



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 5, 2025, 10:00am EST

CONTACTS:

Ashley Mirakian, ashley.mirakian@atlantasymphony.org

**ATLANTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA EXTENDS NATHALIE STUTZMANN AS MUSIC DIRECTOR THROUGH
2028-2029 SEASON**

ATLANTA – The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) announced today that Nathalie Stutzmann’s term as Music Director has been extended for three years, to the 2028-2029 season. Stutzmann is now entering her fourth season in the role.

Stutzmann and the Orchestra have achieved a number of milestones during her first four seasons: completion of a Beethoven symphony cycle; the ASO’s first week-long domestic tour in more than a decade; and an internationally acclaimed recording of Dvorak on the Warner Classics label, which was nominated for an OPUS Klassik award. In Atlanta and in its surrounding communities, Stutzmann, the Orchestra and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus have performed to full halls and enthusiastic audiences. In addition, Stutzmann has helped shape the sound and the membership of the orchestra, having hired 17 new musicians during her first three seasons as Music Director.

“Nathalie’s impact on the ASO has already been significant,” remarked ASO Executive Director Jennifer Barlament. “Her international profile has raised awareness of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra worldwide, and Nathalie’s expressive approach has resulted in dynamic performances that excite our audiences.”

“Extending my time with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra is both a joy and an inspiration. Over the past seasons, the Orchestra and I have built a strong artistic bond, rooted in trust, curiosity and the shared love of discovery,” Stutzmann remarked. “The Orchestra’s sound and expressivity is developing beautifully and together we will keep pushing artistic boundaries, bringing fresh energy to the great major repertoire, and sharing the spirit of Atlanta through our music.”

About Nathalie Stutzmann

Nathalie Stutzmann is the Music Director of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and the second woman in history to lead a major American orchestra. She was Principal Guest Conductor of The Philadelphia Orchestra from 2021-2024.

Nathalie's 2025-26 season includes major debuts with the Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Staatskapelle Berlin, and Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. She also returns to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Oslo Philharmonic.

Named Best Conductor of the Year at the 2024 Oper! Awards, she earned acclaim for Wagner's *Tannhäuser* at the Bayreuth Festival in 2023 and 2024, with *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* praising her as "a genius who makes music irresistible." In 2026, she returns for the festival's 150th anniversary with a new production of *Rienzi*, and debuts at the Bayerische Staatsoper conducting *Faust*. She also opens the 2025–26 season at Dutch National Opera with *Tosca*.

An exclusive recording artist with Warner Classics/Erato, Nathalie's first symphonic release with the Atlanta Symphony—Dvořák's Symphony No. 9 and American Suite—earned her cover recognition from *Gramophone* magazine. The album was highlighted by *The New York Times* as one of "5 Classical Music Albums You Can Listen to Right Now," and received OPUS Klassik nominations for Best Conductor and Best Symphonic Recording of the Year. This followed her 2023 OPUS Klassik win for Concerto Recording of the Year, for her album featuring the Glière and Mosolov harp concertos with Xavier de Maistre and the WDR Sinfonieorchester. In 2022, she released the complete Beethoven piano concertos with Haochen Zhang and The Philadelphia Orchestra, which *Gramophone* hailed as "a brilliant collaboration."

Nathalie started her studies at a young age in piano, bassoon, and cello, and studied conducting with legendary Finnish teacher Jorma Panula. As one of the world's most celebrated contraltos, she has made over 80 recordings and received numerous international accolades. Named "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" and "Commandeur dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" by the French government, she is also an Honorary Member of the Royal Academy of Music.

About the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

Under the leadership of Music Director Nathalie Stutzmann, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) offers live performances, media initiatives, and learning programs that unite, educate and enrich our community through the engaging and transformative power of orchestral music experiences. The ASO engages the diverse international community of our city, bringing people together in harmony—including our youngest citizens, with extensive opportunities for youth and families to experience the power of live orchestra music.

The Orchestra's range and depth are featured in more than 150 concerts each year, including the flagship Delta Classical Series, Movies in Concert, Family Concerts, Coca-Cola Holiday series, and

many community and education concerts. In addition, the ASO presents many vibrant, wide-ranging events and artists through its Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE presentations. The ASO also performs regularly with the ASO Chorus, originally founded by Robert Shaw, and currently under the direction of Norman Mackenzie. The Chorus is featured on nine of the ASO's 27 Grammy® Award-winning recordings.

###