



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[December 28, 2023] Contacts: St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Eric Dundon National/International: Nikki Scandalio

Eric Dundon <u>ericd@slso.org</u>, 314-286-4134 Nikki Scandalios nikki@scandaliospr.com, 704-340-4094

# LATE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERTS PRESENT A WIDE VARIETY OF ARTISTS AND MUSIC AT SIX VENUES

On January 27-28, Music Director Stéphane Denève leads the orchestra in a concert that fuses music and visual art with performances of Albert Roussel's *The Spider's Feast*, Francis Poulenc's *Les Animaux modèles*, and Sergei Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* 

On January 30, the second concert in the 20th anniversary of the Live at the Pulitzer series features music by Laurence Crane, Allison Loggins-Hull, Christopher Stark, Cassie Wieland and Olly Wilson

On February 2, Denève leads acclaimed violinist Augustin Hadelich in two performances of Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto; concerts also include the first SLSO performances of Valerie Coleman's *Umoja* and Florence Price's Symphony No. 3

On February 3, Tiny Tunes: The Lion and the Mouse tailors a musical experience for families with children ages 3-6 at The Sheldon

On February 7, the third Live at The Sheldon chamber music concert curated by SLSO musicians features strings and piano in music by Antonín Dvořák, Florence Price, Maurice Ravel, and the world premiere of a string quartet by Robyne Sieh

On February 10, frequent guest conductor Norman Huynh leads a celebration of Lunar New Year at the J. Scheidegger Center for Performing Arts featuring erhu player Rulin Olivia Zhang

On February 17-18, Denève leads the SLSO and St. Louis Symphony Chorus in Carl Orff's beloved Carmina Burana with a cast of vocalists that include soprano Ying Fang and tenor Sunnyboy Dladla in their SLSO debuts and baritone Thomas Lehman; concerts also include the first SLSO performances of Lera Auerbach's Icarus, plus Arvo Pärt's Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten and Richard Wagner's "Liebestod" from Tristan and Isolde

On February 23, the SLSO and the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus, led by Kevin McBeth, celebrate Black History Month with the annual Lift Every Voice concert featuring vocalist BeBe Winans

On February 28, the SLSO and St. Louis Symphony Chorus head to the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis for a concert that includes Gabriel Fauré's Requiem with soprano Brenda Rae and baritone Davóne Tines in their SLSO debuts





**(December 28, 2023, St. Louis, MO)** – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its late January and February concerts at six venues throughout the region. Concerts include classical and choral favorites, acclaimed guest artists, chamber music concerts, celebrations of Lunar New Year and Black History Month, and a concert tailored for children ages 3-6 and their families.

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased at <u>slso.org</u> or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700. A full concert calendar is available at <u>slso.org</u> or on the SLSO's mobile app available for iOS or Android. Audiences can attend a Pre-Concert Conversation, an engaging discussion about the music and artists on the program, one hour prior to each classical concert.

While the expansion and renovation of Powell Hall continues, the SLSO will perform late January and February concerts at several venues throughout the region: Stifel Theatre in downtown St. Louis (January 27-28, February 17-18, 23), the Pulitzer Arts Foundation in Grand Center (January 30), the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (February 2), The Sheldon (February 3 and 7), the J. Scheidegger Center for Performing Arts at Lindenwood University (February 10), and the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis (February 28). Shuttle service will be available for concerts at the UMSL's Touhill Performing Arts Center and Stifel Theatre starting at \$15 per seat. There will be two shuttle pick-up locations for performances at Stifel Theatre: Plaza Frontenac and St. Louis Community College–Forest Park. Shuttles for performances at the Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL will depart from Plaza Frontenac and free parking is available on the UMSL campus.

## Musical Fables with Animation and Film Saturday, January 27, 7:30pm CST Sunday, January 28, 3:00pm CST Stifel Theatre 1400 Market Street, St. Louis, MO, 63103

Stéphane Denève, conductor Grégoire Pont, illustrator and animator Ken Page, narrator Peter and the Wolf, the 2008 Oscar<sup>®</sup> Winner for Best Animated Short Film, directed by Suzie Templeton

Albert Roussel	The Spider's Feast (First SLSO performances)
Francis Poulenc	Les Animaux modèles (First SLSO performances)
Sergei Prokofiev	Peter and the Wolf

On January 27-28, Music Director Stéphane Denève leads the SLSO in a feast for the ears and eyes in a program that combines aural and visual art. French animator Grégoire Pont conjures an entire visual world with animation projected during the first SLSO performances of Albert Roussel's *The Spider's Feast*. Sergei Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* is accompanied by the Academy Award-winning short film in a new reimagination of a concert hall staple. St. Louis native and Broadway veteran Ken Page





joins Denève and the orchestra to capture the energy of Francis Poulenc's colorful musical fables, *Les Animaux modèles (Model Animals)*. Tickets start at \$15.

