



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

[September 26, 2024]

Contacts: St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Eric Dundon [ericd@slso.org](mailto:ericd@slso.org), 314-286-4134

**ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSIC DIRECTOR LEADS TWO-WEEK  
EXPLORATION OF MOZART'S MUSIC, HIGHLIGHTING NOVEMBER CONCERT  
OFFERINGS**

**Caleb Young leads performances of the beloved Disney/Pixar film *Coco* while the orchestra plays the score live, November 2-3**

**In the first of two programs exploring Mozart's life, Denève leads the SLSO and St. Louis Symphony Chorus in the moving *Requiem* with soloists Joëlle Harvey, Kelley O'Connor, Josh Lovell, and Dashon Burton; program also includes Mozart's *Adagio and Fugue in C minor* and Detlev Glanert's *Four Preludes and Serious Songs* with Burton, November 9-10**

**A free community concert with SLSO brass musicians commemorates Veterans Day at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Chesterfield, November 11**

**SLSO musicians give the first SLSO performances of music by Kaija Saariaho, John Luther Adams, and Samuel Adams at the first Live at the Pulitzer concert of the season, exploring the intersection of visual art and music, November 12**

**Denève and the SLSO complete the two-week Mozart exploration with performances of his *Symphony Nos. 1 and 31*; his *Piano Concerto No. 20* with Behzod Abduraimov, and the overture to *Mitridate, rè di Ponto*, plus Anna Clyne's *Within Her Arms*, November 15-16**

**On November 22 and 24, guest conductor Jonathon Heyward leads the Jean Sibelius' *Symphony No. 5*, Sergei Prokofiev's *Piano Concerto No. 2* with Yeol Eum Son in her SLSO debut, and the first SLSO performances of William Grant Still's *Threnody: In Memory of Jean Sibelius***

**(September 26, 2024, St. Louis, MO)** – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its November 2024 concerts, anchored by two weeks of programming exploring facets of W.A. Mozart's vast musical output, plus performances of Disney/Pixar's *Coco*, a free community concert, and the first Live at the Pulitzer concert of the season, spotlighting composers of today.

Tickets start at \$20 for classical concerts, \$25 for Live at the Pulitzer, and \$47 for *Coco*, and are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased at [slso.org](https://slso.org) or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700. A full concert calendar is available at [slso.org](https://slso.org) 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 transformational expansion and renovation of Powell Hall continues, the SLSO will perform November concerts at Stifel Theatre (November 2-3, 9-10), the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri–St. Louis (November 15-16, 22, and 24), and the Pulitzer Arts Foundation (November 12). Shuttle service will be available for all classical concerts starting at \$15 per seat. 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. Shuttles for the Stifel Theatre will depart from Plaza Frontenac and St. Louis Community College–Forest Park.

**Coco in Concert**

**Saturday, November 2, 7:00pm CDT**

**Sunday, November 3, 2:00pm CST**

**Stifel Theatre**

**1400 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103**

Caleb Young, conductor **(SLSO debut)**

**Michael Giacchino**      *Coco*

Celebrate the ageless power of music with Disney/Pixar’s *Coco* on the big screen as the SLSO performs the movie’s magical score live. Inspired by the Mexican holiday Dia De Los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, the film follows 12-year-old Miguel as he enters the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather, a legendary singer, and confront his family’s ancestral ban on music. With the *Coco* score by Academy Award winner Michael Giacchino, the orchestra performs its second of six film performances of the 24/25 season. Future films include *The Muppet Christmas Carol*, *How to Train Your Dragon*, *Casino Royale*, and *Batman*.

**Mozart’s Requiem: Joy and Sorrow**

**Saturday, November 9, 7:30pm CST**

**Sunday, November 10, 3:00pm CST**

**Stifel Theatre**

**1400 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Joëlle Harvey, soprano

Kelley O’Connor, mezzo-soprano

Josh Lovell, tenor **(SLSO debut)**

Dashon Burton, bass-baritone

St. Louis Symphony Chorus | Erin Freeman, director



**W.A. Mozart** Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K. 546  
**Detlev Glanert** Four Preludes and Serious Songs  
**W.A. Mozart** Requiem, K. 626

*Kelley O'Connor's performances are supported by the Sarah Bryan Miller Fund.*

The SLSO's two-week celebration of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart begins at the end of the prolific composer's life. The circumstances surrounding Mozart's unfinished Requiem are shrouded in mystery, but the music's sorrow and beauty speak across the centuries. A quartet of soloists join the orchestra and St. Louis Symphony Chorus for this profound piece of music, one of the most popular choral-orchestral works ever created. Soprano Joëlle Harvey, mezzo-soprano Kelley O'Connor, and baritone Dashon Burton make their returns to the SLSO; tenor Josh Lovell makes his SLSO debut. The Chorus will perform for the first time under the direction of Erin Freeman, who was appointed Director of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus in July 2024. The Adagio and Fugue, another late work, is a dark and almost mystical vision. Burton returns to the SLSO in Detlev Glanert's arrangement of Johannes Brahms' final song cycle, the Four Serious Songs.

