



**St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

[October 19, 2021]

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**THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GIVES THE U.S. PREMIERE OF ANNA CLYNE'S  
*PIVOT*, COLLABORATES WITH PIANIST VÍKINGUR ÓLAFSSON, CONDUCTOR DAVID  
DANZMAYR, AND VIOLINIST SIMONE PORTER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN CONCERTS,  
NOVEMBER 12-20**

**On November 12, Music Director Stéphane Denève and the orchestra present a one-hour happy hour Crafted concert at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, featuring a performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5**

**In November 13-14 concerts, Denève collaborates with pianist Víkingur Ólafsson in his SLSO debut on Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto; concerts also feature Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 and the first SLSO performances of Carlos Simon's *Fate Now Conquers***

**On November 19-20, conductor David Danzmayr and violinist Simone Porter make their SLSO debuts in concerts featuring the U.S. premiere of Anna Clyne's *PIVOT*, an SLSO co-commission, as well as Max Bruch's *Scottish Fantasy* and Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 9, "The Great"**

**(October 19, 2021, St. Louis, MO)** – The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra announces details of two weekends of classical concerts, November 12-20, that include the U.S. premiere of Anna Clyne's *PIVOT*, and the first SLSO performances with three guest artists.

Concerts include:

- **Friday, November 12, at 6:30pm CT:** Music Director Stéphane Denève and the orchestra perform Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 for an SLSO Crafted happy hour concert at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.
- **Saturday, November 13, at 8:00pm CT, and Sunday, November 14, at 3:00pm CT:** Pianist Víkingur Ólafsson takes the stage with Music Director Stéphane Denève for Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto, along with works by Carlos Simon and Ludwig Van Beethoven.
- **Friday, November 19, at 10:30am CT, and Saturday, November 20, at 8:00pm CT:** Guest conductor David Danzmayr leads the SLSO for the first time in works by Max Bruch, Anna Clyne, and Franz Schubert. Violinist Simone Porter makes her SLSO debut performing Bruch's *Scottish Fantasy*.

Tickets start at \$15 and are on sale now. To purchase tickets, call the SLSO Box Office at 314-534-1700 or visit [slso.org](http://slso.org). A full concert calendar is available at [slso.org](http://slso.org).



The SLSO's hourlong casual concert series, SLSO Crafted, continues on November 12 with a performance of Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Doors open at 5:00pm for this casual concert experience, which includes refreshment specials and an opportunity to mingle with Denève and SLSO musicians prior to the concert.

In concerts November 13-14, Ólafsson collaborates with the SLSO for the first time, performing Edvard Grieg's Piano Concerto under the direction of Denève. One of the most widely performed piano concertos, it appears in films, television shows, and video games alike, including *Red Sparrow* (2018) and *Civilization V*. Ólafsson has built a reputation as a prolific recording artist, whose prior work has earned him the Album of the Year award at the BBC Music Magazine Awards 2019.

To open the concerts, Denève leads the SLSO premiere of Carlos Simon's *Fate Now Conquers*, which draws inspiration from a quote in Beethoven's diary and models the unpredictability and inevitability of one's destiny. A prominent composer of music inspired by jazz, gospel, and neo-romanticism, Simon received the 2021 Sphinx Medal of Excellence, which recognizes the achievements of Black and Latinx musicians. Continuing the fate narrative, the concerts conclude with Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5, with its iconic opening statement often called the fate motif.

On November 19-20, David Danzmayr leads the SLSO in a concert with ties to Scottish music and culture. Danzmayr was once assistant to current SLSO Music Director Stéphane Denève at the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Now, having become a Music Director himself at the Oregon Symphony, he kicks off the concert with the U.S. premiere of a work co-commissioned by the SLSO from composer Anna Clyne entitled *PIVOT*, which draws inspiration from Scotland and quotes fragments of *The Flowers of Edinburgh*, a traditional Scottish fiddle tune. A longtime champion of Clyne's, Denève has conducted more than ten performances of her various works during his time with the SLSO. The SLSO gave its first performance of Clyne's *DANCE* in the opening classical concerts of its 2021/2022 season.

