ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
STÉPHANE DENÈVE, MUSIC DIRECTOR

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
[November 23, 2026]

Contact:
St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: **Eric Dundon** | ericd@slso.org | 314-286-4134

ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES JANUARY 2027 CONCERTS

The SLSO performs music by Japanese composer Kohei Tanaka from the anime series *One Piece* live to picture at Powell Hall, January 2–3

Music Director Stéphane Denève leads Brahms' Symphony No. 3 alongside Detlev Glanert's response to the work, the SLSO co-commissioned, *Vexierbild*; violinist James Ehnes performs Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, January 8–10

Steve Hackman conducts an orchestral reimagining of songs by Taylor Swift, January 13

Conductor Paolo Bortolameolli makes his SLSO debut with music by Kris Bowers, Miguel Farías, and Sergei Rachmaninoff, joined by violinist Charles Yang, January 16–17

Assistant Conductor Samuel Hollister leads Playlist: Symphony Happy Hour, a one-hour performance of Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, January 20

The SLSO performs John Williams' score live with Steven Spielberg's *Hook*, marking the film's 35th anniversary, January 22–24

Composer Christopher Stark curates the season's second Live at the Pulitzer chamber music concert at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation, January 26

Conductor Anja Bihlmaier makes her SLSO debut with pianist Yeol Eum Son in a program of music by Mel Bonis, Ludwig van Beethoven, and Richard Strauss, January 29–30

The SLSO presents its second Concert for Teens, Philharmonia Fantastique, with music by Mason Bates and animation by Oscar-winning filmmaker Gary Rydstrom, January 31

(November 23, St. Louis, MO) – The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's January 2027 concerts pair works by Brahms, Bruch, Beethoven, and Rachmaninoff with orchestral arrangements of Taylor Swift songs, live performances of the scores to *One Piece* and *Hook*, chamber music at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation, and concerts for teens and the classical curious.

Tickets for all concerts are on sale now. Tickets may be purchased at slso.org or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700. A full concert calendar is available at slso.org or on the SLSO's mobile app available for iOS or Android. Audiences can attend a Preconcert Conversation, an engaging discussion about the music and artists on the program, one hour prior to each classical concert.

718 N. Grand Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-533-2500
slso.org

<u>*One Piece* in Concert</u>
Saturday, January 2, 2027, 7:00pm CST
Sunday, January 3, 2027, 2:00pm CST

Kohei Tanaka *One Piece Music Symphony*

The SLSO performs Kohei Tanaka's music live as scenes from *One Piece* play on screen in sync with the orchestra. The concert draws on more than 25 years of the popular anime series and the adventures of its Straw Hat Crew. The program includes the new TV opening "UUUUUS!" and music such as "Haha naru Umi" (Mother Sea), "Sekai no ichiban oden da!!" (This is the best oden in the world!!), and "Ore no saikouchiten" (Luffy's Gear 5 Theme).

Additional artists to be announced.
© Eiichiro Oda/Shueisha, Toei Animation

<u>Brahms' Thirds | Fierce Longing</u>
Friday, January 8, 2027, 10:30am CST
Saturday, January 9, 2027, 7:30pm CST
Sunday, January 10, 2027, 3:00pm CST

Stéphane Denève, conductor
James Ehnes, violin

Detlev Glanert *Vexierbild*. (Hidden Image.) **(SLSO co-commission)**
Max Bruch Violin Concerto No. 1
Johannes Brahms Symphony No. 3

Brahms' Symphony No. 3, one of his most personal works, is paired with Detlev Glanert's *Vexierbild*, written in response to the symphony. Music critic Eduard Hanslick called the Third "artistically the most nearly perfect" of Brahms' symphonies. Violinist James Ehnes, a recording partner of the SLSO, returns to St. Louis to perform Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, one of the most heartfelt entries in the violin concerto repertoire.

Coffee Concert Series Supported by EverTrue.
Friday morning complimentary refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co. and Strange Donuts.

<u>TAYLOR SWIFT: THE SYMPHONY ERA (Vol. I) | Steve Hackman's SYMPHONYFUSE</u>
Wednesday, January 13, 2027, 7:30pm CST

Steve Hackman, creator and conductor

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Composer and conductor Steve Hackman returns to Powell Hall with orchestral arrangements of Taylor Swift songs, including "Cruel Summer," "Love Story," "Ready for It," "All Too Well," and "Wildest Dreams." The program brings together chart-topping hits and fan favorites in arrangements for the SLSO.

Additional artists to be announced.