**SLSO Community Concert: Veterans Day Brass Performance**

**Monday, November 11, 7:00pm CST**

**Lord of Life Lutheran Church**

**15750 Baxter Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017**

Steven Franklin, trumpet  
George Goad, trumpet  
Blaine Dodson, horn  
Jonathan Reycraft, trombone  
Jason Sato, bass trombone

SLSO Principal Trumpet Steven Franklin leads a powerful brass quintet program to honor veterans and the Veterans Day holiday. This hourlong event is free, and RSVPs are requested at [slo.org](http://slo.org). Seating is available on a first come, first served basis.

**Live at the Pulitzer: Outside In**

**Tuesday, November 12, 7:30pm CST**

**Pulitzer Arts Foundation**

**3716 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, MO, 63108**

**Kaija Saariaho** *Six Japanese Gardens* (**First SLSO performance**)  
**John Luther Adams** Selections from *The Wind in High Places* (**First SLSO performance**)  
**Samuel Adams** *Sundial* (**First SLSO performance**)



*Chamber music curated by composer Christopher Stark in response to exhibitions on view at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation. Artists announced later.*

Strings and percussion unite to bring the outside world into the Pulitzer Arts Foundation galleries for the first Live at the Pulitzer concert of the 24/25 season. Kaija Saariaho invokes the Japanese gardens of Kyoto with field recordings of nature and ritual singing. Windy, high-altitude string harmonics soar in music by Pulitzer Prize winner John Luther Adams. Samuel Adams, an American composer whose music weaves acoustic and digital sound into “mesmerizing” (*The New York Times*) orchestrations, juxtaposes light and shadow in new quintet for strings and percussion. Recognized for its exceptional programming, Live at the Pulitzer concerts serve as a conversation between music and visual art, with music selected in response to exhibitions on display at the museum.

**Mozart’s Journey: From London to Vienna**

**Friday, November 15, 7:30pm CST**

**Saturday, November 16, 7:30pm CST**

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

**1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, MO 63121**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Behzod Abduraimov, piano

- W.A. Mozart**                      Symphony No. 1, K.16
- W.A. Mozart**                      Piano Concerto No. 20, K. 466
- W.A. Mozart**                      Overture to *Mitridate, rè di Ponto*, K. 87 (**First SLSO performances**)
- Anna Clyne**                         *Within Her Arms*
- W.A. Mozart**                      Symphony No. 31, K. 297, “Paris”

The second program of the SLSO’s Mozart celebration captures a composer on the move throughout his European life. Opening the concert, Mozart is an eight-year-old prodigy, his First Symphony composed in London demonstrating his raw genius. The SLSO plays Mozart’s Symphony No. 1 for the first time in more than ten years. At home in Vienna later in his life, Mozart wrote the Piano Concerto No. 20, a darker work in stark contrast to the buoyant First Symphony. Pianist Behzod Abduraimov returns for his second appearance with the SLSO, following his acclaimed debut with the SLSO in September 2018. Then, Mozart is in Italy, writing the opera *Mitridate, rè di Ponto*. While in France, Mozart wrote the “Paris” Symphony while searching for a job in the French capital. Mozart’s mother died while he was in Paris, reflected in the SLSO’s performance of *Within Her Arms*, written by composer Anna Clyne following the death of her own mother. The SLSO, Denève, and Abduraimov take this program to the Hancher Auditorium at the University of Iowa on November 17.



**Sibelius’ Fifth: Edge of Heaven**

**Friday, November 22, 10:30am CST\***

**Sunday, November 24, 3:00pm CST**

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

**1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, MO 63121**

Jonathon Heyward, conductor

Yeol Eum Son, piano (**SLSO debut**)

**William Grant Still**      *Threnody: In Memory of Jean Sibelius (First SLSO performances)*

**Sergei Prokofiev**      Piano Concerto No. 2

**Jean Sibelius**      Symphony No. 5

*Presented by the Whitaker Foundation.*

*\*Refreshments provided by Kaldi’s Coffee and Eddie’s Southtown Donuts.*

Finnish composer Jean Sibelius takes the spotlight in these concerts, led by conductor Jonathan Heyward, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Music Director and one of *Time Magazine’s* “Next Generation Leaders,” making his second appearance with the SLSO. He conducts Sibelius’ Fifth Symphony. Writing the work, Sibelius felt possessed, as if “God was throwing pieces of mosaic from the edge of heaven.” The concert opens with a rumination on Sibelius’ life and music by American composer William Grant Still in the first SLSO performances of *Threnody: In Memory of Jean Sibelius*. Grant Still, a deep South native who composed more than 200 works for orchestra, counted Sibelius among his strongest musical influences. Korean pianist Yeol Eum Son has cultivated a huge following since her prize-winning performances in the 1997 International Tchaikovsky Competition for Young Musicians and the 2009 Van Cliburn Competition. She brings reserves of stamina to Sergei Prokofiev’s virtuoso powerhouse, the Second Piano Concerto—considered among the most demanding concertos in the piano repertoire.

**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 145th year with the 2024/2025 season and its sixth 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](https://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 Touhill Performing Arts Center is a landmark performance facility on the campus of the University of Missouri–St. Louis (UMSL). The Touhill at UMSL hosts an average of 120 events, 200 performances, and 90,000 visitors per year.

The Touhill at UMSL 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.

###