



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

[January 24, 2022]

Contacts: St. Louis Symphony Orchestra: Eric Dundon <a href="mailto:ericd@slso.org">ericd@slso.org</a>, 314-286-4134

National/International: Nikki Scandalios <a href="mailto:nikki@scandaliospr.com">nikki@scandaliospr.com</a>, 704-340-4094

# ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND MUSIC DIRECTOR STÉPHANE DENÈVE ANNOUNCE SPRING 2022 SLATE OF DIGITAL CONCERTS

Five digital concerts feature full orchestra and chamber music performances with Music Director Stéphane Denève and guest conductor Gemma New, plus guest artists: violinist Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider; mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke; and SLSO cellist Elizabeth Chung

Performances include works by J.S. Bach, Edward Elgar, Jake Heggie, James Lee III, W.A. Mozart, Sergei Prokofiev, Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, Franz Schubert, Dmitri Shostakovich, Jean Sibelius, and Richard Strauss

New \$45 Digital Passport makes all five concerts available for unlimited streaming upon release through August 31

(January 24, 2022, St. Louis, MO) – Today, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Stéphane Denève announced details about the SLSO's spring 2022 slate of digital concerts, available to stream on slso.org through August 2022.

The offerings include five high-definition full orchestral and chamber music concerts filmed at Powell Hall over the past year, available for streaming through the orchestra's website. Concerts can be viewed on personal computers, smartphones, and tablets, as well as on smart TVs via Google Chromecast and Apple AirPlay.

Concerts, by release month, include:

- **January:** A chamber music concert that includes J.S. Bach's Tempo di Bourrée from Violin Partita No. 1, transcribed for marimba, and Franz Schubert's String Quintet.
- February: Guest conductor and former SLSO Resident Conductor Gemma New leads the
  orchestra in Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade, as well as Edward Elgar's Sea Pictures
  with mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke, and the first SLSO performances of Jake Heggie's The
  Work at Hand featuring Cooke and SLSO cellist Elizabeth Chung. This concert was performed
  in memory of the late St. Louis Post-Dispatch classical music critic Sarah Bryan Miller.
- March: Music Director Stéphane Denève leads the orchestra in its first performances of James Lee III's Emotive Transformations, along with Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5, and Jean Sibelius' Violin Concerto with violinist Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider.
- **April:** A chamber music concert that features Franz Hasenöhrl's arrangement of Richard Strauss' *Till Eulenspiegel, einmal anders!* and Franz Schubert's Piano Quintet, "Trout."
- May: A chamber music concert that includes Sergei Prokofiev's Quintet in G minor and W.A.





Mozart's String Quintet, K. 516.

**Stéphane Denève, Music Director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra,** said, "I am so pleased to share these concerts beyond the walls of Powell Hall. By making these concerts accessible anywhere, we hope to build musical bridges with people in St. Louis and around the world. Nothing brings us more joy than connecting with people through music. We hope you enjoy watching these performances as much as we loved creating them for you."

Marie-Hélène Bernard, President and CEO of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, said, "Our growing portfolio of performance and educational offerings created for the digital space supports the SLSO's mission to enhance lives through the power music, to build connections, and to help strengthen communities. We are pleased to have these opportunities to deepen connections between our SLSO family of artists and our community both near and far. We look forward to expanding our offerings to include increasingly varied musical and educational content, making music accessible for all."

The spring 2022 offerings follow the successful launch of a digital concerts with a seven-concert slate in spring 2021, followed by a five-concert offering in summer 2021. To date, SLSO digital concerts have reached more than 10,000 households.

These digital concerts are part of the SLSO's expanding portfolio of online content that makes music accessible to all. Included in that portfolio is a robust online education program platform, connecting teachers and students directly with SLSO musicians through innovative digital events. More than 60,000 students, teachers, and families have engaged with the SLSO since January 2021 through initiatives including:

- SoundLab, a series of four interactive videos and activities for teachers, students, and families to create music and engage in the science of sound, and the corresponding SoundLab Exploration digital events series.
- Digital education concerts, including *Tiny Tunes*, designed for Pre-K students.
- The digital *Instrument Playground Online*, a free series of videos and activities that introduce the instruments of the orchestra and the people who play them.
- An expanding portfolio of online events, including Early Childhood Family Activity Sessions
  that supplement Digital Tiny Tunes concerts; online family programming; and online
  professional development workshops for educators.

The SLSO also continues with concert broadcasts weekly on 90.7 KWMU St. Louis Public Radio and Classic 107.3.

The SLSO digital concerts announced today include orchestra performances led by Music Director Stéphane Denève and guest conductor and former SLSO Resident Conductor Gemma New, recorded at Powell Hall in November 2021. Additionally, SLSO musicians take the spotlight in three chamber music programs released in January, April, and May. These hourlong concerts were recorded in February and March 2021.





The SLSO's digital concert series complements the SLSO's live concert season, which continues through June 2022. Additional SLSO digital concerts will be announced at a later date.

## **SLSO Digital Passport**

New this spring, the SLSO introduces a Digital Passport program for patrons to access the entire spring 2022 concert lineup for \$45. Single tickets for digital concerts are \$18. New concerts will be available each month from January through May and are available for unlimited streaming through August 31. Patrons can purchase the Digital Passport at <a href="slso.org/digitalconcerts">slso.org/digitalconcerts</a>.

Access to individual digital concerts is available at the <u>SLSO's website</u>. Each concert—captured at Powell Hall using the SLSO's high-definition camera system—includes an introduction by Music Director Stéphane Denève and SLSO musicians.

