



**GUSTAVO DUDAMEL**  
**Music & Artistic Director**  
**Walt and Lilly Disney Chair**

Driven by an unwavering belief in the power of music to heal, unite, and inspire, Gustavo Dudamel is one of the most distinguished conductors of our day. From the great concert halls to classrooms, video screens and movie theaters, Dudamel's remarkable career of musical achievements and championing of access to the arts for young people around the world demonstrates music's extraordinary capacity to transform people's lives.

Dudamel's 2018/19 season will center around the Centennial celebration of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and his tenth year as their Music & Artistic Director. Other highlights of the season include his debut at the Metropolitan Opera conducting Verdi's *Otello*; tours with the Berlin Philharmonic, Munich Philharmonic, and Mahler Chamber Orchestra; and his first extended academic residency at Princeton University.

Under Dudamel's direction, the LA Phil has become one of the leading orchestras in the world, admired for its unmatched commitment to new music, diversity and inclusion, and the development of ground-breaking digital initiatives. The celebration of the LA Phil's 100th season showcases the extraordinary versatility and vision of both the orchestra and Dudamel himself, featuring more than 50 commissions. Dudamel will lead cross-genre collaborations with Herbie Hancock, Moby, and Andrew Bird, Beethoven's five piano concertos with Lang Lang as soloist, a performance at the Academy Awards, a tour of Asia, and more.

A lifelong advocate for music education and social development through art, Dudamel himself was shaped by his childhood experience with El Sistema, the extraordinary program of immersive musical training initiated in 1975 by José Antonio Abreu. Entering his 19th year as Music Director of the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra, Dudamel also carries on the work of his late mentor with his ongoing commitment to El Sistema in Venezuela, and by supporting numerous Sistema-inspired projects around the world.

One of the few classical musicians to truly reach mainstream audiences while maintaining the highest musical integrity, Gustavo Dudamel has been featured three times on CBS' *60 Minutes* and was the subject of a PBS special, *Dudamel: Conducting a Life*. He had a cameo role in Amazon Studio's award-winning series *Mozart in the Jungle* and, together with members of YOLA, became the first classical musician to participate in the Super Bowl Halftime Show, appearing alongside pop stars Coldplay, Beyoncé, and Bruno

Mars. At John Williams' personal request, Dudamel guest-conducted on the soundtrack for *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*; he also recorded James Newton Howard's soundtrack to Disney's holiday blockbuster *The Nutcracker*, in which he makes an on-screen cameo.

Dudamel's cinema, TV, radio, and online broadcasts have reached hundreds of millions of people around the world. Dudamel's Grammy Award®-winning discography includes landmark recordings of John Adams' *Gospel According to the Other Mary* (commissioned and performed by the Los Angeles Philharmonic); the soundtrack to the motion picture *Libertador*, for which Dudamel composed the score; a Richard Strauss disc with the Berlin Philharmonic; Mahler Symphonies 5 and 7 with the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra; and Mahler 9 with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Dudamel has independently produced an all-Wagner recording available exclusively for download and streaming, a set of the complete Beethoven symphonies from Barcelona's Palau de la Música, and a broadcast of two Stravinsky ballets in cooperation with the Berlin Philharmonic's Digital Concert Hall.

Gustavo Dudamel is one of the most decorated conductors of his generation. He received the Paez Medal of Art in 2018, the Americas Society Cultural Achievement Award in 2016, and the 2014 Leonard Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award for the Elevation of Music in Society from the Longy School of Music. He was named *Musical America's* 2013 Musician of the Year, one of the highest honors in the classical music industry and was voted into the *Gramophone* Hall of Fame.

Gustavo Dudamel was born in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. His conducting studies began in 1993 when he was hired as an Assistant Conductor with the Amadeus Chamber Orchestra. In 1999, he was appointed Music Director of the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra and began conducting studies with the orchestra's founder, Dr. Abreu. Inspired by Dudamel's early musical and mentoring experiences, the Gustavo Dudamel Foundation, a registered charity, was created in 2012.

For more information about Gustavo Dudamel, visit his official website: [gustavodudamel.com](http://gustavodudamel.com). You can find more about the Gustavo Dudamel Foundation at [dudamelfoundation.org](http://dudamelfoundation.org)

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