



**St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MARCH 2024 CONCERTS INCLUDE AN SLSO CO-COMMISSION, OPERA AND CLASSICAL FAVORITES, DANCE COLLABORATION, AND CONCERTS FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

On March 3, Stéphane Denève leads the orchestra in operatic favorites, with featured soloists Erin Schreiber (Associate Concertmaster) and Melissa Brooks (Associate Principal Cello)

The fourth Live at The Sheldon chamber music concert features percussion instruments in music by Bohuslav Martinů, Igor Stravinsky, Richard Schwarz and Shannon Wood, plus a world premiere by Morima Yerby, March 6

On March 9-10, the SLSO performs the score to the acclaimed animated film *Encanto* while the film plays live; Anthony Parnter conducts in his SLSO debut

The SLSO, Denève, and The Big Muddy Dance Company collaborate on the first SLSO performances of Adam Schoenberg's *Picture Studies* with choreography by Kirven Douthit-Boyd; March 16-17 concerts also include Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet Suite*

In three concerts on March 22-23, Denève and the SLSO give the SLSO premiere of Julia Wolfe's *Pretty*, a work co-commissioned by the orchestra; concerts also include Hector Berlioz's *Beatrice and Benedict Overture* and Ludwig van Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor," with pianist Tom Borrow in his SLSO debut

March concludes with a family concert exploring music about dance, March 24, at Lindenwood University's J. Scheidegger Center for Performing Arts in St. Charles

(January 30, 2024, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its March 2024 concerts at four venues throughout the region. Concerts include the St. Louis premiere of an SLSO co-commissioned work, operatic favorites, a dance collaboration with The Big Muddy Dance Company, and concerts for the entire family. Stéphane Denève, The Joseph and Emily Rauh Pulitzer Music Director, leads six concerts at UMSL's Touhill Performing Arts Center and Stifel Theatre.

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased at slo.org or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700. A full concert calendar is available at slo.org or on the SLSO's mobile app available for iOS or Android. Broadcasts of classical concerts will take place on March 9 and 23 on 90.7 FM KWMU St. Louis Public Radio, Classic 107.3, and [online](#). 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 March concerts at several venues throughout the region: the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (March 3, 22-23), The Sheldon (March 6), Stifel Theatre (March 9-10; 16-17), and the J. Scheidegger Center for Performing Arts at Lindenwood University (March 24). 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.

Operatic Favorites

Sunday, March 3, 3:00pm CST

**Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis
1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Melissa Brooks, cello

Erin Schreiber, violin

Claudio Monteverdi

Tocatta from L’Orfeo

W.A. Mozart

The Marriage of Figaro Overture

Gioacchino Rossini

The Barber of Seville Overture

Giacomo Puccini

Intermezzo from Manon Lescaut

Vincenzo Bellini

“Casta Diva” from Norma

Amilcare Ponchielli

“Dance of the Hours” from La Gioconda

Ambroise Thomas

Mignon Overture

Georges Bizet

“Les Toréadors” from Carmen

Pablo de Sarasate

Carmen Fantasy

Jacques Offenbach

Barcarolle from The Tales of Hoffmann

Jacques Offenbach

Can-Can from Gaité Parisienne

Limited tickets remain.

Denève leads the SLSO on an operatic extravaganza through 300 years of heart-stopping melodies, captivating drama, and thrilling dances of opera. Music from Claudio Monteverdi’s *L’Orfeo*, one of the very first operas, begins a journey through operatic masterpieces by W.A. Mozart, Gioacchino Rossini, Giacomo Puccini, Vincenzo Bellini, and Amilcare Ponchielli’s “Dance of the Hours,” now best known as the hippopotamus ballet from *Fantasia*. The SLSO’s Associate Concertmaster Erin Schreiber gives a virtuoso turn in Pablo de Sarasate’s Fantasy on Georges Bizet’s *Carmen*. Associate Principal Cello Melissa Brooks performs Vincenzo Bellini’s “Casta Diva” from *Norma*. Limited tickets remain and start at \$15.



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Live at The Sheldon: Percussion Spotlight

Wednesday, March 6, 7:30pm CST

The Sheldon Concert Hall

3648 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

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

Quartet for clarinet, horn, cello, and side drum **(First SLSO performance)**

Morima Yerby

New Work **(World premiere)**

Shannon Wood

Abballanu Cifalutani **(First SLSO performance)**

Richard Schwarz

Brujo

Igor Stravinsky

The Soldier's Tale Suite

Sponsored by the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation. The performance of Morima Yerby's work is presented in partnership with the Mizzou New Music Initiative.

