



**St. Louis Symphony  
Orchestra**

stéphane denève : music director



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND THE MUNY PAY TRIBUTE  
TO COMPOSER AND LYRICIST STEPHEN SONDHEIM  
IN COLLABORATIVE CONCERT, OCTOBER 2, AT POWELL HALL**

***A Little Sondheim Music* celebrates the musical legacy of Stephen Sondheim  
with selections from his remarkable career**

**(September 19, 2022, St. Louis, MO)** – Today, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra and The Muny announced details about their latest collaboration: the upcoming concert honoring the late Stephen Sondheim ***A Little Sondheim Music on Sunday, October 2, at 3:00pm***. Sondheim, who passed away in November 2021 at age 91, is credited with reinventing the American musical, both as a lyricist and composer, throughout his prolific career.

Hosted by Mike Isaacson, Artistic Director and Executive Producer of The Muny, with musical staging by Michael Baxter, and conducted by Muny veteran Ben Whiteley, the concert includes selections from many of Sondheim's most beloved musicals, including *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Sondheim On Sondheim*, *Into the Woods*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *Company*, and *Sweeney Todd*. All lyrics and music by Stephen Sondheim, with various arrangers and orchestrators.

Performing with the SLSO are several veteran theater performers, whose credits include Broadway musicals, West End productions, Muny productions, television, and more: Ben Davis, Bryonha Marie, Matthew Scott, Emily Skinner, and Elizabeth Stanley. Broadway veteran and St. Louis native Ken Page also makes a special appearance. (See Artist Bios on page 2.)

Collaborations between the two organizations date back to at least 1919, when the SLSO provided entertainment for patrons of The Muny during summer performances including *Robin Hood* and *The Mikado*. The tradition of collaboration returned in 1994 when the SLSO performed on The Muny stage in a celebration concert titled "Gateway to the Gold," a salute to the U.S. Olympic Festival. The SLSO and The Muny last performed together in 2018 as part of The Muny's centennial celebration.

Tickets are on sale now for this unique concert partnership between two of St. Louis' most storied and celebrated arts institutions. Tickets can be purchased by visiting [slso.org](https://slso.org) or by calling the SLSO Box Office at 314-534-1700.

**Calendar Listing:**

Join the SLSO and The Muny as they turn Powell Hall into a Broadway theater to celebrate the legacy and music of composer-lyricist Stephen Sondheim. Known for iconic shows such as *Sweeney*



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*Todd, Merrily We Roll Along, A Little Night Music, Into the Woods, and Company*, everyone is sure to leave the theater humming.

**A Little Sondheim Music: The Muny and SLSO Celebrate Stephen Sondheim**

**Sunday, October 2, 2022, 3:00pm**

Ben Whiteley, conductor

Ben Davis, vocals

Bryonha Marie, vocals

Matthew Scott, vocals

Emily Skinner, vocals

Elizabeth Stanley, vocals

With special appearance by Ken Page

Mike Isaacson, host

**Artist Bios:**

**Ben Davis** recently received critical acclaim as Sweeney Todd in the Muny's production of Stephen Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. Davis received a Tony Honor for his work as Marcello in Baz Luhrmann's Broadway production of *La Bohème*. His extensive credits, spanning from Broadway to London, include Encores! *Call Me Madam* opposite Carmen Cusack, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Violet*, *A Little Night Music*, *Les Misérables*, *The Sound of Music*, *Kiss Me Kate* for the BBC at London's Royal Albert Hall and NBC's, *Annie Live*. Concert credits include Philly Pops, RTÉ Orchestra, Tanglewood, Caramoor, and many others.

**Bryonha Marie** has rapidly established herself as one of the brightest young stars currently on Broadway and in the classical crossover arena. Best known for her tour de force Broadway performance in *Prince of Broadway*, a career retrospective of the work of Harold Prince, Marie has also thrilled Broadway audiences as Serena in *Porgy & Bess*. Other Broadway credits include *After Midnight* (featured and principal cover for Patti LaBelle, Toni Braxton, k.d. lang, and Fantasia), the revival of *Ragtime* (Sarah's Friend), and *The Book of Mormon*.

**Matthew Scott** has performed as Adam Hochberg in *An American In Paris* on Broadway and the National Tour; *Sondheim On Sondheim* with Barbara Cook and Vanessa Williams; and *A Catered Affair*, *Jersey Boys*, and *Grand Horizons*. On the West End he has performed as Lee in *I Loved Lucy* at the Arts Theatre. Regional credits include *The Light In The Piazza* (Barrymore Award); *Saturday Night, Beaches, Company, Side by Side by Sondheim, Chaplin* (San Diego Critics Nomination), *A Wonderful Life*, *Ragtime*, *My Fair Lady*, *Carousel*, *West Side Story* (Kevin Kline Award Nomination), *Legally Blonde*, *Swing!*, *Les Misérables*, *Sunset Boulevard*, and *Mamma Mia*.

**Emily Skinner** has established herself as one of Broadway's most engaging and versatile performers. She was most recently seen in Barrington Stage's production of *A Little Night Music* where she received rave reviews for her fresh take on Desiree Armfeldt. Previously she appeared in the



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Broadway-bound musical *Once Upon a One More Time* at the Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, DC, and on Broadway as Georgia Holt, Cher's Mother, in *The Cher Show*.

Heralded as one of the "Breakout Stars of 2020" by The New York Times, **Elizabeth Stanley** received Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award nominations, and a Grammy Award for her recent performance as Mary Jane Healy in the musical *Jagged Little Pill*, inspired by the music of Alanis Morissette, book by Diablo Cody, and directed by Diane Paulus. Stanley has dazzled Broadway audiences as Claire De Loone in the revival of *On the Town* (Drama Desk Nomination), Dyanne in *Million Dollar Quartet*, Allison in *Cry Baby*, and April in the Tony Award-winning revival of *Company*.

**Ken Page** is a St. Louis native with a career spanning over 45 years. He is most widely known as the voice of "Oogie Boogie" in the Tim Burton/Disney film *The Nightmare Before Christmas* and has recreated his role in sold out concerts live to film at The Hollywood Bowl on four occasions as well as at Brooklyn's Barclay Center, Tokyo, Glasgow, London (with the London Philharmonic Orchestra), and Dublin. Broadway/UK credits include *Guys & Dolls*, *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Emmy-winning NBC special, Drama Desk Award-Best Actor, Grammy Award), *Cats* as Old Deuteronomy (Original Broadway Cast, London Video Cast, Grammy Award), *The Wiz*, *Ain't Nothin' But the Blues*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Children of Eden* (London West End Original Cast), *My One and Only* (London Palladium), *Mr. Wonderful* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane), and *The Little Mermaid* (Hollywood Bowl).

#### **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 143rd year with the 2022/2023 season and its fourth 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).

#### **About The Muny**

The Muny's mission is to enrich lives by producing exceptional musical theatre, accessible to all, while continuing its remarkable tradition in Forest Park. The country's largest outdoor musical theatre produces seven world-class musicals each year and welcomes over 400,000 theatregoers over our seven-show season. Now celebrating 104 seasons in St. Louis, The Muny remains one of the premier institutions in musical theatre.

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