



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NOVEMBER CONCERTS INCLUDE SLSO DEBUT OF STAR PIANIST AND VIOLIN PRODIGY; A CELEBRATION OF AMERICA; AND THE FIRST ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY CHORUS CLASSICAL CONCERTS OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

The SLSO celebrates the role of choral music educators in a free community concert, *Extra Credit*, featuring vocal music teachers performing alongside the orchestra and St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus and St. Louis Symphony Chorus members, November 1

Music Director Stéphane Denève welcomes superstar pianist Daniil Trifonov in his SLSO debut performing Sergei Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 1; concerts open with first SLSO performances of Michael Tilson Thomas' *Agnegram* and close with Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 6, November 6–8

The first Live at the Pulitzer chamber music concert of the 2026/27 season features music by composers Martin Bresnick, Donnacha Dennehy, Adolfo Mejía, and Julia Wolfe, curated by composer Christopher Stark, November 10 at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation

David Afkham leads the SLSO in Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 8, alongside works by Felix Mendelssohn and Igor Stravinsky performed with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus in the first classical concerts of its milestone 50th anniversary season, November 14–15

The Black Jacket Symphony performs the entirety of Led Zeppelin's album *Led Zeppelin IV* in a Powell Hall Presents concert, November 18

Curated by Principal Trumpeter Steven Franklin and Principal Trombonist Jonathan Randazzo, SLSO musicians bring new and treasured repertoire to life in the season's first Live at The Sheldon chamber music concert, November 19

John Morris Russell conducts the US Naval Academy Glee Club and the SLSO in a celebration of America's 250th anniversary with Broadway favorites, sea shanties, patriotic anthems, and the program's multimedia centerpiece, *American Mosaic*, featuring on-stage narration by actor John Goodman, November 20–21

Frequent guest conductor John Storgårds leads the SLSO in Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Isle of the Dead* and Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, pairing music with visual art; violinist Himari makes her SLSO debut in Alexander Glazunov's Violin Concerto, November 28–29



(September 22, 2026, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of its November 2026 concerts, which include masterworks by Sergei Rachmaninoff—featuring critically acclaimed pianist Daniil Trifonov—Dmitri Shostakovich, and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; a celebration of America’s 250th anniversary with the US Naval Academy Glee Club and actor John Goodman; two chamber music performances; the St. Louis debut of violin prodigy, Himari; and a free community concert showcasing the artistry of local music educators.

Tickets for all concerts 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. 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. SLSO concerts will also be broadcast at 7:30pm CST on November 7, 14, and 28 on 90.7 KWMU St. Louis Public Radio and Classic 107.3.

Extra Credit Choral

Sunday, November 1, 2026, 6:00pm CST

Erin Freeman, conductor

Kevin McBeth, conductor

Members of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus, St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus, and St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

J. Rosamond Johnson / arr. Carter “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

Marianna Martines Dixit Dominus **(First SLSO performance)**

W.A. Mozart / comp. Süßmayr Selections from Requiem

Giuseppe Verdi “Va, pensiero” from *Nabucco*

Eric Whitacre *Glow* **(First SLSO performances)**

Gwyneth Walker “How Can I Keep from Singing”

Traditional / arr. Powell “Keep Yo’ Lamps”

Brandon Williams “Fierce Love”

Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens / arr. Hayes “Make Them Hear You” from *Ragtime*

School vocal music educators take the Powell Hall stage alongside members of the St. Louis Symphony Chorus, the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus, and musicians of the SLSO in this inaugural Extra Credit Choral experience. This pay-what-you-wish community concert celebrates the essential role choral educators play in shaping the next generation through music. The concert honors teachers’ impact while showcasing their artistry, leadership, and dedication on the Powell Hall stage at the Jack C. Taylor Music Center. The program spans three centuries and several styles of music from opera and spirituals to sacred pieces and musical theater.

Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky | Passion and Fate

Friday, November 6, 2026, 7:30pm CST



Saturday, November 7, 2026, 7:30pm CST

Sunday, November 8, 2026, 3:00pm CST

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Daniil Trifonov, piano (**SLSO debut**)

Michael Tilson Thomas

Agnegram (**First SLSO performances**)

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Piano Concerto No. 1

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Symphony No. 6

Piano sensation Daniil Trifonov, whose artistry has earned accolades around the globe, makes his SLSO debut performing a soulful concerto written by a teenaged Sergei Rachmaninoff. A noted Rachmaninoff interpreter, Trifonov, “arguably today’s leading classical virtuoso” (*The Globe and Mail*), rose to fame in 2011 after winning the first prize in the International Tchaikovsky Competition. Music Director Stéphane Denève leads the program, which begins with the SLSO’s first performances of Michael Tilson Thomas’ *Agnegram*. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, whose Sixth Symphony is still considered one of the most profound, intimate, and moving orchestral pieces of all time, closes this program, an artistic highlight of the SLSO’s 26/27 season.

Live at the Pulitzer | Fabric and Folk

Tuesday, November 10, 7:30pm CST

At Pulitzer Arts Foundation, 3716 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, MO, 63108

Jennifer Nitchman, flute

Kevin Ritenauer, percussion

Peter Henderson, piano

Shannon Farrell Williams, viola

Bjorn Ranheim, cello

Martin Bresnick

Ishi’s Song (**First SLSO performance**)

Donnacha Dennehy

Bridget (**First SLSO performance**)

Adolfo Mejía

Preludio: Luminosidad de las aguas (**First SLSO performance**)

Adolfo Mejía

El burrito (**First SLSO performance**)

Julia Wolfe

Cloth (**First SLSO performance**)

Donnacha Dennehy

Woven (**First SLSO performance**)

Art and music come together as SLSO musicians perform adventurous chamber music by composers of today, curated by composer Christopher Stark, within the galleries of the Pulitzer Arts Foundation. Inspired by the exhibition *Olga de Amaral: Weaving the Infinite*, this eclectic program explores the intersections of textiles and folk traditions across the Americas. Hear works composed by Grammy Award-winning composer Donnacha Dennehy, Pulitzer Prize-winner Julia Wolfe, Martin Bresnick, and Adolfo Mejía that feature musical textures echoing the pattern of Amaral’s visionary works.



