



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA APRIL AND MAY CONCERTS FEATURE SYMPHONIC FAVORITES TO CHAMBER MUSIC AND FILMS, AND SPECIAL CONCERT WITH ACCLAIMED CELLIST YO-YO MA

On April 5, R.E.M. Explored welcomes R.E.M. co-founder and bassist Mike Mills for a one-night-only concert

On April 7, the successful first season of the Live at The Sheldon chamber music series concludes, featuring the horn section in music by Beethoven, Hindemith, Mozart, Sibelius, Wagner, Caroline Shaw, and a world premiere by J.T. Wolfe

The 20th anniversary of the Live at the Pulitzer series concludes with music by Clarice Assad, Osvaldo Golijov, Molly Herron, and Pulitzer Prize winner Raven Chacon, April 9

The SLSO performs the John Williams score to *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* with conductor Norman Huynh, April 13-14

On April 19-21, pianist Marie-Ange Nguci makes her SLSO debut in Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto, conductor John Storgårds also leads Sibelius' Symphony No. 7 and the first SLSO performances of Sibelius' *Rakastava (The Lover)* and Per Nørgård's *Lysning (Glade)*

An SLSO string quartet performs a free community concert at the Saint Louis Art Museum, April 19

The St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, led by Ian Passmore, concludes its 23/24 season with a performance of Rachmaninoff's Symphony No. 2 and Erich Wolfgang Korngold's Violin Concerto with soloist Micaela Chyu, April 20

A free community concert celebrates the music in everyone at Maryville University, April 24

Music Director Stéphane Denève leads the SLSO and St. Louis Symphony Chorus in Verdi's Requiem, April 27-28; soprano Hulkar Sabirova, mezzo-soprano Judit Kutasi, tenor Russell Thomas, and bass Adam Palka make SLSO debuts

One-night-only concert, May 3, features renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma with the SLSO on Elgar's Cello Concerto

Bugs Bunny at the Symphony presents a thrilling blend of classical music and classic animation, May 11 at Stifel Theatre



(March 6, 2024, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its April and May 2024 concerts. The variety of concerts include the final performances of a season-long exploration of Beethoven’s Piano Concerti, large-scale choral music, a film with score performed live, final performances of the Live at the Pulitzer and Live at The Sheldon chamber music series, two free community concerts, and a special one-night-only concert with international music ambassador Yo-Yo Ma. Additional concerts for May and June 2024 will be announced later.

Tickets are on sale now for all concerts. 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 April 20 and 27 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 April and May concerts at several venues throughout the region: Stifel Theatre (April 5; 13-14; 27-28; May 3 & 11), The Sheldon (April 7), Pulitzer Arts Foundation (April 9), and the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (April 19-21). [Shuttle service](#) will be available for concerts at the UMSL’s Touhill Performing Arts Center and Stifel Theatre starting at \$15 per seat.

R.E.M. Explored

Friday, April 5, 7:30pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Ward Stare, conductor

Mike Mills | bass, guitar, and piano (**SLSO debut**)

Robert McDuffie, violin

Gerry Hansen, drum set (**SLSO debut**)

John Neff, guitar (**SLSO debut**)

William Tonks, guitar (**SLSO debut**)

Mike Mills

Concerto for Violin, Rock Band & Orchestra (**First SLSO performances**)

Supported by KPMG.

The SLSO explores some of the greatest hits of R.E.M.—the Grammy Award-winning American rock band hailing from Georgia—in newly reimagined orchestrations of the band’s legendary catalogue. The orchestra performs many of R.E.M.’s chart toppers including “It’s the End of the World As We Know It,” “Man on the Moon,” and “Everybody Hurts.” Then, Mike Mills—R.E.M. co-founder, singer-songwriter, and bassist—joins the SLSO for performances of his eponymous Concerto for Violin, Rock Band, and Orchestra, a synthesis of his rock background fused with symphonic form that also draws partially from the band’s catalogue,



including the 1993 song “Nightswimming.” Grammy-nominated violinist Robert McDuffie joins Mills and a rock band for the St. Louis premiere of this concerto.