<u>St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at the Pulitzer | Material and Memory</u> Tuesday, January 30, 7:30pm CST Pulitzer Arts Foundation, 3716 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

Andrea Kaplan, flute Tzuying Huang, clarinet Andrea Jarrett, violin Bjorn Ranheim, cello Peter Henderson | organ, keyboard, and piano

Laurence Crane	Riis (First SLSO performances)
Olly Wilson	Echoes (First SLSO performances)
Christopher Stark	Maple (First SLSO performances)
Allison Loggins-Hull	Homeland (First SLSO performances)
Cassie Wieland	to live in static (First SLSO performances)

Inspired by St. Louis' past and present, the second St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at the Pulitzer concert of the 20th anniversary season features the first SLSO performances of five works, programmed in response to the art on display at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation. The program invites engagement with the spirit of the city echoed through the sonic worlds of St. Louis-born Olly Wilson and current resident Christopher Stark, the curator of the 23/24 Live at the Pulitzer concerts. Allison Loggins-Hull prompts reflection, while Laurence Crane and Cassie Wieland create gentle spaces for continued contemplation. Tickets are \$25.

Barber and Price Friday, February 2, 10:30am CST\* Friday, February 2, 7:30pm CST Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis 1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121

Stéphane Denève, conductor Augustin Hadelich, violin

Valerie Coleman Samuel Barber Florence Price *Umoja: Anthem of Unity* (First SLSO performances) Violin Concerto Symphony No. 3 (First SLSO performances)

\*Refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee and Eddie's Southtown Donuts.





Florence Price was a pioneer, a key figure in the Black Chicago Renaissance, championed by America's finest performers. Her Third Symphony, written during the height of the Great Depression, combines deep passion with an ear for great tunes and danceable rhythms and receives its first SLSO performances in this program. Valerie Coleman's *Umoja* seeks a union for family, community, nation, and race. Violinist Augustin Hadelich, an international sensation, and a St. Louis favorite, plays Samuel Barber's Violin Concerto. Tickets start at \$15.

Family Concert | Tiny Tunes: The Lion and the Mouse Saturday, February 3, 11:30am CST The Sheldon Concert Hall 3648 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

Kevin McBeth, conductor Michelle Byrd, narrator

With music by Edvard Grieg and W.A. Mozart, arrangements by Adam Maness.

SLSO education programs are presented by Steward Family Foundation and World Wide Technology.

Tiny Tunes is a 30-minute concert created especially for children ages 3-6, introducing families to the orchestra through storytelling and movement. In this program, two unlikely friends—the mighty lion and the little mouse—take audiences on an adventure that proves even the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference. Familiar tunes from Edvard Grieg's *Peer Gynt* bring the story to life as students dance and make music along with SLSO musicians. Arrive early for pre-concert activities for the whole family. Tickets are \$15.

<u>Live at The Sheldon: Ravel and Dvořák</u> Wednesday, February 7, 7:30pm CST The Sheldon Concert Hall 3648 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

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

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





Chamber music 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 and Principal Second Violinist Alison Harney lead the third Live at The Sheldon concert, a celebration of chamber music selected by musicians. The program showcases the lush sounds of Maurice Ravel's String Quartet and Antonín Dvorák's masterpiece Piano Quintet in A major, featuring SLSO Principal Keyboard Peter Henderson. A quartet gives the world premiere of a new work by Robyne Sieh, a University of Missouri student and rising composer. Tickets start at \$31.

#### Lunar New Year

Saturday, February 10, 7:30pm CST J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts at Lindenwood University 2300 W. Clay St., St. Charles, Missouri, 63301

Norman Huynh, conductor Rulin Olivia Zhang, erhu CECC dragon dance team Thunder Drum team

Li Huanzhi	Spring Festival Overture
Dai Wei	The Dancing Moonlight (First SLSO performance)
Tan Dun	Internet Symphony, "Eroica" (First SLSO performance)
Maurice Ravel	"Little Ugly Girl, Empress of the Pagodas" from Mother Goose Suite
G.F. Handel	Overture to Music for the Royal Fireworks
He Zhanhao	The Butterfly Lovers (Liang Shanbo yu Zhu Yingtai) (First SLSO performance)
Igor Stravinsky	Selections from The Firebird Suite (1919 version)

*Presented in partnership with the Chinese Education and Culture Center in St. Louis and the Asian American Chamber of Commerce St. Louis.* 

Welcome the Year of the Dragon with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra at Lindenwood University in St. Charles. Conductor Norman Huynh leads this hour-long musical Lunar New Year celebration featuring guest erhu soloist Rulin Olivia Zhang plus an exciting appearance by the Chinese Education and Culture Center dragon dance team and the Thunder Drum team. Tickets start at \$27.