Violinist Simone Porter, who made her international debut with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London at age 13, makes her SLSO debut with a performance of Max Bruch's *Scottish Fantasy*, a violin showpiece in four movements, each inspired by Scottish folk songs. The concert closes with Franz Schubert's Symphony No. 9, "The Great," which uses the composer's signature lyricism to push the symphonic genre to new lengths.

Proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test is required at every Powell Hall event. Visit [slo.org/protocols](https://slo.org/protocols) for more information.

The SLSO's 142nd season runs through May 2022. For more information, visit [slo.org](https://slo.org).

### **Calendar Listings:**



The St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, led by Music Director Stéphane Denève, presents a one-hour happy hour concert featuring Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 at the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center and the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Arrive early to mingle with musicians and enjoy refreshments in this casual concert atmosphere.

**Friday, November 12, 2021, 6:30pm CST**

**Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center, University of Missouri-St. Louis**

**1 Touhill Circle, St. Louis, Missouri, 63121**

Stéphane Denève, conductor

**Ludwig van BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 5

*Doors open at 5:00pm for this happy hour concert.*

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St. Louis Symphony Orchestra concerts November 13-14 feature the SLSO debut of pianist Víkingur Ólafsson, led by Music Director Stéphane Denève in Grieg's Piano Concerto. Concerts also include Carlos Simon's *Fate Now Conquers* and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5.

**Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**

**Saturday, November 13, 2021, at 8:00pm CST\***

**Sunday, November 14, 2021, at 3:00pm CST**

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

Stéphane Denève, conductor

Víkingur Ólafsson, piano (**SLSO debut**)

**Carlos SIMON** *Fate Now Conquers* (**First SLSO performances**)

**Edvard GRIEG** Piano Concerto

**Ludwig Van BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 5

*\*Shuttle service is available to/from West County for this concert.*

Audiences can attend the free Pre-Concert Conversation at 7:00pm Saturday and 2:00pm Sunday in the auditorium, led this week by SLSO Creative Partner Tim Munro. Tune in to St. Louis Public Radio or Classic 107 at 8:00pm Saturday, November 13, for a live broadcast of the performance. Listen on air (90.7 FM KWMU or 107.3 FM) or online ([news.stlpublicradio.org](https://www.news.stlpublicradio.org) or [classic1073.org](https://www.classic1073.org)).



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In concerts November 19-20, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra gives the U.S. premiere of Anna Clyne's *PIVOT*. Concerts also feature the SLSO debuts of guest conductor David Danzmayr and violinist Simone Porter, as well as music by Max Bruch and Franz Schubert.

**Schubert's Great Symphony**

**Friday, November 19, 2021, at 10:30am CST\***

**Saturday, November 20, 2021, at 8:00pm CST**

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

David Danzmayr, conductor (**SLSO debut**)

Simone Porter, violin (**SLSO debut**)

**Anna CLYNE**

*PIVOT* (**U.S. premiere, SLSO co-commission**)

**Max BRUCH**

*Scottish Fantasy*

**Franz SCHUBERT**

Symphony No. 9, "The Great"

*\*Complimentary refreshments courtesy of Kaldi's Coffee Roasting Co. Shuttle service is available to/from West County for this concert.*

Audiences can attend the free Pre-Concert Conversation at 9:30am Friday and at 7:00pm Saturday in the auditorium, led this week by SLSO Assistant Conductor Stephanie Childress. Tune in to St. Louis Public Radio or Classic 107 at 8:00pm Saturday, November 20, for a live broadcast of the performance. Listen on air (90.7 FM KWMU or 107.3 FM) or online ([news.stlpublicradio.org](https://news.stlpublicradio.org) or [classic1073.org](https://classic1073.org)).

**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](https://slo.org).

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