



**THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC AND
GUSTAVO DUDAMEL ANNOUNCE THE 2017/18
SEASON AT WALT DISNEY CONCERT HALL**

***OUR CITY
OUR SOUND***

Subscriptions and Create Your Own Season available now

Single tickets on sale Sunday, August 27

Season Highlights include:

MOZART: 1791 – The LA Phil and Gustavo Dudamel open the season with an all-Mozart gala. A young man when he died, his final prolific year, 1791, gives an indication of the extraordinary works he would have written. Concerts will include the last Piano Concerto, the Clarinet Concerto, selections from *The Magic Flute* and choral works and arias from the last year of his life.

CDMX: Music from Mexico City – Gustavo Dudamel leads this festival highlighting the creativity and vibrant contemporary music culture thriving in Mexico City. Dudamel conducts the LA Phil and Walt Disney Concert Hall debuts of pop-rock singer Natalia Lafourcade and alt-rock band Café Tacvba, as well as a film night celebrating the Mexican silver screen. Programs will include world premiere commissions from Arturo Márquez and Gabriela Ortiz. Other events include a Green Umbrella concert featuring five world-premiere commissions, *BiRDMAN Live* - a screening of the movie *Birdman* with live performance of the score by Antonio Sanchez, a festival day, and education collaborations. This festival is part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA, an initiative of The Getty with arts institutions across Southern California celebrating Latin American and Latino art.

Schumann Cycle – Closing the season, Gustavo Dudamel will lead a complete Schumann symphonic cycle, including the piano and cello concertos with soloists Mitsuko Uchida and Sol Gabetta. There will be performances of the neglected oratorio *Das Paradies und die Peri* in a unique staged presentation inspired by China's Dunhuang Caves, created by director Peter Sellars and video artist Refik Anadol. These will be the first performances of the piece by the LA Phil.

Composer Salonen – Conductor Laureate Esa-Pekka Salonen returns to conduct three of his concertos with soloists Yefim Bronfman, Leila Josefowicz and Yo-Yo Ma, who will perform the West Coast premiere of Salonen's Cello Concerto. Salonen's newly-revised *Wing on Wing* will be performed in the venue that served as its inspiration, Walt Disney Concert Hall, for the first time since 2009. In addition, Gustavo Dudamel will lead the world premiere of Salonen's new work for orchestra, commissioned by the LA Phil.

Bernstein 100 – During the worldwide centennial celebrations of Leonard Bernstein, the LA Phil will mount a production of his rarely-performed *Mass*, an enormous theatrical piece for singers, players and dancers, conducted by Gustavo Dudamel and staged by director Elkhannah Pulitzer. Programs also include Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, *Serenade* with Hilary Hahn and two screenings of the multiple Oscar®-winning 1961 film *West Side Story* with live orchestral accompaniment.

Susanna Mälkki– This season marks Susanna Mälkki's first as the LA Phil's Principal Guest Conductor. Mälkki's unique programming will feature a mix of new music and core composers with three subscription weeks and a Green Umbrella concert. Her programs include the U.S. premiere of Zimmermann's concerto for cello and orchestra, choreographed for dancers from the Tero Saarinen Company, and the world premiere of a new work from Marcos Balter.

Yuval Sharon – Yuval Sharon returns for the second year in his residency as Artist-Collaborator with a staged production of Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* conducted by Gustavo Dudamel with Chilean theatre company TEATROCINEMA. Sharon also embarks on *War of the Worlds*, a world premiere performance piece by Annie Gosfield that adapts the original radio script from Orson Welles' 1939 "fake national news" story for an ambitious staging inside Walt Disney Concert Hall and throughout Los Angeles. His second year culminates with the U.S. premiere of Andrew Norman's *A Trip to the Moon*, an opera for the whole family (ages 6 and up) and an LA Phil co-commission.

Commitment to new music – Leading the music world with its commitment to new works, the LA Phil's new season includes 23 commissions, 22 world premieres, 6 U.S. premieres and 2 West Coast premieres.

The Next Generation – The LA Phil's education initiatives continue to expand and evolve. Works by National Composers Intensive (NCI) participants will be workshopped in the LA Phil's CDMX festival and performed in the Noon to Midnight festival. NCI co-directors are Gabriela Ortiz, Andrew Norman and Christopher Rountree. Symphonies for Schools partners with NPR's *From the Top* with host Christopher O'Riley, presenting two radio show recordings captured from concerts for high school and middle school music students, while

elementary school students experience Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program Director Andrew Norman's LA Phil co-commissioned opera *A Trip to the Moon*, directed by Artist-Collaborator Yuval Sharon.

Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences – This three-year partnership, now in its second year, continues with movie-themed programming including The Oscar® Concert featuring the year's nominated scores conducted by Thomas Wilkins and celebrating the Oscars' 90th anniversary.

Tour – The LA Phil will tour the East Coast of the U.S. (Boston, Washington D.C. and New York) and Europe (London and Paris) with three signature programs including world premiere works by Conductor Laureate Esa-Pekka Salonen and Ted Hearne. The London residency will include a cross-cultural exchange involving young musicians from the LA Phil's Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA) and Great Britain working with Gustavo Dudamel as part of a national youth orchestra conference. This two-day convening will aim to explore the role of music and the arts in young people's lives.

Jazz, Songbook and World Music series – Acclaimed jazz greats, international legends and world music pioneers including Art Garfunkel, Leslie Odom, Jr., Glen Hansard, LA Phil Creative Chair for Jazz Herbie Hancock, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra & Chick Corea, Zakir Hussain, Dave Holland, John Beasley's presents MONK'estra, M. Ward, Rhiannon Giddens and Bajofondo, perform as part of these celebrated concert series.

Los Angeles, CA (FEBRUARY 28, 2017) – Music & Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel and President and CEO Deborah Borda today announced the artistic vision for the LA Phil's 2017/18 programming. Under the leadership of Gustavo Dudamel, the orchestra's 99th season deepens the LA Phil's commitment to innovation and excellence through a series of signature programs and partnerships, demonstrating the originality and musicianship that make the LA Phil one of the most creative, exciting and accessible music organizations in the world.

"Entering into my 9th season as Music & Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic gives me the perfect opportunity to reflect on my time here in Los Angeles and all that we've accomplished together. This season we are building on this history, featuring programs by composers I love, performing favorite classic works as well as exploring the vibrant cultural life of Mexico City, and inviting artists from around the world to bring their perspectives to our stage. We continue to show our commitment to young people across Los

Angeles with programs like YOLA, which inspire not only me, but also our entire LA Phil family. We hope you will join us on a musical exploration here at Walt Disney Concert Hall and throughout our beautiful city," said Gustavo Dudamel.

"In the spirit of Gustavo Dudamel's belief in the power of music to unite us, we welcome everyone to our extraordinary 99th season," added Borda. "Among the 2017/18 season goals is to bring communities together through the shared experience of live music, building bridges and dissolving borders, and to find common threads and musical moments. With a vibrant set of programs from our collaborators, Principal Guest Conductor Susanna Mälkki, Artist-Collaborator Yuval Sharon, Creative Chair John Adams and Creative Chair for Jazz Herbie Hancock, this season provides a home for cutting-edge contemporary artists, giving them a platform for forward-thinking programming. Along with Gustavo Dudamel, their contributions of distinctive presentations form the foundation of this LA Phil season and its signature."

Some of the most beloved and important composers in Gustavo Dudamel's musical life - Mozart, Bernstein and Schumann - are core to this season's programming. Schumann's four symphonies will be presented with two of his greatest concertos, featuring pianist Mitsuko Uchida and cellist Sol Gabetta, and the rarely-performed oratorio *Das Paradies und die Peri*. Staged by director Peter Sellars, the oratorio's scenic design will be inspired by the art found in the cave temples at Dunhuang, China. These will be the first performances of the work by the LA Phil. Bernstein's centenary allows for another seldom-performed work to be presented - *Mass* - staged by Elkhanah Pulitzer and including full symphony orchestra, street singers, adult and children's choruses, rock and marching bands. Other Bernstein works to be performed include *Serenade* and *Chichester Psalms*, plus a screening of the film *West Side Story* with live orchestral accompaniment. A Mozart gala launches the season followed by two weekends of music from the composer's final year of life. The idea of the prodigy has become a powerful part of classical music's narrative, for which Mozart is the model. The program for the gala looks at Mozart's early works with performances from some of today's sensational young artists.

This season there will be several large, multidisciplinary productions presented as part of the expanded in/SIGHT series, concerts which incorporate sight, sound and movement into the performances. In addition to the stagings of Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri* and Bernstein's *Mass*, Gustavo Dudamel will conduct Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde*. Mahler's penultimate complete work, a revelatory setting of ancient Chinese poems on life, love and loss, will be staged by Artist-Collaborator Yuval Sharon in an innovative partnership with TEATROCINEMA, Chile's imaginative theatre company which creates interactive 2D and 3D video backgrounds. Dudamel will also present the world premiere of Ted Hearne's new opera *Place*, produced in partnership with Beth Morrison Projects. Hearne's bold score embraces a cross-section of pop culture, hip-hop and politics. Performed by some of the most innovative vocalists of our time, this work will also be performed on the Orchestra's tour to Europe and the East Coast.

