



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Announces 2022/23 Season  
Nathalie Stutzmann's First as Music Director**

The Grammy® Award-winning **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO)** makes history this fall when **Nathalie Stutzmann** becomes Music Director. As the fifth music director of the Orchestra, Stutzmann has been hailed locally as “a consummate rock star on the podium” ([ArtsATL](http://ArtsATL)), Stutzmann and the ASO have planned a 2022/23 season combining audience favorites with rediscovered gems and works from 13 of today’s most compelling living composers, all featuring a diverse roster of guest conductors and soloists.

Highlights of the ASO’s 78th season include eight programs led by Stutzmann, showcasing such repertory staples as **Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony**, **Brahms’ Third Symphony** and **Bach’s St. Matthew Passion**, which her world-renowned interpretation crowns a **two-week Bach celebration**. She will also conduct the world premiere of a new choral piece by **Hilary Purrington** and a Pulitzer Prize-winning work by **George Walker**. The season will also include U.S. premieres of works by **Lera Auerbach**, **Helen Grime** and **Tyshawn Sorey**; ASO debuts from artists including **Kazem Abdullah**, **Justin Austin** and **Elim Chan**; and the return of such familiar faces as **Lise de la Salle**, **Gil Shaham**, and Principal Guest Conductor **Sir Donald Runnicles**.

ASO Executive Director Jennifer Barlament said:

*The 2022/23 season promises to be a watershed moment in the history of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. The musical relationship that Nathalie Stutzmann, the Orchestra and Chorus have already forged together promises to produce performances of great depth and intensity, creating musical experiences that will resonate throughout the Atlanta community and around the world for years to come. Building on our already established strengths, Maestro Stutzmann brings her unique vision for the Orchestra and what it will mean to Atlanta, leading the city and the institution into a new musical cultural era.*

After Stutzmann’s first appearance with the Orchestra following the announcement of her appointment, *ArtsATL* marveled, “She doesn’t ‘conduct’ so much as she seizes the full potential of every note and wrenches it loose from the silence that preceded it. The boon of that fiery summons was evident throughout the Orchestra, with each section finding a new depth and life in its sound.”

Incoming ASO Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann said:

*I first want to welcome the community into the concert hall to share beautiful music together. Whether you're a longtime subscriber or have never been to a concert, please join us. For my first season as Music Director, we've selected treasured works from the French, German and Russian repertoire, and many pieces feature the incredible ASO Chorus. Under former Music Director Robert Spano, the ASO has championed countless works by new and innovative composers. I look forward to continuing that legacy, beginning this season with 13 living composers including Hilary Purrington, Tyshawn Sorey and Joel Thompson. Later in the season, we'll host a two-week Bach celebration, which culminates with Bach's St. Matthew Passion—an iconic piece that I can't wait to bring to life with the Orchestra and Chorus.*

The world-renowned conductor and contralto launches her directorship with a program featuring the **ASO Chorus** and a stellar quartet of vocal soloists. The program opens with the **world premiere**, co-commissioned by The Philadelphia Orchestra, of *Words for Departure* for choir and orchestra by New England native **Hilary Purrington**; followed by *Lilacs*, the Walt Whitman setting with which **George Walker** became the first African American to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music; and **Beethoven's** titanic Ninth Symphony (Oct. 6, 8 & 9, 2022).

The following weekend, Stutzmann continues her debut season with **Brahms' Third Symphony**, **Schoenberg's** *Verklärte Nacht* (Transfigured Night) featuring projections by English filmmaker **Netia Jones**, and **Franck's** *Le chasseur maudit* (The Accursed Huntsman) in celebration of the French composer's bicentennial (Oct. 14 & 15, 2022). Next, Stutzmann leads **Bizet's** charming Symphony in C Major and beloved *Carmen* Prelude, together with seasonal performances of selections from **Tchaikovsky's** *The Nutcracker* (Dec. 8, 10 & 11, 2022).

Stutzmann's first performances of 2023 feature **Shostakovich's** Fifth Symphony and **Prokofiev's** Sinfonia concertante with a favorite ASO collaborator, and "one of the finest among the astonishing gallery of young virtuoso cellists" (*Gramophone*), **Johannes Moser** (Feb. 2 & 3, 2023). Stutzmann then helms two back-to-back programs, conducting **Bach's** Concerto for Oboe and Violin, featuring ASO Principal Oboe **Elizabeth Koch Tiscione** and Concertmaster **David Coucheron** (March 23 & 25, 2023), and Bach's **St. Matthew Passion**, (March 30, April 1 & 2, 2023). As [BBC Music Magazine](#) writes: "Imbuing these accounts with personality and vision, ... Stutzmann really captures the sublime quality of Bach's sacred music."

