



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF NEW CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SHELDON

Five-concert St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at The Sheldon series curated by SLSO musicians begins October 25

Each concert features a new work by a student composer at the University of Missouri, including four world premieres, part of a long-standing partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative

Concerts include music by Ludwig van Beethoven, Franz Biebl, Valerie Coleman, Antonín Dvořák, Paul Hindemith, Bohuslav Martinů, Jessie Montgomery, W.A. Mozart, Carl Nielsen, Florence Price, Christian Quiñones, Maurice Ravel, Franz Schubert, Jean Sibelius, Louis Spohr, Richard Strauss, Igor Stravinsky, Richard Wagner, Shannon Wood, plus five University of Missouri student composers

(September 28, 2023, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details for a new, five-concert chamber music series in collaboration with The Sheldon. Showcasing the talents of SLSO musicians in smaller ensembles, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at The Sheldon series presents a wide variety of chamber music at the SLSO's neighbor in Grand Center, known for its exceptional acoustics and intimate atmosphere. Curated and performed by SLSO musicians, concerts spotlight the musicians and the instruments they play with programming that spans chamber music repertoire. From beloved standards to the first performances of music by established and emerging composers of today, the series presents 14 pieces performed by the SLSO for the first time.

The inaugural concert takes place on October 25, featuring SLSO woodwind players and curated by Principal Clarinetist Scott Andrews and Principal Bassoonist Andrew Cuneo. Future concerts feature musicians from the SLSO's strings, piano, percussion, and horn sections with concerts curated by violinist Angie Smart and cellist Bjorn Ranheim (December 6); Concertmaster David Halen and Principal Second Violinist Alison Harney (February 7); Principal Timpanist Shannon Wood (March 6); and Principal Horn Roger Kaza and Fourth Horn Julie Thayer (April 7).

The series is sponsored by the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation.

**Marie-Hélène Bernard, SLSO President and CEO,** said, "Giving a voice to our musicians to explore chamber repertoire and elevate their superb artistry through this new collaboration is very exciting. We are delighted to continue a meaningful partnership with The Sheldon near our home in Grand Center as the expansion and renovation of Powell Hall is in full swing. This new series builds on our





long partnerships with The Sheldon and the University of Missouri, in our shared mission to present engaging chamber experiences for our audiences while uplifting emerging musical voices."

**Peter Palermo, Executive Director of The Sheldon,** said, "The Sheldon has been a gathering place for St. Louis' finest musicians for over a century. This new partnership allows us to continue that great tradition. The Sheldon's perfect acoustics coupled with SLSO's incomparable musicians will make any chamber music lover's dreams come true. We are delighted to partner with SLSO and bring these concerts to our community."

Concerts this season include works by Ludwig van Beethoven, Antonín Dvořák, Maurice Ravel, and Richard Strauss; paired alongside lesser-heard voices including Bohuslav Martinů, Florence Price, and Louis Spohr; and composers of today including Valerie Coleman, Jessie Montgomery, Christian Quiñones, and Shannon Wood (SLSO Principal Timpanist). Unique to these concerts, the series also includes the first SLSO performances of five chamber music pieces—four of which are world premieres—composed by emerging artists at the University of Missouri, continuing a long-standing and multi-faceted partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative that includes full orchestral performances of student compositions and mentoring opportunities.

Tickets start at \$31 (\$15 for students) and are on sale now.

In addition to this new series, the SLSO performs a full season of orchestral programs under the leadership of Music Director Stéphane Denève and renowned guest conductors alongside the world's great visiting soloists. Programming includes orchestral performances featuring timeless masterpieces to exciting collaborations; the 20th anniversary season of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at the Pulitzer, which features chamber ensemble performances celebrating music of today; a variety of holiday concerts, film concerts, and concerts with popular artists; Family and Education concerts, part of a portfolio of education programming that and serves more than 330,000 teachers and students annually; and a variety of community concerts.

While the transformative expansion and renovation of historic Powell Hall continues, the SLSO will perform classical concerts at two landmark performance venues: the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis and Stifel Theatre in downtown St. Louis. Additional concerts take place at The Sheldon, the Pulitzer Arts Foundation, the J. Scheidegger Center for Performing Arts at Lindenwood University, and throughout the region.

#### St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at The Sheldon Concerts:

All concerts will take place at The Sheldon, 3648 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63108.

#### Valerie Coleman and Louis Spohr: Winds with Strings Wednesday, October 25, 7:30pm CDT

Scott Andrews, curator and clarinet





Andrew Cuneo, curator and bassoon Matthew Roitstein, flute Philip Ross, oboe Tod Bowermaster, horn Celeste Golden Andrews, violin Chris Tantillo, viola Jennifer Humphreys, cello David DeRiso, double bass

Valerie Coleman
Atticus Schlegel
Carl Nielsen
Richard Strauss (arr. Hasenöhrl)
Louis Spohr

*Tzigane Forgotten Fantasy* (First SLSO performance) *Serenata in vano* (First SLSO performance) *Till Eulenspiegel, einmal anders!* Nonet in F Major (First SLSO performances)

Curated by Scott Andrews (SLSO Principal Clarinet) and Andrew Cuneo (SLSO Principal Bassoon). The performance of Atticus Schlegel's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

SLSO wind and string musicians launch the new Live at The Sheldon chamber music series with a fascinating program including music by Valerie Coleman and Carl Nielsen, plus Louis Spohr's inventive and charming Nonet, and Richard Strauss's playful take on a German prankster of lore in *Till Eulenspiegel, einmal anders!* 

### <u>Schubert, Jessie Montgomery, and Christian Quiñones: Strings</u> Wednesday, December 6, 7:30pm CST

Angie Smart, curator and violin Bjorn Ranheim, curator and cello Andrea Jarrett, violin Shannon Farrell Williams, viola Aleck Belcher, double bass

Jessie Montgomery	Strum
Harry González	New Work (World premiere)
Christian Quiñones	Pasemisí, Pasemisá
Franz Schubert	String Quintet in C major

Curated by Angie Smart (SLSO violin) and Bjorn Ranheim (SLSO cello). The performance of Harry González's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.





