



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, SPECIAL GUESTS PRESENT THE MUSIC OF
ROCK ICON DAVID BOWIE IN FEBRUARY 7 CONCERT**

**BLACKSTAR SYMPHONY: The Music of David Bowie explores the catalogue of the British
rock star at the Stifel Theatre, with special guests and longtime collaborators**

(November 14, 2024, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO) announced a new concert addition to its 2024/2025 season: BLACKSTAR SYMPHONY: The Music of David Bowie, February 7 at Stifel Theatre.

The concert is at 7:30pm, Friday, February 7. Tickets for the public go on sale Friday and may be purchased at slso.org or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700.

BLACKSTAR SYMPHONY: The Music of David Bowie immerses audiences in the sonic tapestry of David Bowie’s final, critically acclaimed album, *Blackstar*, reimagined for full orchestra. The concert includes orchestral reimaginings of *Blackstar* performed in its entirety including “Lazarus,” “Blackstar,” “I Can’t Give Everything Away,” and more. The performance also includes hits from throughout Bowie’s 50-year career, including touchstones like “Space Oddity,” “Life on Mars,” and “Heroes.”

The SLSO will collaborate with the jazz quartet that recorded the *Blackstar* album alongside Bowie. Joining these acclaimed musicians are Bowie’s original bandmate and lifelong friend Gail Ann Dorsey who performed the iconic bass on Bowie and Queen’s *Under Pressure* as well as Tony Award-winner and Golden Globe nominee, John Cameron Mitchell. These musical forces combine to bring their electrifying take on the music of one of the most influential artists of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Donny McCaslin (Artistic Director, Co-Music Director) is best known as the saxophonist on Bowie’s last album, *Blackstar*. The noted composer and bandleader has released a dozen albums over his genre-defying, Grammy-nominated career. McCaslin began playing at age 12, and as a teenager, performed in his vibraphonist father’s band in Santa Cruz. Bowie saw McCaslin perform as soloist for the Maria Schneider Orchestra and brought in McCaslin’s progressive jazz quartet that came to define *Blackstar*’s visionary stylistic fusion.

Tim Davies (Conductor, Orchestrator) is a Grammy-nominated and Annie-winning composer, arranger, orchestrator, and conductor. He is a respected lead orchestrator and regular conductor in studios from Los Angeles to London. His credits for film and television include *La La Land*, *Free Guy*, *Frozen* movies, both *Ant-Man* movies, and many others.



John Cameron Mitchell (Guest Artist) co-created the rock musical *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* for which he won two Tony Awards, Best Director at Sundance, a Golden Globe nomination and a review from David Bowie: “John, you got it right.” He directed the films *Shortbus* (2006), *Rabbit Hole* (2010) and Neil Gaiman’s *How to Talk to Girls at Parties* (2017). On TV he’s appeared in *Girls*, *Shrill*, *The Good Fight*, Netflix’s *The Sandman*, Apple’s upcoming *City on Fire*, and as Tiger King’s Joe Exotic in Peacock Channel’s *Joe Vs Carole*.

Gail Ann Dorsey (Vocalist) is known as one of David Bowie’s longest-serving bandmates as bassist and vocalist, recording, and touring the world many times over since 1995 to his untimely death 2016. She sang lead vocals live on the showstopper "Under Pressure," taking the part originally recorded by Freddie Mercury. She has toured and recorded countless acts including Tears for Fears, Lenny Kravitz, Bryan Ferry, and served as bandleader for Gwen Stefani. Recently, she was a featured vocalist on albums by The National and Matt Berninger and has released three solo albums.

Calendar listing:

A musical masterpiece reborn with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. BLACKSTAR SYMPHONY celebrates David Bowie’s final, critically acclaimed album *Blackstar*—plus iconic Bowie songs like “Space Oddity,” “Life on Mars,” and “Heroes”—reimagined for orchestra and performed by the SLSO with the original *Blackstar* band and Bowie’s longtime collaborators.

Friday, February 7, 2025, 7:30pm CST

Stifel Theatre

1400 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103

Donny McCaslin, Artistic Director and saxophone

Tim Davies, conductor

John Cameron Mitchell, guest artist

Gail Ann Dorsey, vocals

David Poe, vocals

Tim Lefebvre, bass

Jason Lindner, keyboard

Nate Wood, drums

Program announced from the stage.

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®



St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra

Stéphane Denève : Music Director

News

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 [September 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](#).

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