



For Immediate Release

September 29, 2025

Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Contacts:

Caitlin Buckers, Caitlin.buckers@atlantasymphony.org

William Strawn, William.strawn@atlantasymphony.org

KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD AND ICHIKO AOBA ANNOUNCE 2026 PERFORMANCE DATES AT ATLANTA SYMPHONY HALL

ATLANTA – Today, **Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall Live** announced two exciting new shows coming in 2026. Blues-rock artist **Kenny Wayne Shepherd** will celebrate his **Ledbetter Heights 30th Anniversary Tour** at Symphony Hall on **February 27, 2026**. Then, on May 4, 2026, Japanese singer-songwriter, **Ichiko Aoba** will bring her **Across The Oceans Tour 2026** to Atlanta. Tickets for both performances go on sale this **Friday, October 3 at 10am at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com)**. For further information on these programs and more, visit aso.org/live.

About Kenny Wayne Shepherd: Ledbetter Heights 30th Anniversary Tour

Platinum-selling, five-time GRAMMY-nominated blues-rock icon Kenny Wayne Shepherd has announced a major new tour to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his groundbreaking debut album, *Ledbetter Heights*. The “Ledbetter Heights 30th Anniversary Tour” will launch February 19th, 2026 in Dallas, TX, and will bring Shepherd and his band to theaters and performing arts centers across the country through spring 2026.

The tour will feature songs from *Ledbetter Heights*, performed in its entirety, as well as songs highlighting Shepherd’s remarkable 30-year career. This anniversary celebration marks a new chapter for Shepherd - one that revisits the fire and grit of his 1995 debut while showcasing his evolution as one of modern blues’ most vital and enduring voices.

“In a lot of ways, this is the album that gave me everything,” says Shepherd. “Revisiting it put me back in touch with the wonder and excitement of those days. I didn’t know what lay ahead. I just knew I loved playing the blues.”

Originally recorded while Shepherd was still in high school, *Ledbetter Heights* was the culmination of years spent absorbing Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimi Hendrix licks on cassette, then translating them into a sound all his own. He wrote or co-wrote nearly every track on the record - uncommon for a teenage blues guitarist at the time - and named the album in honor of a historic neighborhood in his hometown, paying tribute to local blues legend Huddie “Lead Belly” Ledbetter.

The album catapulted Shepherd into the national spotlight and set the tone for a career that’s seen him tour with the likes of Bob Dylan, Van Halen, The Rolling Stones, and Lynyrd Skynyrd; earn five GRAMMY nominations; and release a string of chart-topping albums that bridge blues tradition with modern rock swagger.

This 30th anniversary chapter promises to bring things full circle, especially for longtime fans who will finally get to hear vocalist Noah Hunt perform the Ledbetter Heights material live. Hunt has appeared on every other Kenny Wayne Shepherd album since his debut, but never sang on the original release – making this tour a meaningful and long-anticipated moment. As Shepherd puts it, “That’s always been the missing piece - and now the circle feels complete.”

Kenny Wayne Shepherd: Ledbetter Heights 30th Anniversary Tour is presented by Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE and Rival Entertainment and will take place at Atlanta Symphony Hall on Friday, February 27, 2026 at 7:30PM.

About Ichiko Aoba

Since Ichiko Aoba's 2010 *debut*, *Razorblade Maiden*, the Japanese singer-songwriter-multi-instrumentalist has released seven albums, founded her independent label **hermine** and has performed in a growing list of territories worldwide. Her music, often composed on just her classical guitar or a simple synthesizer, is simultaneously intimate and boundless; fragile and unyielding; virtuosic and understated.

Her seventh album, *Windswept Adan* (2020) introduced lush orchestral arrangements to create a "soundtrack for a fictional film" that took the world by storm. From TikTok to internet music forums, *Windswept Adan* revealed the breadth of Ichiko Aoba's worldwide appeal. Yet her live performances are often stripped-down affairs - guitar and voice, unadorned - that still manage to captivate and enthrall audiences.

2025 saw the release of her eighth album, *Luminescent Creatures*, a work that developed the musical and thematic motifs of *Windswept Adan*, while incorporating more sparse arrangements, much like her early albums. Acclaimed by critics and embraced across both traditional media and digital communities, the record marked a new peak in her career.

The album sparked a two-year world tour that has included iconic stages such as London's **Royal Albert Hall**, the **Sydney Opera House**, and **Walt Disney Concert Hall** in Los Angeles, with some performances incorporating up to 11 musicians on stage.

Alongside her albums and tours, Ichiko's creativity spans many fields: radio, narration, and film composition. Her soundtrack for *Amiko* (2022) received **Best Soundtrack** at the 77th Mainichi Film Awards, and she was honored with the **ANCHOR Award** at the 2023 Reeperbahn Festival.

At the heart of it all, Ichiko Aoba's music remains a space of stillness and imagination - inviting listeners into worlds both real and dreamed.

Ichiko Aoba: Across The Oceans Tour is presented by Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE, Zero Mile Presents and AEG Presents and will take place at Atlanta Symphony Hall on Monday, May 4, 2026 at 8:00PM.

About Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE

Delta Atlanta Symphony Hall LIVE concerts feature world-renowned musicians and entertainers, several of which will be joined on-stage by the GRAMMY® award-winning, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. Highlighting genres across the entertainment gamut, guests can enjoy concerts and events ranging from pop, rock, country, R&B, jazz, comedy, podcasts, book tours and everything in between. Symphony Hall continues to present a diverse array of artists throughout the year, bringing unique visual and aural experiences to the Atlanta community through the magic of live performances.

###