<u>Carmina Burana</u> Saturday, February 17, 7:30pm CST Sunday, February 18, 3:00pm CST Stifel Theatre 1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103





Stéphane Denève, conductor Ying Fang, soprano **(SLSO debut)** Sunnyboy Dladla, tenor **(SLSO debut)** Thomas Lehman, baritone St. Louis Symphony Chorus | Andrew Whitfield, guest director St. Louis Children's Choirs | Alyson Moore, artistic director

Arvo Pärt	Cantus in Memoriam Benjamin Britten
Lera Auerbach	Icarus (First SLSO performances)
Richard Wagner	"Liebestod" from Tristan and Isolde
Carl Orff	Carmina Burana

Right from its famous opening notes, Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* shakes Stifel Theatre to its foundation. Orff's work charts the course of fate with songs of joy, love, and celebration, featuring a trio of soloists and the St. Louis Symphony Chorus. Music Director Stéphane Denève crafts a first half trilogy of loss and fateful farewell. In Arvo Pärt's Cantus in *Memoriam Benjamin Britten*, pure sounds fill the auditorium, then Lera Auerbach brings the heat of the sun in *Icarus*. The *love-death* from Richard Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* ends with a salute to eternal love. Tickets start at \$15.

Lift Every Voice: Celebrating Black History Month Friday, February 23, 7:30pm CST Stifel Theatre 1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Kevin McBeth, conductor BeBe Winans, vocals **(SLSO debut)** St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus | Kevin McBeth, Director

Repertoire announced at a later date.

Presented by the Steward Family Foundation. Supported by Bayer Fund.

The SLSO and its inimitable IN UNISON Chorus—marking its 30th year in 2024—continue a decadeslong tradition in a one-of-a-kind celebration of Black History Month. The IN UNISON Chorus is made up of singers across St. Louis from all walks of life, from doctors and nurses to students and teachers, and is dedicated to the performance and preservation of music from the African diaspora. Soulful singer BeBe Winans joins the chorus and orchestra for this celebration. Tickets start at \$27.

<u>SLSO at Cathedral Basilica</u> Wednesday, February 28, 8:00pm CST Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis





#### 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

Stéphane Denève, conductor Brenda Rae, soprano **(SLSO debut)** Davóne Tines, baritone **(SLSO debut)** St. Louis Symphony Chorus | Erin Freeman, guest director

Gabriel Fauré Charles Koechlin Lili Boulanger Maurice Ravel Gabriel Fauré

Pavane Choral sur le nom de Fauré (First SLSO performance) Pie Jesu (First SLSO performance) Pavane for a Dead Princess Requiem

Tickets available at <u>cathedralconcerts.org</u>.

Presented by BSI Constructors.

Voices soar to the rafters of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis in a program led by Music Director Stéphane Denève. Opera stars Brenda Rae and Davóne Tines join the St. Louis Symphony Chorus in Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, reflecting on eternal rest and consolation. Two tranquil pavanes by Fauré and Maurice Ravel invite introspection, accompanied by reverent selections by Charles Koechlin and Lili Boulanger. Tickets start at \$30.

#### 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>Stéphane Denève, The Joseph and Emily Rauh Pulitzer Music Director</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 <u>slso.org</u>.

#### About the University of Missouri-St. Louis Touhill Performing Arts Center

Designed by the renowned architectural firm I.M. Pei, Cobb, Freed and Partners, the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center is a landmark performance facility on the campus of the University of





Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL). The Center hosts an average of 120 events, 200 performances, and 90,000 visitors per year.

The Touhill staff manages several collaborative relationships and programs that, along with campus and community partners, bring together a diverse season of dance, theatre, music, festivals, and special events.

### About Stifel Theatre

Stifel Theatre is a historic, 3,100 seat theatre in the heart of downtown St. Louis. Originally opened in 1934, Stifel Theatre's stage has welcomed some of entertainment's greatest performers and was the primary venue for the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra from 1934-1968. Following a \$78.7 million restoration, this historical gem has been restored to its original splendor and undergone state-of-the-art upgrades.

Stifel Theatre plays host to a wide variety of events, including concerts, comedies, theatricals, family shows, holiday productions, and more.

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