Shostakovich's Eighth | Beauty in Darkness

Saturday, November 14, 2026, 7:30pm CST

Sunday, November 15, 2026, 3:00pm CST

David Afkham, conductor

St. Louis Symphony Chorus | Erin Freeman, director

Felix Mendelssohn

Psalm 114 (When Israel out of Egypt Came) **(First SLSO performances)**

Igor Stravinsky

Symphony of Psalms

Dmitri Shostakovich

Symphony No. 8

Dmitri Shostakovich's Eighth Symphony oscillates between the brutality of war and the indomitable spark of humanity as the SLSO performs this symphony for the first time since 2014. Though the composer described the work as a wartime requiem and the score is infused with deep sadness, he also said of it that "life is beautiful. All that is dark and depressing will disappear, depart, and the beautiful will reign." Conductor David Afkham, "a model... of musical grace on the podium" (*Chicago Tribune*), also leads the St. Louis Symphony Chorus in stirring psalm settings by Felix Mendelssohn and Igor Stravinsky in this first classical performance of its 50th anniversary season.

Powell Hall Presents | The Black Jacket Symphony Presents Led Zeppelin IV

Wednesday, November 18, 7:30pm CST

Led Zeppelin IV, the legendary English rock band's iconic fourth album, is performed live in its entirety by the Black Jacket Symphony, along with a full set of Led Zeppelin's greatest hits. Released in 1971 and featuring the epic "Stairway to Heaven," *Led Zeppelin IV* is one of the world's most well-known and influential rock albums, showcasing the seamless blend of heavy metal, folk, rock-n-roll, and blues the band became known for. The album continues to resonate across generations more than five decades later. The Black Jacket Symphony recreates note-for-note a high energy performance of *Led Zeppelin IV* that captures the power and exhilaration of the original.

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra does not perform at this concert.

Live at The Sheldon | Brass Trio

Thursday, November 19, 2026, 7:30pm CST

At The Sheldon, 3648 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO, 63108

Steven Franklin, curator and trumpet

Jonathan Randazzo, curator and trombone

Peter Henderson, piano

Jacques Castérède

Concertino **(First SLSO performance)**



Peter Henderson

Steven Franklin

Juraj Filas

Dean Wibe

Joseph Turrin

New Work (**World Premiere**)

Allegro agitato, mo non troppo from Sonata (**First SLSO performance**)

Sonata (**First SLSO performance**)

in the shadow of a reflection (**World Premiere/SLSO commission**)

Fandango

SLSO musicians bring new and treasured repertoire to life on The Sheldon stage in this unique chamber music series featuring a dynamic lineup of instruments and players.

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Live at The Sheldon is sponsored by the Sinquefeld Charitable Foundation. Welcomed by Classic 107.3.

A Salute to America | Featuring the US Naval Academy Glee Club

Friday, November 20, 2026, 7:30pm CST

Saturday, November 21, 2026, 7:30pm CST

John Morris Russell, conductor

US Naval Academy Glee Club

John Goodman, narrator

Celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary with award-winning actor and St. Louis native John Goodman as he narrates *American Mosaic*, a multimedia experience that pairs a sweeping orchestral journey with breathtaking visuals of the American landscape. Then, experience the resounding voices of the US Naval Academy Glee Club as these talented midshipmen join the SLSO for an evening featuring Broadway favorites, patriotic anthems, sea shanties, choral classics, and more.

Repertoire to be announced.

Pictures at an Exhibition | A Lyrical Tour

Saturday, November 28, 2026, 7:30pm CST

Sunday, November 29, 2026, 3:00pm CST

John Storgårds, conductor

Himari, violin (**SLSO debut**)

Sergei Rachmaninoff

Isle of the Dead

Alexander Glazunov

Violin Concerto

Modest Mussorgsky/orch. Maurice Ravel *Pictures at an Exhibition*

By way of Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Isle of the Dead* and Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, conductor John Storgårds and the SLSO takes listeners into the world of visual art, gathering ideas from famous paintings and using melody and timbre as tour guides. Between these works, violin prodigy



Himari steps onto the stage for her SLSO debut. She performs Glazunov's lyrical Violin Concerto, music charged with deliberate tension.

About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

Celebrated as one of today's most exciting, innovative, and enduring orchestras, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the nation's second oldest, marking its 147th year with the 2026/27 season. The visionary and heartfelt approach of Stéphane Denève, The Joseph and Emily Rauh Pulitzer Music Director, anchors more than 400 extraordinary artists across four ensembles.

A leading American orchestra, the Grammy Award-winning SLSO is dedicated to its mission of enriching lives through the power of music, fostering a vibrant and connected community. The SLSO is committed to making music more accessible to all, furthered by the September 2025 reopening of its expanded and renovated home, the Jack C. Taylor Music Center, with historic Powell Hall at its heart. A cornerstone of the St. Louis region, the SLSO partners with more than 150 community organizations to deepen music access.

The SLSO shapes the orchestra of the future through its commitment to integrity, innovation, collaboration, inclusion, and responsiveness, elevating St. Louis as a global destination.

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