The fourth of five Live at The Sheldon chamber music concerts is rooted in music featuring percussion instruments. Curated by SLSO Principal Timpanist Shannon Wood, the diverse and dynamic program features Igor Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale Suite*, the musical parable of a soldier who trades his violin for riches. Wood trades his timpani for snare drum in Bohuslav Martinů's Quartet with snare drum and returns to timpani for the SLSO premiere of a work he composed. Tickets start at \$31.

Encanto in Concert

Saturday, March 9, 2:00pm CST

Sunday, March 10, 2:00pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Anthony Parnter, conductor **(SLSO debut)**

Germaine Franco

Encanto in Concert



The SLSO enters the enchanting world of the Madrigals with Walt Disney Animation Studios' Academy Award-winning film, *Encanto*. This heartwarming tale comes alive on the majestic Stifel Theatre's big screen, accompanied by the SLSO performance of the film's magical, chart-topping soundtrack live. Mirabel, the seemingly ordinary Madrigal, becomes a beacon of hope her extraordinary family needs when the magic of their home is at stake. The concert features the infectious score composed by Germaine Franco, the first woman to score a Disney animated feature film, and riveting original songs by the multi-talented Lin-Manuel Miranda. Tickets start at \$47.

Romeo and Juliet

Saturday, March 16, 7:30pm CDT

Sunday, March 17, 3:00pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis Missouri, 63103

Stéphane Denève, conductor

The Big Muddy Dance Company | Kirven Douthit-Boyd, choreographer (Schoenberg)

Adam Schoenberg

Picture Studies (First SLSO performances)

Sergei Prokofiev

Romeo and Juliet Suite

Presented by the Whitaker Foundation.

Supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Dance courses through the veins of this program through sound and movement. American composer Adam Schoenberg writes music that sounds like a cross between Radiohead and Aaron Copland. His *Picture Studies*, a 21st-century version of Mussorgsky's timeless *Pictures at an Exhibition*, brings disparate works of visual art to musical life, enhanced by choreography and dancers from The Big Muddy Dance Company. In the second half of the program, Denève leads the orchestra alone in Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet Suite*, capturing the thrills and tragedy of a star-crossed love. Tickets start at \$15.

Beethoven's Piano Cycle: Beethoven's "Emperor" Concerto

Friday, March 22, 10:30am CDT*

Friday, March 22, 7:30pm CDT

Saturday, March 23, 7:30pm CDT

Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis

1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Tom Borrow, piano (**SLSO debut**)



Hector Berlioz
Julia Wolfe
Ludwig van Beethoven

Beatrice and Benedict Overture
*Pretty (First SLSO performances | SLSO co-commission)***
Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"

**Refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee and Eddie's Southtown Donuts.*
***SLSO co-commission with the Berlin Philharmonic and Houston Symphony.*

Power takes many forms in this program. It can be the majesty of Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto, known as the "Emperor." Israeli pianist Tom Borrow brings his "supremely incandescent" touch to the concerto, written at a time of war. It can be American composer Julia Wolfe's *Pretty*, tearing down walls between musical styles, between players and audiences, between genders. It can be the sheer orchestral power and imagination of Hector Berlioz's virtuosic overture to the comic Shakespearean opera *Beatrice and Benedict*. Tickets start at \$15.

Family Concert | Dance Party!

Sunday, March 24, 3:00pm CDT
J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts at Lindenwood University
2300 W. Clay St., St. Charles, Missouri, 63301

Jason Seber, conductor

Arturo Márquez	<i>Conga del Fuego Nuevo</i>
Aaron Copland	<i>Variations on a Shaker Melody</i>
Igor Stravinsky	"Infernal Dance of King Katschei" from <i>The Firebird Suite</i> (1919)
Florence Price	"Juba Dance" from <i>Symphony No. 1</i>
Mason Bates	"Warehouse Medicine" from <i>The B-Sides (First SLSO performance)</i>
Georges Bizet (arr. Hoffman)	"Habanera" from <i>Carmen Suite No. 2</i>
Georges Bizet	"Les Toréadors" from <i>Carmen Suite No. 1</i>
Antonín Dvořák	Slavonic Dance No. 1

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

Recommended for children ages 5-10 years and their families, this Family Concert explores dances set to music from a variety of cultures, from the fiery conga of Mexico to the traditional Juba dance from African American traditions. Arrive early to join in the pre-concert activities including a scavenger hunt with the musicians of the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. Family Concerts are inclusive of people with sensory sensitivities. Tickets start at \$15.

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 [Stéphane Denève, The Joseph and Emily Rauh Pulitzer Music Director](#). Widely considered one of the leading American orchestras, the Grammy® Award-winning SLSO maintains its



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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 slo.org.

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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