



For more information, please contact  
Brandy Hartman, Marketing Manager  
South Dakota Symphony Orchestra  
brandy.hartman@sdsymphony.org  
605.335.7933 ext.5

## **SOUTH DAKOTA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES 2024-25 SEASON**

Featuring the greatly anticipated revival of Pulitzer Prize winning opera *Giants in the Earth* set in 1873 Dakota Territory.

Classical highlights include *Symphonie fantastique* of Hector Berlioz, Dvorak's Cello Concerto with SDSO's own Robert Erhard as soloist, the world premiere of contemporary American composer Theodore Wiprud's Violin Concerto No.2, and Mozart's "Great" Mass in C Minor.

Pops programs include Capathia Jenkins in a salute to the great ladies of soul, annual holiday celebration 'Tis the Season, and a Celtic Celebration.

For Immediate Release  
February 15, 2024

Sioux Falls, SD – Today the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra announced details of the 2024-25 season, its 103<sup>rd</sup>, which will feature the greatly anticipated revival of *Giants in the Earth* – the Pulitzer Prize winning opera by American composer Douglas Moore (*The Ballad of Baby Doe*) based on Ole Edvart Rølvaag's epic novel about Norwegian settlers of the Dakota Territory in 1873. The SDSO's production will be the first ever fully professional staging of Moore's opera. More details on *Giants in the Earth* can be found at the bottom of this release.

The new season opens October 5<sup>th</sup> in the Washington Pavilion with a program featuring *Symphonie fantastique* of Hector Berlioz and acclaimed American violinist Rachel Barton Pine as soloist for Sarasate's *Carmen Fantasy* and Wynton Marsalis' "The Fiddler and the Dancin' Witch." Other highlights include SDSO principal cellist Robert Erhard as soloist for Dvorak's Cello Concerto (Nov. 16, 2024), the world premiere of Theodore Wiprud's Violin Concerto No. 2 *on the brink* (Jan. 25, 2025), Tchaikovsky's fantasy overture from *Romeo & Juliet* alongside a trio of works by influential women composers (Feb. 15, 2024), and a multi-media program with music of Ravel and Stravinsky created by Joseph Horowitz that explores the impact of "New World" creative icons including George Gershwin, Josephine Baker, and Woody Herman on "Old World" Europe and Russia (Mar. 1, 2025). The South Dakota Symphony Chorus will be featured in Handel's *Messiah* (December 6 & 7, 2024) and Mozart's "Great" Mass in C Minor (Apr. 5, 2025). On Sunday, February 16, the SDSO will offer a 60-minute concert specifically tailored to young listeners illustrating how classical music expresses our emotions. Popular presentations include vocal powerhouse Capathia Jenkins in songs made famous by the great ladies of soul, the annual celebration of the holidays – 'Tis the Season – and a tribute to the music and culture of Ireland.

"With the help of some extremely generous funders, we are able to bring to life some very exciting projects that have been in the planning stages for some time," said SDSO Music Director Delta David Gier about the new season. "One of the most exciting is *Giants in the Earth*-an opera based on the iconic novel by Ole Rølvaag, which tells the story of Norwegian homesteaders coming right here to eastern South Dakota during the 1870s. Of course, this new season is filled with wonderful symphonic masterworks and prestigious soloists, along with two exciting world premieres by important contemporary American composers."

Subscription packages for the new season go on sale today at 10am through 3e Encore Guest Services at (605) 367-6000. Open 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday, and 11:30a.m – 5:00p.m Sunday. A variety of options are available, including the Imperial package which features a discount equivalent to three free concerts.

### 2024-2025 Season

All performances begin at 7:30pm in the Washington Pavilion unless otherwise noted.

#### **SYMPHONIE FANTASTIQUE**

Saturday, October 5

Delta David Gier, conductor

Rachel Barton Pine, violin

SARASATE *Carmen Fantasy*

MARSALIS "The Fiddler and the Dancin' Witch"

BERLIOZ *Symphonie fantastique*

#### **SHE'S GOT SOUL featuring Capathia Jenkins**

Saturday, October 19

Vocal powerhouse Capathia Jenkins brought the legacy of Aretha Franklin to life in 2021. She returns to Sioux Falls to perform R&B and Soul hits by superstars Whitney Houston, Chaka Khan, Adele and more.