For her penultimate performance of the season, Stutzmann conducts **Mendelssohn's** Violin Concerto with **Daniel Lozakovich**, "an exceptional talent" (*Le Figaro*, France), as soloist (April 20 & 21, 2023). Stutzmann returns for the Orchestra's **season finale**, which she opens with the overture to **Wagner's** *Tannhäuser*. She completes the program with **Ravel's** *Le tombeau de Couperin*, his beloved *Boléro*, and **Beethoven's** Third Piano Concerto featuring Diapason d'Or winner **Lise de la Salle** (June 15, 17 & 18, 2023).

### **Sir Donald Runnicles' Final Season as Principal Guest Conductor**

The 2022/23 season represents the final season of Sir Donald Runnicles' extraordinary tenure as **Principal Guest Conductor** of the ASO, a position he first assumed in 2001. Runnicles will end his 22nd season with works for which he is well known, including **Mahler's** Fifth Symphony (May 4 & 6, 2023) and **Bruckner's** Eighth Symphony, on a program that also includes pianist **Jonathan Biss** in **Mozart's** Piano Concerto No. 20 (Jan. 19 & 21, 2023). A perennial favorite conductor of the **ASO Chorus**, Runnicles also leads the Chorus in **Brahms' A German Requiem** (Jan. 26 & 28, 2023).

### **ASO's 2022/23 Season Celebrates Musical and Artistic Diversity**

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra continues to champion new and innovative works over the coming season, which features 13 works new to the ASO's repertoire and three **new commissions**. Set to text by iconic writer and activist James Baldwin, the first of these is *To Awaken the Sleeper* by Emmy® Award-winning Atlanta native **Joel Thompson** will receive its second-ever performance with the ASO and **Peter Oundjian** (Sept. 22 & 24, 2022). Next follows the **U.S. premiere** of the Saxophone Concerto by MacArthur Fellow **Tyshawn Sorey**, a co-commission with the Lucerne Festival, featuring saxophonist **Timothy McAllister**, who makes his ASO debut under the baton of former ASO Associate Conductor **Stephen Mulligan** (March 16 & 18, 2023).

The season's many **ASO premieres** include such recent new works as *1920/2019* by Grammy® Award winner **Joan Tower** (March 2 & 4, 2023); the Sphinx Medal of Excellence winner **Jessie Montgomery's Rounds**, performed by its dedicatee, **Awadagin Pratt**, and conducted by ASO Associate Conductor Jerry Hou (March 2 & 4, 2023); *Fate Now Conquers* by Sphinx Medal of Excellence winner **Carlos Simon** (April 13 & 15, 2023); *Midnight Sun Variations*, a nominee for the 2021 Music Composition Prize of the Foundation Prince Pierre de Monaco, by Finland's **Outi Tarkiainen** (Nov 17 & 19, 2022); and *This Midnight Hour* by Grammy®-nominated English composer **Anna Clyne** (Feb 9 & 11, 2023). Clyne is one of four female composers whose works are being performed in Atlanta for the first time, the others being Hindemith Prize-winner **Lera Auerbach**, represented by *Icarus* (April 27 & 29, 2023); Scotland's **Helen Grime**, whose Violin Concerto will be performed by **Leila Josefowicz** (June 8 & 10, 2023); and 20th-century Czech composer **Vítězslava Kaprálová**, whose *Military Sinfonietta* receives its ASO premiere under her compatriot **Petr Popelka** (May 18 & 20, 2023). Other relative rarities include **William Dawson's Negro Folk Symphony**, which receives a revival next winter (Feb 23 & 24, 2023).

Petr Popelka, who serves as Chief Conductor of the Norwegian Radio Orchestra, is one of seven conductors making **Atlanta debuts** in 2022/23. Also included are **Kazem Abdullah**, former General Music Director of the Aachen Opera and Symphony; **Ryan Bancroft**, newly named as Principal Conductor of the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic; **Nicholas Carter**, Chief Conductor of Opera Bern; **Elim Chan**, Music Director of the Antwerp Symphony; **Han-Na Chang**, Artistic Leader and Chief Conductor of the Trondheim Sinfonietta; and **Andrew Manze**, the violinist-turned-conductor, currently Music Director of the Hannover Symphony. Also making **ASO debuts** are 12 guest artists: sopranos **Heidi Stober** and **Camilla Tilling**; mezzo-sopranos **Patricia Bardon** and **Irene Roberts**; tenor **Robin Tritschler**; baritone **Lucas Meacham**; basses **Justin**

**Austin** and **Leon Košavić**; pianist **Tom Borrow**; saxophonist **Timothy McAllister**; and violinists **Daniel Lozakovich** and **Sayaka Shoji**.