Rachmaninoff's Symphonic Dances | Living Portraits
Saturday, January 16, 2027, 7:30pm CST
Sunday, January 17, 2027, 3:00pm CST

Paolo Bortolameolli, conductor
Charles Yang, violin

Miguel Farías	*Retratos Australes* (Southern Portraits)
Kris Bowers	*For a Younger Self* (Violin Concerto)
Sergei Rachmaninoff	Symphonic Dances

Kris Bowers' violin concerto *For a Younger Self*, inspired by the hero's journey, moves through themes of love, loss, redemption, and enlightenment. Violinist Charles Yang joins the SLSO for the performance. Miguel Farías' *Retratos Australes* (Southern Portraits) offers a portrait of life in the southernmost region of South America. The program closes with Rachmaninoff's *Symphonic Dances*, a work that draws on musical memories from the composer's life.

Presented by the Whitaker Foundation.

Playlist: Symphony Happy Hour | Pictures at Exhibition
Wednesday, January 20, 6:30pm CST

Samuel Hollister, conductor

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

Playlist: Symphony Happy Hour offers a one-hour introduction to orchestral music, with conductor insights, signature drinks, and opportunities to meet musicians. In *Pictures at an Exhibition*, Mussorgsky responds to paintings by his friend Viktor Hartmann. The music moves from one imagined gallery room to the next, with melody and orchestral color shaping each scene.

Presented by the William T. Kemper Foundation.

Hook in Concert
Friday, January 22, 2027, 7:00pm CST
Saturday, January 23, 2027, 2:00pm CST
Sunday, January 24, 2027, 2:00pm, CST

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Samuel Hollister, conductor

John Williams *Hook*

The SLSO performs John Williams' score live as Steven Spielberg's *Hook* plays on the big screen. The concerts mark the film's 35th anniversary. Released in 1991, *Hook* stars Robin Williams as Peter Banning, an adult Peter Pan who has forgotten his life in Neverland. When Captain Hook (Dustin Hoffman) kidnaps Peter's children, Peter returns to Neverland to rescue them. The SLSO performs Williams' score in sync with the full film.

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Live at the Pulitzer | Blood Orange
Tuesday, January 26, 2027, 7:30pm CST
Pulitzer Arts Foundation
3716 Washington Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63108

Sarah Kirkland Snider	*Thread and Fray* **(First SLSO performance)**
Christopher Theofanidis	*Aria* **(First SLSO performance)**
Jonny Greenwood	Suite from *There Will Be Blood* **(First SLSO performance)**
Sarah Gibson	*Carry* **(First SLSO performance)**
Caroline Shaw	*Valencia* **(First SLSO performance)**
Caroline Shaw	*Blueprint* **(First SLSO performance)**

SLSO musicians perform chamber music by contemporary composers in the galleries of the Pulitzer Arts Foundation. Composer Christopher Stark curates the program, an intimate evening featuring the music of acclaimed film composer Jonny Greenwood and Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Caroline Shaw, alongside works by Sarah Kirkland Snider, Christopher Theofanidis, and Sarah Gibson. Presented during the final week of the Pulitzer's exhibition *Olga de Amaral: Weaving the Infinite*, this singular performance offers one last chance to experience the visual art through a vibrant tapestry of sound.

Salomé and Elektra | Legendary Women
Friday, January 29, 2027, 10:30am CST
Saturday, January 30, 2027, 7:30pm CST

Anja Bihlmaier, conductor
Yeol Eum Son, piano

Mel Bonis *Salomé* from *Trois femmes de légende*
Ludwig van Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1
Richard Strauss / arr. Manfred Honeck & Tomás Ille *Elektra* Symphonic Suite

Conductor Anja Bihlmaier makes her SLSO debut in a program featuring women from opera and legend. Mel Bonis' *Salomé*, from *Trois femmes de légende*, is followed by Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 1, with pianist Yeol Eum Son. The program concludes with a suite from Richard Strauss' *Elektra*, arranged by Manfred Honeck and Tomáš Ille.

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Friday morning complimentary refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co. and Strange Donuts.

Concert for Teens | Philharmonia Fantastique: The Making of the Orchestra
Sunday, January 31, 2027, 3:00pm

Samuel Hollister, conductor

Antonín Dvořák Adagio – Allegro from Symphony No. 9, "From the New World"
Mason Bates *Philharmonia Fantastique*

Philharmonia Fantastique, composed by Mason Bates with animation by Oscar-winning filmmaker Gary Rydstrom (*Jurassic Park*, *Toy Story*), follows the musical creature Sprite through the inner workings of an orchestra. The live performance and film introduce the instruments and show how their sounds combine. Recommended for ages 12 and up, the concert also includes preconcert activities and sensory accommodations available before the performance.

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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