Live at The Sheldon: Horn Calls

Sunday, April 7, 3:00pm CDT

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

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 (arr. Kuhlmann)	“Solitude” from <i>Belshazzar’s Feast</i> (First SLSO performance)
Caroline Shaw	<i>Its Motion Keeps</i> (First SLSO performance)
Paul Hindemith	Sonata for Four Horns
Richard Wagner (arr. Jeurissen)	<i>Tristan</i> Fantasy (First SLSO performance)
J.T. Wolfe	<i>Cor</i> for Four Horns (World premiere)
Ludwig van Beethoven	Sextet in E-flat major (First SLSO performance)

Limited tickets remain.

In the concluding concert of the inaugural Live at The Sheldon chamber music series, majestic horns herald the arrival of spring with a program of music that spans four centuries, from Mozart’s March, Beethoven’s Sextet, Paul Hindemith’s masterly Sonata for Four Horns, and new music by Caroline Shaw and J.T. Wolfe. The series invites audiences into the world of SLSO musicians, who curate each performance to feature a section of the orchestra. Tickets start at \$31.

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Live at the Pulitzer | People and Place

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30pm CDT

Pulitzer Arts Foundation, 3716 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri, 63108

Erin Schreiber, violin
Shawn Weil, violin
Shannon Farrell Williams, viola
Bjorn Ranheim, cello



Alan Stewart, percussion

Raven Chacon
Oswaldo Golijov
Molly Herron
Clarice Assad

The Journey of the Horizontal People (First SLSO performance)
Mariel (First SLSO performance)
Three Sarabandes (First SLSO performance)
Canções da America (First SLSO performance)

This concert is sold out.

The final Live at the Pulitzer concert of the 20th anniversary season celebrates dynamic musical practices from the Americas. The earth tones of Pulitzer Prize winner Raven Chacon tell a future creation story, while Clarice Assad introduces the vibrant folk melodies and dances of South America. Argentine composer Oswaldo Golijov conjures the sounds of Brazil in memory of a close friend, and Molly Herron ponders the evolution of the sarabande and its roots in the new world.

Star Wars: The Last Jedi in Concert

Saturday, April 13, 7:00pm CDT

Sunday, April 14, 2:00pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Norman Huynh, conductor

John Williams

Star Wars: The Last Jedi

Reignite the spark of hope with Lucasfilm's *Star Wars: The Last Jedi* as the galaxy's heroes brave the relentless pursuit of the First Order. Journey alongside Rey as she seeks the legendary Luke Skywalker. The SLSO breathes new life into John Williams' Academy Award-nominated score, performed live along with the film at the Stifel Theatre. Tickets start at \$47.

Beethoven's Second Piano Concerto

Friday, April 19, 10:30am CDT*

Saturday, April 20, 7:30pm CDT

Sunday, April 21, 3:00pm CDT

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

1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121

John Storgårds, conductor

Marie-Ange Nguci, piano (SLSO debut)

Jean Sibelius
Ludwig van Beethoven

Rakastava (The Lover) (First SLSO performances)
Piano Concerto No. 2



Per Nørgård
Jean Sibelius

Lysning (Glade) (First SLSO performances)
Symphony No. 7

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

Pianist Marie-Ange Nguci, “one the most promising talents of her generation,” according to *Le Figaro*, brings a youthful spirit to Beethoven’s Second Piano Concerto, the final performances in the SLSO’s exploration of all five Beethoven piano concerti this season. Finnish conductor John Storgårds, a frequent guest to the SLSO, leads audiences into the Nordic woods with Jean Sibelius’ *The Lover* and Per Nørgård’s *Glade*. Tickets start at \$15.

Community Concert: SLSO Chamber Concert at SLAM

Friday, April 19, 4:00pm CDT

Saint Louis Art Museum

1 Fine Arts Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63110

Anabeth and John Weil Gallery 251

Erin Schreiber, violin
Nicolae Bica, violin
Alejandro Valdepeñas, viola
Alvin McCall, cello

Maurice Ravel

String Quartet

Presented in partnership with the Saint Louis Art Museum.

Supported by Commerce Bank.

Seating is first-come, first-served. No tickets or reservations are needed.

In this free community concert, SLSO musicians, led by Associate Concertmaster Erin Schreiber, perform Maurice Ravel’s timeless String Quartet in connection with *Matisse and the Sea*, an exhibition on display that examines the significance of the seas across Modernist artist Henri Matisse’s career.