The ASO welcomes back several audience favorites, including **Peter Oundjian**, who opens the season with Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 18, featuring **Emanuel Ax** (Sept 22 & 24, 2022); **John Storgårds**, who joins **Inon Barnatan** for Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2 (Nov 17 & 19); violinists **Augustin Hadelich**, **Hilary Hahn**, **Leila Josefowicz** and **Gil Shaham**; pianists **Jonathan Biss**, **Conrad Tao** and **Christina and Michelle Naughton**.

### **December Holiday Classics Make ASO's December Special**

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's holiday traditions continue in the 2022/23 season with **Christmas with the ASO** (Dec. 15, 16 & 18, 2022), a tradition established by Robert Shaw, featuring timeless holiday hymns and carols along with orchestral showpieces. Additional guest ensembles and artists will be announced. The following week, the ASO presents **Handel's Messiah** with the ASO Chamber Chorus and special guest soloists under the baton of **Norman Mackenzie**, ASO Director of Choruses (Dec. 22, 2022).

### **About The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**

Announcing its 78th season, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra continues to affirm its position as one of America's leading orchestras with excellent live performances, renowned guest artist features and engaging education initiatives. As a cornerstone for artistic development in the Southeast, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performs a full schedule of more than 150 concerts, including educational and community concerts, each year for a combined audience of more than a quarter-million people. [More](#)

### **About Nathalie Stutzmann**

Nathalie Stutzmann is considered one of the most outstanding musical personalities of our time. Charismatic musicianship, combined with unique rigor, energy and fantasy, characterize her style. A rich variety of strands form the core of her repertoire: Central European and Russian romanticism is a strong focus—ranging from Beethoven, Schumann, Brahms and Dvořák through to the larger symphonic forces of Tchaikovsky, Wagner, Mahler, Bruckner and Strauss—as well as French 19th century repertoire and impressionism. [More](#)

## **The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra: 2022/23 Season**

[View 2022/23 Season Press Kit](#)

[Video: Nathalie Stutzmann Discusses 2022/23 Season](#)

