



**St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MUSIC DIRECTOR STÉPHANE DENÈVE LEADS OPENING
CONCERTS OF 2021/2022 CLASSICAL SEASON, SEPTEMBER 19-OCTOBER 2**

On September 19, Denève, Assistant Conductor Stephanie Childress, and the orchestra preview the season with an hourlong concert of selections from the entire 21/22 season; all tickets are \$15

On September 25-26, Denève opens the classical season with the first SLSO performances of Jessie Montgomery's *Banner* and Anna Clyne's *DANCE*, which features cellist Inbal Segev and choreography by Kirven Douthit-Boyd, along with Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Symphony No. 4*

On October 1-2, Denève leads the SLSO premiere of Caroline Shaw's *Entr'acte*, as well as performances of Charles Ives' *The Unanswered Question*, Christopher Rouse's *Rapture*, and Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Piano Concerto No. 3*, performed by pianist Yefim Bronfman in his return to the SLSO

(August 24, 2021, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announced details of the first classical concerts in the 2021/2022 season, the orchestra's 142nd, led by Music Director Stéphane Denève.

Denève and the orchestra provide a glimpse of the season with an hourlong preview concert at 3:00pm, Sunday, September 19. He then leads the opening weekend of classical concerts, with concerts at 8:00pm CDT Saturday, September 25, and 3:00pm CDT Sunday, September 26. The following weekend, concerts take place at 10:30am CDT on Friday, October 1, and at 8:00pm CDT on Saturday, October 2. Both Saturday concerts will be broadcast live on 90.7 KWMU St. Louis Public Radio and on stlpr.com and simulcast on Classic 107.3FM The Voice for the Arts in St. Louis. An on-demand stream of each classical concert will be available for 30 days after each live broadcast on slo.org.

All tickets for the September 19 preview concert are \$15. Tickets for all classical concerts begin at \$15. To purchase tickets, call the SLSO Box Office at 314-534-1700 or visit slo.org.

The season preview concert, September 19, includes selections from beloved classical works including Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*, Dmitri Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 5*, and Sergei Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* Suite. Assistant Conductor Stephanie Childress, who leads the orchestra in concerts April 8-10, 2022, leads a selection from Antonín Dvořák's *Symphony No. 9, "From the New World."*



On September 25-26, concerts open with the first SLSO performances of Jessie Montgomery’s *Banner*, which uses motifs from the *The Star-Spangled Banner* to both celebrate and confront the diversity of American experiences from the past and present. Following this, Israeli cellist Inbal Segev makes her SLSO debut in Anna Clyne’s *DANCE*, a piece inspired by the poetry of Rumi that includes local dancers choreographed by Center of Creative Arts (COCA) Co-Artistic Director of Dance Kirven Douthit-Boyd. In this performance, Clyne’s *DANCE* will be performed for the first time as a multimedia presentation with choreography and dancers from several St. Louis-area companies. Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 4 closes the concert, bringing an electric urgency to the stage, a triumph and celebration for the season’s opening.

On October 1-2, the SLSO begins with the SLSO premiere of *Entr’acte* by Caroline Shaw, the youngest ever Pulitzer Prize winner for music. The piece draws inspiration from a Joseph Haydn quartet. Next is Charles Ives’ *The Unanswered Question*, which is structured like a conversation between a trumpet, a woodwind quartet, and a string section, all of whom seek to answer the question of humanity’s existence. Then, Christopher Rouse’s *Rapture* seeks “spiritual bliss.” Finally, the concert closes with Sergei Rachmaninoff’s Piano Concerto No. 3, a timeless Romantic piece of great warmth and passion. The concerto will be performed by guest pianist Yefim Bronfman, a friend of the SLSO who last performed with Denève and the orchestra in 2019. He also helped select the SLSO’s newest Steinway grand piano with Denève.

The SLSO is following CDC guidelines for COVID safety protocols and is working with St. Louis City and St. Louis County to determine what protocols will be necessary. Details will be shared at slo.org/protocols prior to the concert.

Calendar Listings:

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra performs selections from its 2021/2022 season at a season preview concert at 3:00pm Sunday, September 19, at Powell Hall. Music Director Stéphane Denève and Assistant Conductor Stephanie Childress share the podium for this concert.

**Sunday, September 19, 2021, 3:00pm CDT
Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO**

Stéphane Denève, conductor
Stephanie Childress, conductor

Paul DUKAS	Fanfare from <i>La Péri</i>
Pyotr Ilyich TCHAIKOVSKY	Scherzo from Symphony No. 4
Dmitri SHOSTAKOVICH	Allegretto from Symphony No. 5
Ludwig van BEETHOVEN	Allegro from Symphony No. 5
Johannes BRAHMS	Un poco allegretto grazioso from Symphony No. 1
Sergei PROKOFIEV	“Dance of the Knights” from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
John WILLIAMS	“Harry’s Wondrous World” from <i>Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s</i>



Stone

Antonín DVOŘÁK
Jessie MONTGOMERY
Igor STRAVINSKY

Scherzo from Symphony No. 9, "From the New World"
Starburst
Selections from *The Firebird Suite*

The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra opens its 142nd classical season with Music Director Stéphane Denève on September 25-26 with concerts that features the first SLSO performance of pieces by Jessie Montgomery and Anna Clyne, alongside Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4. Concerts feature the SLSO debut of cellist Inbal Segev and a dance collaboration, with choreography by COCA's Kirven Douthit-Boyd.

Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony

Saturday, September 25, 2021, 8:00pm CDT

Sunday, September 26, 2021, 3:00pm CDT

Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO

Stéphane Denève, conductor
Inbal Segev, cello (**SLSO debut**)
Kirven Douthit-Boyd, choreographer

Jessie MONTGOMERY *Banner (First SLSO performances)*
Anna CLYNE *DANCE (First SLSO performances)*
Pyotr Ilyich TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 4

Pianist Yefim Bronfman returns for the second week of St. Louis Symphony Orchestra concerts, performing Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 October 1-2 with Music Director Stéphane Denève. Concerts also feature music by Caroline Shaw, Charles Ives, and Christopher Rouse.

Bronfman Plays Rachmaninoff's Third

Friday, October 1, 2021, 10:30am CDT*

Saturday, October 2, 2021, 8:00pm CDT

Powell Hall, 718 N. Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO

Stéphane Denève, conductor
Yefim Bronfman, piano

Caroline SHAW *Entr'acte (String orchestra version) (First SLSO performances)*
Charles IVES *The Unanswered Question*



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Christopher ROUSE
Sergei RACHMANINOFF

Rapture
Piano Concerto No. 3

**Complimentary refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co.*

Tickets are available for purchase now at slo.org or by calling the Box Office at 314-534-1700. Shuttle transportation to Powell Hall from West County is available for the Friday, October 1, concert. Details are available at slo.org/shuttle.

About the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra

Celebrated as a leading American orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra is the second-oldest orchestra in the country, marking its 142nd year with the 2021/2022 season and its third with [Music Director Stéphane Denève](#). The SLSO maintains its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations, honoring its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The SLSO serves as a convener of individuals, creators, and ideas, and is committed to building community through compelling and inclusive musical experiences. As it continues its longstanding focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, the SLSO embraces 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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