



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA HIGHLIGHTS FULL SCHEDULE OF DECEMBER  
CONCERTS**

**Classical Series Welcomes Nathalie Stutzmann Back for Nutcracker Excerpts and Bizet,  
Plus Hilary Hahn Plays Tchaikovsky**

**Coca-Cola Holiday Series Begins with Christmas with the ASO**

**Symphony Hall LIVE Concerts Include Sold-Out Celtic Woman: A Christmas Symphony  
and New Year's Eve with Indigo Girls and ASO**

ATLANTA – The **Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's** December concert calendar is full of blockbuster guest artists and audience favorites, including the Holiday Series presented by Coca-Cola.

World-renowned violinist **Hilary Hahn**, a frequent guest artist at the ASO, plays Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto **Thursday and Saturday, December 1 and 3, at 8:00pm** in Symphony Hall. Guest conductor and rising star in the classical music world Elim Chan conducts a program that includes Shostakovich's Symphony No. 10.

**Sunday, December 4 at 8:00pm**, Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE welcomes **Blue October with special guests Beatnik Bandits** to Symphony Hall. The Texas-based alt-rock band is touring with classics from their previous nine albums, and new songs from their most recent 2020 release, *This Is What I Live For*.

Music Director **Nathalie Stutzmann** returns to Symphony Hall on **December 8 at 8pm & December 10 at 3:00pm** to conduct a program with Bizet's famous prelude to *Carmen* and his Symphony in C Major. In addition, the ASO will play selections from Tchaikovsky's holiday favorite, *The Nutcracker*. ASO Associate Conductor **Jerry Hou** will conduct the same program on Sunday, **December 11 at 3:00pm** in Symphony Hall.

Once again, WXIA-TV will air the **ASO Holiday Celebration on 11Alive** special, presented by **PNC**, on **Saturday, December 10 at 7:00pm & Sunday, December 11 at 11:00am**, with a replay on **Sunday, December 11 at 8:00pm on WATL**. Led by ASO Associate Conductor Jerry Hou and guest conductor William R. Langley, the program will feature holiday favorites like *Sleigh Ride* and *White Christmas*, alongside selections from *The Nutcracker*.

One of the ASO's most treasured holiday programs, **Christmas with the ASO**, returns for four performances this season, on **Thursday, December 15 at 8:00pm; Friday, December 16 at 8:00pm; and Sunday, December 18 at 3:00pm and 7:00pm**. An Atlanta tradition, Christmas with the ASO features favorite hymns, carols, and anthems celebrating the holiday season. This year, the ASO and the ASO Chorus are joined by special guest soloist **Timothy Miller**, tenor, and the **Spivey Hall Children's Choir**.

Irish singing sensations Celtic Woman present **Celtic Woman: A Christmas Symphony with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra** to a sold-out crowd on **Saturday, December 17 at 8:00pm**. The most successful all-female group in Irish history, Celtic Woman will sing new arrangements of Christmas classics from their holiday album, *The Magic of Christmas*.

There are multiple times to hear the ASO and the ASO Chamber Chorus perform **Handel's Messiah** this season. In Symphony Hall, the Orchestra and Chamber Chorus will sing this timeless retelling of the Christmas story on **Thursday, December 22 at 8:00pm**, with guest artists **Jessica Rivera, soprano; Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano; Miles Mykkanen, tenor; and Lawson Anderson, bass-baritone**.

The ASO will also take the holiday concerts on the road this December, with a performance of **Handel's Messiah** at the **Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall at the University of Georgia on Wednesday, December 21 at 8:00pm**.

In addition, **Georgia Public Broadcasting** will air a performance of *Messiah* on **Sunday, December 18 at 6:30pm**.

The Orchestra will perform two special holiday concerts outside of Symphony Hall this month, featuring the ASO and guest conductor **William R. Langley**. The first will be **Wednesday, December 21 at 11:00am and 12:15pm at North Avenue Presbyterian Church** in Atlanta. The second performance is **Thursday, December 22 at 8:00pm at the Madison-Morgan Cultural Center in Madison, GA**.

Finally, Symphony Hall LIVE closes the year with **Indigo Girls with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Friday, December 30 (sold out) and Saturday, December 31 at 8:00pm** in Symphony Hall. The evening features Indigo Girls classics with lush orchestral arrangements played by the ASO.

## **About The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra**

The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) is in its 78<sup>th</sup> season with Nathalie Stutzmann as only the fifth Music Director in the history of the Orchestra, and the only woman to ever hold the position. Maestro Stutzmann will continue the ASO's mission of bringing new and exciting composers and guest artists to Atlanta.

The ASO is one of the leading orchestras in the United States, performing more than 150 concerts each year from the Delta Classical, Movies in Concert, Family Concert, and Coca-Cola Holiday series, as well as the Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE concerts and many community and education concerts.

In addition, the ASO performs with the 200+ voice, all-volunteer ASO Chorus, originally founded in 1970 by Robert Shaw, and currently under the Direction of Norman Mackenzie. The chorus was featured on nine of the ASO's Grammy-award winning recordings.

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