Additionally, Yuval Sharon will stage a new work by Annie Gosfield, *War of the Worlds*, that will be performed simultaneously inside Walt Disney Concert Hall and at various sites across Los Angeles. Conducted by Christopher Rountree, the story is based on the 1898 science fiction novel by H.G. Wells about a Martian invasion and the infamous 1938 radio broadcast by Orson Welles. *War of the Worlds* marks the second collaboration with the pioneering sound company Meyer Sound, who will work collaboratively with the creative team to realize the unique and complex sound requirements of the project. Susanna Mälkki's first season as Principal Guest Conductor includes an original in/SIGHT production of the U.S. premiere of Bernd Alois Zimmermann's Cello Concerto with choreography by Tero Saarinen. Rounding out the season's multidisciplinary offerings are BiRDMAN LIVE, part of CDMX: Music from Mexico City; The Oscar® Concert; the U.S. premiere of Andrew Norman's opera for the whole family – *A Trip to the Moon*; and two screenings of the film *West Side Story* with live orchestral accompaniment.

CDMX: Music from Mexico City - presents a window into Mexico City's vibrant contemporary music scene, from orchestral programs to folk and pop presentations, Gustavo Dudamel will lead three orchestral programs and collaborate with Café Tacvba and Natalia Lafourcade in their Walt Disney Concert Hall debuts and present world premiere commissions by Arturo Márquez and Gabriela Ortiz. The festival will include a Green Umbrella concert with five world premiere commissions by established and up-and-coming composers such as Felipe

Waller and Diana Syrse. Additional concerts will include a screening of Alejandro González Iñárritu's Oscar®-winning *Birdman* (2014) performed live by composer Antonio Sánchez and a concert featuring established and emerging acts of Mexico City's flourishing music scene including Mexrrissey and La Sonora Santanera. The third iteration of the National Composers Intensive, led by acclaimed composer Andrew Norman, will bring together talented young composers – who are currently studying in, or recently graduated from, a music composition program at an accredited college or university – for a week of immersive composition education with key faculty drawn from the LA Phil's CDMX festival. This festival is part of Pacific Standard Time: LA/LA, an initiative of The Getty with arts institutions across Southern California celebrating Latin American and Latino art.

The season will include four programs of music by Conductor Laureate Esa-Pekka Salonen. The beloved composer-conductor returns to his adopted home where he premiered many of his works, as he presents the world premiere of a new orchestral piece conducted by Dudamel and conducts the West Coast premiere of his Cello Concerto with Yo-Yo Ma. Programs also include his concertos for soloists Ma, Yefim Bronfman and Leila Josefowicz. Salonen's newly-revised *Wing on Wing*, will also be offered.

Principal Guest Conductor Susanna Mälkki will assume her new role, bringing her extraordinary musicianship to the LA Phil and complementing the orchestra's innovative vision. She brings her extensive knowledge and enthusiasm for the music of our time to Los Angeles, and will present and commission composers who are important to her. Her versatility and broad repertoire will be on display across three orchestral programs and a Green Umbrella concert in this, her first season.

Woven throughout the season are works known for their political themes in American political history, including Bernstein's *Mass*, Ted Hearne's *Place*, and John Adams' Green Umbrella program with works by Martirano and Eastman. While culturally relevant to Los Angeles audiences, CDMX: Music from Mexico City also offers a timely sociopolitical lens, as it investigates the relationship between the city of Los Angeles and one of its closest neighbors to the South, Mexico City, from a Los Angeles perspective.

The LA Phil's commitment to new music is also integrated across the season's programming with 23 new commissions including 22 world premieres from composers such as Annie Gosfield, Gabriela Ortiz, Diana Syrse, Tania León, Katherine Young, Marcos Balter, Joseph Pereira, Andrew McIntosh, Nico Muhly, Ted Hearne and Esa-Pekka Salonen among others; U.S. premieres from Bernd Alois Zimmermann, Andrew Norman, Anders Hillborg, Luca Francesconi, Francesco Filidei and Francesca Verunelli; and West Coast premieres from Matthias Pintscher and Esa-Pekka Salonen. This season also sees the return of Noon To Midnight, a day-long exploration of new music taking place across the Walt Disney Concert Hall campus with multiple ensembles and features a Green Umbrella performance of Annie Gosfield's new work *War of the Worlds*.

Throughout the entire season, an exceptional array of world-class superstars including Dianne Reeves, Yuja Wang, Martha Argerich with Itzhak Perlman, Herbie Hancock, Zubin Mehta and John Adams will perform. The season will also bring the long-awaited Walt Disney Concert Hall debuts of the Chicago Symphony under Riccardo Muti and the Mariinsky Orchestra under Valery Gergiev.

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