#### **ROBERT ERHARD PLAYS DVORAK**

Saturday, November 16

Delta David Gier, conductor

Jennifer Johnson Cano, mezzo-soprano

Robert Erhard, cello

SMETANA *The Moldau from Ma Vlast*

MORAVEC A New Country (World Premiere of Orchestra Version)

COPLAND Old American Songs

*Simple Gifts*

*Long Time Ago*

*I Bought Me a Cat*

*At the River*

DVORAK Cello Concerto

#### **HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"**

Friday, December 6, 7:00pm

Saturday, December 7, 7:00pm

First Lutheran Church

Delta David Gier, conductor

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus

### **'TIS THE SEASON**

Saturday, December 14

Sunday, December 15, 2:30pm

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus

### **BEATS & BEETHOVEN**

Saturday, January 25

Delta David Gier, conductor

Elissa Cassini, violin

Camilla Tassi, projection designer

VIET CUONG Re(new)al: Percussion Quartet Concerto

WIPRUD Concerto for Violin No. 2, *on the brink* (World Premiere)

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 4

### **VALENTINE'S ROMANCE**

Saturday, February 15

Delta David Gier, conductor

TCHAIKOVSKY	Fantasy Overture from <i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i>
RAVEL	Pavane for a Dead Princess
MASSENET	Meditation from <i>Thais</i>
BEACH	Bal Masque
CLYNE	Masquerade
PROKOFIEV	The Love for Three Oranges
MASCAGNI	<i>Cavalleria rusticana</i> : Intermezzo
ELGAR	Salut d'amour
BOULANGER	D'un matins de Printemps
SAINT SAENS	Bacchanale from <i>Samson and Delilah</i>

### **CONCERT FOR KIDS & FAMILIES**

Sunday, February 16, 4:00pm

A special addition to this season, the Concert for Kids & Families will delight audiences of all ages. Designed to ignite your imagination, this 60-minute concert is an introduction to the orchestra and how classical music expresses our emotions.

## **NEW WORLD ENCOUNTERS: American mavericks shake up the Old World**

Saturday, March 1

Joseph Horowitz, cultural historian

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet, piano

Doosook Kim, violin

Joseph Horowitz, who expertly set the stage for the SDSO's triumphant performance of Shostakovich's Seventh Symphony in February of 2023, returns to Sioux Falls with a multi-media extravaganza on how the popular culture of the New World - and icons such as George Gershwin and Josephine Baker - influenced the Old World.

HINDEMITH Scherzo from Symphonic Metamorphoses (with jazz fugue)

RAVEL "Blues" from Sonata for violin and piano

RAVEL Piano Concerto in G Major

STRAVINSKY The Soldier's Tale (excerpts)

STRAVINSKY Symphony in Three Movements

## **A CELTIC CELEBRATION**

Saturday, March 15

The South Dakota Symphony celebrates the magic and music of the Emerald Isle. Featuring highlights from epic scores to *Far and Away* (John Williams) and *Titanic* (James Horner), and the most beloved of all Irish ballads, *Danny Boy*.

## **MOZART'S GREAT MASS**

Saturday, April 5

Delta David Gier, conductor

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus

Dr. Timothy J. Cambell, conductor

BACH *Sehet, wir gehn hunauf gen Jerusalem*

MENDELSSOHN *O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden*

MOZART Great Mass in C Minor

## **GIANTS IN THE EARTH**

### **The Norwegians in the Dakota Territory**

Saturday, April 26

Sunday, April 27, 2:30pm

Delta David Gier, conductor

South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Chorus

MOORE *Giants in the Earth* (in 3 acts, staged with imagery, costumes, and sung in English)

**About the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra**

The South Dakota Symphony Orchestra (SDSO) is based in the vibrant and growing city of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

The SDSO is the state's premier performing arts organization with the Washington Pavilion as its home. Led by Maestro Delta David Gier, the SDSO has garnered a national reputation for innovative programming and statewide outreach. The core of SDSO is comprised of nine full-time professional musicians who make up the Dakota String Quartet and the Dakota Wind Quintet.

#####