Patrons with funds on account can use those for these programs. Patrons can also create their own digital concert package for additional savings.

Step-by-step instructions on how to purchase and access individual digital concerts can be found on the <u>orchestra's website</u>.

Digital Concerts are made possible in part by a generous grant from the Berges Family Foundation.

## Digital concerts calendar

The SLSO releases its first digital concert of 2022 on January 26, with a new concert offering every month through May. Digital concerts are subject to change. The concerts are:

## Release date: Wednesday, January 26, 2022

This concert was recorded at Powell Hall on March 19-21, 2021. This concert is available through August 31, 2022. Single tickets are \$18.

J.S. BACH Tempo di Bourrée from Violin Partita No. 1 in B minor

Alan Stewart, percussion

Franz SCHUBERT String Quintet

Celeste Golden Boyer, violin Alison Harney, violin Andrew François, viola Yin Xiong, cello Elizabeth Chung, cello

Concert available in February 2022





This concert was recorded in front of a live audience at Powell Hall on November 27-28, 2021. This concert is available through August 31, 2022. Single tickets are \$18.

Gemma New, conductor Sasha Cooke, mezzo-soprano Elizabeth Chung, cello

**Edward ELGAR** Sea Pictures

Jake HEGGIE The Work at Hand (First SLSO performances)

Nikolai RIMSKY-KORSAKOV Scheherazade

This concert was performed in memory of Sarah Bryan Miller, the late St. Louis Post-Dispatch classical music critic.

## Concert available in March 2022

This concert was recorded in front of a live audience at Powell Hall on November 6-7, 2021. This concert is available through August 31, 2022. Single tickets are \$18.

Stéphane Denève, conductor Nikolaj Szeps-Znaider, violin

James LEE III Emotive Transformations (First SLSO performances)

Jean SIBELIUS Violin Concerto
Dmitri SHOSTAKOVICH Symphony No. 5

## Concert available in April 2022

This concert was recorded at Powell Hall on March 12, 14, 19, and 20, 2021. This concert is available through August 31, 2022. Single tickets are \$18.

## Richard STRAUSS (arr. Franz Hasenöhrl)

Till Eulenspiegel, einmal anders!

Ryan Toher, clarinet Andrew Cuneo, bassoon Victoria Knudtson, horn Kristin Ahlstrom, violin Sarah Hogan Kaiser, double bass

Franz SCHUBERT

Piano Quintet, "Trout"

Kristin Ahlstrom, violin





Beth Guterman Chu, viola Daniel Lee, cello Aleck Belcher, double bass Peter Henderson, piano

## Concert available in May 2022

This concert was recorded at Powell Hall on February 26 and 28, and March 12 and 14, 2021. This concert is available through August 31, 2022. Single tickets are \$18.

## Sergei PROKOFIEV

Quintet in G minor

Cally Banham, oboe Scott Andrews, clarinet Celeste Golden Boyer, violin Shannon Williams, viola Erik Harris, double bass

#### W.A. MOZART

String Quintet, K. 516

Alison Harney, violin Eva Kozma, violin Beth Guterman Chu, viola Jonathan Chu, viola Alvin McCall, cello

## **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 <a href="Music Director Stéphane Denève">Music Director Stéphane Denève</a>. The SLSO serves the St. Louis region through its commitment to artistic excellence, educational impact, and community collaborations, honoring its mission of enriching lives through the power of music.

The core of the SLSO's artistic foundation is its dynamic partnership with Stéphane Denève. Denève's energetic musicianship, visionary storytelling, and collaborative spirit have created stronger connections with local and visiting artists, as well as advanced the SLSO's role as a leader in music education. The SLSO musical family also includes two resident choruses: the St. Louis Symphony Chorus, founded in 1976, performs choral-orchestral music from the Baroque era to today; and the St. Louis Symphony IN UNISON Chorus, founded in 1994, focuses on the music of African American and African traditions.

In addition to its concerts at historic Powell Hall, which has been the SLSO's home for more than 50 years, the orchestra is an integral part of the vibrant St. Louis community. Orchestra musicians share





dozens of education and community performances throughout the region each year at medical facilities, places of worship, community centers, and schools. The St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, founded by Conductor Laureate Leonard Slatkin in 1970, is the region's premiere training orchestra for high school and college students. The SLSO is proud to celebrate the 100th anniversary of its education programs in 2021.

For more than 15 years, the *St. Louis Symphony: Live at the Pulitzer* series has highlighted composers and music of today through innovative performances in collaboration with the Pulitzer Arts Foundation. The SLSO has also served as the resident orchestra for Opera Theatre of Saint Louis for more than 40 years and enjoys a long history of robust and enduring artistic collaborations with individuals and organizations locally and around the world.

The Grammy® Award-winning SLSO's impact is expanding with a growing digital presence that helps make music more accessible to all, realized through weekly Saturday night concert broadcasts on St. Louis Public Radio, acclaimed recordings, and regular tours domestically and abroad. This expanding content portfolio includes digital concerts filmed at Powell Hall on the SLSO's high-definition camera equipment; virtual events for patrons, families, and educators; and a robust online education platform that features curriculum materials, interactive programs, activities, and learning opportunities for all ages.

Since the arrival of Marie-Hélène Bernard as President and CEO in 2015, the SLSO has aligned its mission to make music more accessible, while fostering a culture welcoming to all. Building on its momentum, 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 <a href="slso.org">slso.org</a>.

###