A celebration of strings brings together a quintet of SLSO string players performing a rich array of music by Jessie Montgomery and Christian Quiñones, as well as Franz Schubert's Quintet in C major.

<u>Ravel and Dvořák: Strings with Piano</u> Wednesday, February 7, 7:30pm CST

David Halen, curator and violin Alison Harney, curator and violin Beth Guterman Chu, viola Melissa Brooks, cello Peter Henderson, piano

Florence Price	Andante Cantabile from String Quartet No. 2 in A Minor
Robyne Sieh	New Work (World premiere)
Maurice Ravel	String Quartet in F Major
Antonín Dvořák	Piano Quintet in A major, op. 81

Curated by David Halen (SLSO Concertmaster) and Alison Harney (SLSO Principal Second Violin). The performance of Robyne Sieh's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

SLSO Concertmaster David Halen leads a program that showcases the lush sounds of Maurice Ravel's String Quartet and Antonín Dvorák's masterpiece Piano Quintet in A major, featuring pianist Peter Henderson. Florence Price's delicate and soulful Andante Cantabile opens the program.

### <u>Stravinsky, Martinů, and Shannon Wood: Percussion Spotlight</u> Wednesday, March 6, 7:30pm CST

Shannon Wood | curator, timpani, and percussion Cally Banham, English horn Tzuying Huang, clarinet Julia Paine, bassoon Victoria Knudtson, horn Steven Franklin, trumpet Amanda Stewart, trombone Peter Henderson, piano Shawn Weil, violin Elizabeth Chung, cello Erik Harris, double bass

### Bohuslav Martinů Morima Yerby

Quartet for clarinet, horn, cello, and side drum (First SLSO performance) New Work (World premiere)





Shannon Wood Igor Stravinsky Abballanu Cifalutani (First SLSO performance) The Soldier's Tale Suite

Curated by Shannon Wood (SLSO Principal Timpani).

The performance of Morima Yerby's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

A diverse and dynamic program features the SLSO percussion section, with performances of Igor Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* Suite, Bohuslav Martinů's Quartet with snare drum, and a new work by Shannon Wood, the SLSO's Principal Timpanist, for English horn, cello, piano, and timpani.

### Beethoven and Hindemith: Horns with Strings Sunday, April 7, 3:00pm CST

Roger Kaza, curator and horn Julie Thayer, curator and horn Thomas Jöstlein, horn Blaine Dodson, horn Tod Bowermaster, horn Victoria Knudtson, horn Jessica Cheng Hellwege, violin Asako Kuboki, violin Andrew François, viola Alvin McCall, cello

W.A. Mozart	March in F Major, K. 248 (First SLSO performance)
Jean Sibelius	"Solitude" from Belshazzar's Feast (First SLSO performance)
Paul Hindemith	Sonata for Four Horns (First SLSO performance)
Franz Biebl	"Ave Maria"
Richard Wagner	Tristan Fantasy (First SLSO performance)
J.T. Wolfe	New Work (World premiere)
Ludwig van Beethoven	Sextet in E-flat major (First SLSO performance)

Curated by Roger Kaza (SLSO Principal Horn) and Julie Thayer (SLSO Fourth Horn). The performance of J.T. Wolfe's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

Majestic horns herald the arrival of spring with a program of music including Ludwig van Beethoven's enchanting Sextet in E flat major for two horns and string quartet and Paul Hindemith's masterly Sonata for Four Horns.

### About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra





Celebrated as one of today's most exciting and enduring orchestras, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the second-oldest orchestra in the country, marking its 144th year with the 2023/2024 season and its fifth with <u>Music Director Stéphane Denève</u>. Widely considered one of the leading American orchestras, the Grammy<sup>®</sup> Award-winning SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations—all in service to its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The transformational expansion and renovation of its historic home, Powell Hall, slated to be completed in 2025, builds on the institution's momentum as a civic leader in convening individuals, creators, and ideas, while fostering a culture welcoming to all. Committed to building community through compelling and inclusive musical experiences, the SLSO continues its longstanding focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, embracing its strengths as a responsive, nimble organization, while investing in partnerships locally and elevating its presence globally. For more information, visit slso.org.

#### About The Sheldon

Through the power of music and art, The Sheldon ensures that all have access to unique, relevant, and inventive experiences that change lives and strengthen our community. The Sheldon breaks down barriers, making music and visual art accessible to all. Known around the world for its acoustically perfect concert hall, the adjoining Sheldon Art Galleries presents world-class visual art exhibitions in an intimate space, and over 30,000 young people each year engage in Sheldon education programs including live and online performances and STEAM-based learning. TheSheldon.org.

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