St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra: Season Finale

Saturday, April 20, 1:00pm CST

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

1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121

Ian Passmore, conductor
Micaela Chyu, violin

Erich Wolfgang Korngold
Sergei Rachmaninoff

Violin Concerto
Symphony No. 2



SLSO education programs are presented by Steward Family Foundation and World Wide Technology. Youth Orchestra programs are presented by Kathleen Clucas and supported in part by G.A., Jr. and Kathryn M. Buder Charitable Foundation, Gateway Metro Federal Credit Union, and ESCO Technologies Foundation.

Celebrated guest conductor Ian Passmore takes the podium to lead the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra in one of the most ambitious symphonies in the repertoire to close its 54th season: Rachmaninoff's monumental Second. Micaela Chyu, the winner of the annual YO concerto competition, takes the stage in Erich Korngold's passionate Violin Concerto. Floor seats are free. Balcony tickets are \$10.

Community Concert: Creative Music Making

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 7:00pm CST

Maryville University Auditorium

630 Maryville University Dr., St. Louis, Missouri 63141

*Presented in partnership with St. Louis Arc and Maryville University Music Therapy Program.
Supported by The Kuhn Foundation.*

In this free community concert, SLSO musicians collaborate with clients of St. Louis Arc and the Maryville University Music Therapy program in a performance that celebrates the music in us all. An annual tradition, this collaborative project empowers adults with disabilities to conceive, rehearse, and perform their very own concert.

Verdi's Requiem

Saturday, April 27, 7:30pm CDT

Sunday, April 28, 3:00pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Stéphane Denève, conductor
Hulkar Sabirova, soprano **(SLSO debut)**
Judith Kutasi, mezzo-soprano **(SLSO debut)**
Russell Thomas, tenor **(SLSO debut)**
Adam Palka, bass **(SLSO debut)**
St. Louis Symphony Chorus | Benjamin Rivera, guest director

Giuseppe Verdi

Requiem

Presented by Mary Pillsbury.

Giuseppe Verdi's Requiem opens with hushed intensity, then breaks loose in the famous "Dies Irae." Performed by an all-star cast of renowned vocalists—all making their SLSO debuts—and the St. Louis



Symphony Chorus led by Music Director Stéphane Denève, the Requiem has earned its place as one of the most intense and emotional choral-orchestral pieces of music. Tickets start at \$15.

An Evening with Yo-Yo Ma

Friday, May 3, 7:30pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Yo-Yo Ma, cello

Claude Debussy

La Mer

Edward Elgar

Cello Concerto

Due to demand and to ensure fairness for purchasing, the public is invited to enter a lottery system to become available to purchase up to two tickets. A lottery drawing will be held on April 9. Lottery winners will have 48 hours to purchase tickets. Note: seats may not be located together.

Yo-Yo Ma is the world's preeminent musical ambassador, serving not only as an advocate for symphonic music, but also as a philanthropist, speaker, and universally acclaimed cellist. Edward Elgar's popular Cello Concerto is the vehicle for Ma's blend of keen intelligence and a firmly beating heart in his first SLSO appearance in more than ten years. Music Director Stéphane Denève leads this collaboration, opening with the multi-layered textures of Claude Debussy's portrait of the ocean, *La Mer*.

Bugs Bunny at the Symphony

Saturday, May 11, 7:30pm CDT

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, Missouri, 63103

George Daugherty, conductor

WARNER BROS. DISCOVER presents *BUGS BUNNY AT THE SYMPHONY*. "What's up, Doc?" A thrilling blend of classical music and classic animation! Bugs Bunny and his Looney Tunes pals join audiences of all ages at Stifel Theatre with the SLSO for Bugs Bunny at the Symphony. A dozen of the world's most iconic Looney Tunes—*What's Opera, Doc? The Rabbit of Seville, Corny Concerto, Baton Bunny, Long-Haired Hare*, and many others, plus five brand new animated shorts—will be projected on the big screen, while their exhilarating original scores are played live by the SLSO, conducted by George Daugherty.

Created by George Daugherty & David Ka Lik Wong

LOONEY TUNES and all related characters and elements © & ™ Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. (s24)



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 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 to 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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