**Sept. 22 & 24, 2022**

**Peter Oundjian, conductor**

**Emanuel Ax, piano**

JOEL THOMPSON: *To Awaken the Sleeper* †

MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 18

RACHMANINOV: *Symphonic Dances*

**Oct. 6, 8 & 9**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**Talise Trevigne, soprano**

**Jennifer Johnson Cano, mezzo-soprano**

**Robin Tritschler, tenor \***

**Leon Košavić, bass \***

**ASO Chorus**

HILARY PURRINGTON: *Words for Departure* †

WALKER: *Lilacs*

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 9

**Oct. 14 & 15**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

BRAHMS: Symphony No. 3

FRANCK: *Le chasseur maudit* ‡

SCHOENBERG: *Verklärte Nacht*

**Nov. 10 & 12**

**Hannu Lintu, conductor**

**Gil Shaham, violin**

SIBELIUS: *The Oceanides* ‡

KORNGOLD: Violin Concerto

JENNIFER HIGDON: Concerto for Orchestra

**Nov. 17 & 19**

**John Storgårds, conductor**

**Inon Barnatan, piano**

OUTI TARKIAINEN: *Midnight Sun Variations* ‡

RACHMANINOV: *Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini*

CHOPIN/Stravinsky: *Nocturne* and *Grand Waltz*

SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 5

**Dec. 1 & 3**

**Elim Chan, conductor \***

**Hilary Hahn, violin**

TCHAIKOVSKY: Violin Concerto

SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 10

**Dec. 8, 10 & 11**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

BIZET: *Carmen* Prelude

BIZET: Symphony in C Major

TCHAIKOVSKY: Selections from *The Nutcracker*

**Dec. 15, 16 & 18**

**Norman Mackenzie, conductor**

**ASO Chorus**

Christmas with the ASO

**Dec. 22**

**Norman Mackenzie, conductor**

**ASO Chamber Chorus**

HANDEL: *Messiah*, Pt I

**Jan. 4, 2023**

**David Coucheron, violin**

VIVALDI: *The Four Seasons*

BACH: Select Brandenburg Concertos

**Jan. 12 & 14**

**Kazem Abdullah, conductor \***

**Tom Borrow, piano \***

IVES: Symphony No. 2

BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 4

**Jan. 19 & 21**

**Sir Donald Runnicles, conductor**

**Jonathan Biss, piano**

MOZART: Piano Concerto No. 20

BRUCKNER: Symphony No. 8

**Jan. 26 & 28**

**Sir Donald Runnicles, conductor**

**Heidi Stober, soprano \***

**Russell Braun, baritone**

**ASO Chorus**

ADOLPHUS HAILSTORK: *Epitaph for a Man Who Dreamed*

BRAHMS: *A German Requiem*

**Feb. 2 & 3**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**Johannes Moser, cello**

PROKOFIEV: Sinfonia concertante

SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 5

**Feb. 9 & 11**

**Han-Na Chang, conductor \***

**Sayaka Shoji, violin**

ANNA CLYNE: *This Midnight Hour* †

PROKOFIEV: Violin Concerto No. 1

MUSSORGSKY/Ravel: *Pictures at an Exhibition*

**Feb. 23 & 24**

**Ryan Bancroft, conductor \***

**Conrad Tao, piano**

KODÁLY: *Háry János Suite*

RAVEL: Piano Concerto in G

DAWSON: *Negro Folk Symphony*

**March 2 & 4**

**Jerry Hou, conductor**

**Awadagin Pratt, piano**

JOAN TOWER: *1920/2019 ‡*

JESSIE MONTGOMERY: *Rounds ‡*

BARTÓK: Concerto for Orchestra

**March 16 & 18**

**Stephen Mulligan, conductor**

**Timothy McAllister, saxophone \***

WEBER: *Der Freischütz Overture*

TYSHAWN SOREY: Saxophone Concerto ±

SIBELIUS: Symphony No. 2

**March 23 & 25**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**David Coucheron, violin**

**Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, oboe**

HANDEL/VIVALDI: Selections

BACH: Concerto for Oboe & Violin

**March 30, April 1 & 2**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**Camilla Tilling, soprano \***

**Patricia Bardon, mezzo-soprano \***

**Kenneth Tarver, tenor**

**Leon Košavić, bass**

**Justin Austin, Jesus \***

**Robin Tritschler, Evangelist**

**ASO Chamber Chorus**

BACH: *St. Matthew Passion*

**April 13 & 15**

**Stéphane Denève, conductor**

**Augustin Hadelich, violin**

CARLOS SIMON: *Fate Now Conquers* ‡

BRITTEN: Violin Concerto

BERLIOZ: *Symphonie fantastique*

**April 20 & 21**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**Daniel Lozakovich, violin \***

MOZART: *The Magic Flute* Overture

MENDELSSOHN: Violin Concerto

SCHUBERT: Symphony No. 9 in C Major

**April 27 & 29**

**Nicholas Carter, conductor \***

**Nicole Cabell, soprano**

**Lucas Meachem, baritone \***

**ASO Chorus**

LERA AUERBACH: *Icarus* ±

WAGNER: "Dawn" and "Siegfried's Rhine Journey" from *Götterdämmerung*

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: *A Sea Symphony*

**May 4 & 6**

**Sir Donald Runnicles, conductor**

**Irene Roberts, mezzo-soprano \***

BERG: Three Excerpts from *Wozzeck*

MAHLER: Symphony No. 5

**May 18 & 20**

**Petr Popelka, conductor \***

**Christina Naughton, piano**

**Michelle Naughton, piano**

KAPRÁLOVÁ: *Military Sinfonietta* ‡

MARTINŮ: Concerto for Two Pianos

DVOŘÁK: Symphony No. 8

**June 8 & 10**

**Andrew Manze, conductor \***

**Leila Josefowicz, violin**

MUSSORGSKY: *Night on Bald Mountain*

HELEN GRIME: Violin Concerto ±

RACHMANINOV: Symphony No. 3



**June 15, 17 & 18**

**Nathalie Stutzmann, conductor**

**Lise de la Salle, piano**

WAGNER: *Tannhäuser* Overture

BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 3

RAVEL: *Le tombeau de Couperin*

RAVEL: *Boléro*

\*ASO debut

† World premiere

‡ ASO premiere

± US premiere