



St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra  
stéphane denève : music director



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND MUSIC DIRECTOR STÉPHANE DENÈVE INTRODUCE  
NEW CONCERT EXPERIENCE, *SLSO CRAFTED***

**Conducted and hosted by Denève, these casual, immersive concert event. include food and beverages, dialogue, and feature the world premiere of Aaron Jay Kernis' *Venit Illuminatio* paired with Brahms Symphony No. 4 (November 15, 2019), and the SLSO premiere of Pierre Jalbert's *Music of Air and Fire* alongside Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* (May 8, 2020)**

**(October 15, 2019, St. Louis, MO)** – The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Stéphane Denève introduce a new concert experience for the 2019/2020 season – *SLSO Crafted* concerts. Inspired by Denève's desire to welcome the entire St. Louis community to join the SLSO family, these hour-long concert events offer audiences a new way to engage with the SLSO, and feature a casual communal gathering of artists and audiences for music and dialogue.

At these concerts, the SLSO presents one hour of music without intermission at Powell Hall in a casual atmosphere, pairing a piece of music from today with a mainstay of the orchestral repertoire.

The events will be an immersive experience, with food and drinks, open seating, and a casual atmosphere with concerts starting at 6:30pm. Both concerts will be led by Denève and he will serve as emcee/host for the evening, sharing insights about the music. In the inaugural season of this series, the SLSO presents two happy hour Crafted concerts: **November 15, 2019**, and **May 8, 2020**.

Denève, who strives to bring new music to audiences, has paired a newer work with an orchestral mainstay for these hourlong concerts. The November 15, 2019, concert present the world premiere of *Venit Illuminatio* by Aaron Jay Kernis along with Brahms' Symphony No. 4. The May 8, 2020, sees the St. Louis premiere of Pierre Jalbert's *Music of Air and Fire* alongside Stravinsky's landmark *The Rite of Spring*.

**Stéphane Denève, SLSO Music Director**, said, "I invite everyone in the community to come as you are and experience this beautiful music at SLSO Crafted concerts. Music is a complete experience and I love talking to the audience about the music and why we put these pieces together. I look forward to sharing this special evening with St. Louis."

The **November 15, 2019**, concert features the world premiere of *Venit Illuminatio* by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Aaron Jay Kernis and Brahms' Symphony No. 4. This happy hour concert, beginning at 6:30pm, features craft beer tastings with 4 Hands Brewery and small bites by Yolklöre, Mango, and



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others. Doors open at 5:00pm for this casual concert.

The **May 8, 2020**, concert includes Pierre Jalbert's *Music of Air and Fire* and Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*. Tickets for this concert go on sale in November. Additional details about these new experiences, including ticket information, will be available at [slo.org](http://slo.org).

Tickets for both are on sale now for \$30 and include food and drink tastings. Tickets may be purchased at [slo.org](http://slo.org) or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700.

### **Calendar listings**

The following may be included in published calendars of events:

**SLSO CRAFTED: BREWS AND BRAHMS**  
**Friday, November 15, 2019, 6:30pm**  
**Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

**Aaron Jay KERNIS** *Venit Illuminatio* (World Premiere)  
**BRAHMS** Symphony No. 4

*Doors open at 5:00pm.*

**SLSO CRAFTED**  
**Friday, May 8, 2020, 6:30pm**  
**Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

**Pierre JALBERT** *Music of Air and Fire* (St. Louis Premiere)  
**STRAVINSKY** *The Rite of Spring*

*Doors open at 5:00pm.*

### **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 140th year with the 2019/2020 season and its first with Music Director Stéphane Denève. Widely considered one of the world's finest orchestras, the SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community connections – all in service to its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

In addition to its regular concert performances at Powell Hall, which has been the permanent home of



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the SLSO for more than 50 years, the orchestra is an integral part of the diverse and vibrant St. Louis community, presenting dozens of free education and community programs and performances throughout the region each year. It has an ongoing commitment to championing music of our time, through commissions, a collaboration with the Mizzou New Music Initiative, and its popular St. Louis Symphony Live at the Pulitzer. The SLSO also serves as the resident orchestra for Opera Theatre Saint Louis, with the upcoming season marking the 43rd year of this unique partnership.

The Grammy Award-winning SLSO's impact beyond the St. Louis region is realized through weekly Saturday night concert broadcasts on St. Louis Public Radio, acclaimed recordings, and regular touring activity. A sought-after artistic partner by preeminent musicians and composers from across the globe, as well as by local and national organizations, the SLSO enjoys a long history of robust and enduring artistic collaborations that have developed and deepened over the years.

Today, the SLSO builds on the institution's current momentum on all fronts, including artistic, financial, audience growth, and community impact, and looks toward the future with Stéphane Denève. For more information, visit [slo.org](http://slo.org).

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