has the largest number ...

Hertz Hall

Berkeley, CA

#### Events

🖬 May 25, 2:00 PM

San Francisco, CA

Q Louise M. Davies...



🖬 Jun 6, 7:30 PM

San Francisco, CA

Q Louise M. Davies...



Buena Vista Orchestra May 30, 7:30 PM Aug 14, 7:00 PM Golden Gate The... San Francisco, CA \$49




# **CREATIVE SEO** Content Creation



# Your expertise is your goldmine.

Unsplash: Abner Campos

## Content

#### Cosymphony



7 Famous Italian Composers to Know

Explore the Colorado Symphony's guide to famous Italian composers who have influenced the classical music scene. Read more on the blog.

READ MORE >



EVENTS & TICKETS PLAN YOUR VISIT EDUCATION

Wednesday, July 3, 2024 8 German Classical Composers to Know Explore the music of eight German composers who have had a profound impact on

classical music. Read more on the Colorado Symphony blog.

READ MORE >







Wednesday, May 29, 2024 **7 AANHPI Composers to Know** Learn about Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) composers who have left an indelible mark on classical music and bevond.

Download





Encyclopedic vs. Magazine-Based Content





# Encyclopedic vs. Magazine based content

#### $\equiv$ **CARNEGIE HALL**

# The Joke

#### **By Matt Carlson**

Spend enough time around 57th Street and Seventh Avenue in New York City, and you're bound to be asked for directions to Carnegie Hall. "Which way to Carnegie Hall?" "Where is Carnegie Hall?" "What's the address for Carnegie Hall?"

Almost never does one ask the "how" question because everyone knows how you get to Carnegie Hall. You practice.



The answer, and the punchline of the joke, is: "Practice, practice, practice!"

#### Explanation:

Carnegie Hall is a renowned performance venue known for its history of hosting legendary musicians. The joke highlights the dedication and hard work required to become a great musician and achieve the level of skill needed to perform on such a prestigious stage.

Show more 🗸

How do you get to Carnegie Hall? The answer to this question inspired a well-known joke. The...

🚯 Carnegie Hall 🚦

### What is the origin of the name 'Carnegie Hall'? - Quora

May 3, 2024 — Tchaikovsky was there at the very beginning when the hall opened. ... How are the acoustics in Carnegie...

O Quora



The Joke





## Encyclopedic vs. Magazine-Based Content

Unsplash: Tim van Cleef

# TAKEAWAYS



# Search is an ever-changing channel, but some things don't change.

Source: me





## **Takeaways**

People want to see your art.

Search platforms want to help people find your art.

AI and SEO are intrinsically linked.

Thorough SEO = More AI Visibility.

## **Timely and Relevant Resources**



# **Thank You!**

Reach out to me at dan@capacityinteractive.com



@Capacity\_Interactive

f /CapacityInteractiveCapacityInteractive



