

GIANANDREA NOSEDA’S CONTRACT AS NSO MUSIC DIRECTOR EXTENDED THROUGH 2024–2025 SEASON

\$10 Million in Special Funding Raised to Support New Artistic Initiatives Including Opera-in-Concert, Recordings, Broadcasts, Touring, and a new Lower-Priced Concert Series at The Anthem in Washington, D.C.

(WASHINGTON)—Jeanne Ruesch, Chair of the National Symphony Orchestra’s (NSO) Board of Trustees, and Gary Ginstling, NSO Executive Director, announced tonight that Music Director Gianandrea Noseda’s contract has been extended for four years, through the 2024–2025 season. The announcement, made from the stage at the NSO’s annual opening night gala, is welcome news for both the Orchestra and the greater Washington, D.C. arts community, as it solidifies Noseda’s long-term commitment to the musical leadership and direction of the NSO, and illustrates a mutual desire to build on his dynamic artistic partnership with the musicians.

“After an inspiring first season with Gianandrea Noseda as the NSO’s Music Director, the Board of Directors is delighted that he has agreed to extend his commitment to the Orchestra through the 2024–2025 season,” said Jeanne Ruesch, Chair of the NSO’s Board of Directors. “It is clear to us all that Maestro Noseda and the NSO are poised to achieve many musical milestones together, and we could not be more enthusiastic about the future.”

The extension comes on the heels of Noseda’s successful first season as music director of the NSO, where his work with the Orchestra has already earned high praise from critics and audiences. Noseda has been lauded for performing a fresh mix of repertoire, giving free

performances in unexpected community venues, and attracting new audiences to live classical music.

“After just one season, Washington, D.C. has really become my second home. Making music with the National Symphony Orchestra has been very rewarding and I look forward to our coming seasons with much anticipation,” said Gianandrea Noseda. “I have not only cherished my time with the musicians but also working with the entire NSO staff and board. Of course nothing would be possible without our enthusiastic and committed audience. I think we all recognize the growth that has already occurred and we will continue our hard work together to bring great music to as many people as possible in Washington D.C., throughout the U.S., and beyond.”

The NSO also announced today that it has already successfully raised \$10 million in special funding above and beyond its annual fund to support a number of key initiatives over the course of Noseda’s tenure. NSO Executive Director Gary Ginstling said, “We are so grateful that the community is recognizing the special partnership Maestro Noseda has with the NSO, and for all that our generous donors are doing to make the Noseda era a tremendous success. With Gianandrea’s unique musical spirit, the contract extension announced tonight, and the significant funding already in place, we are more excited than ever for the incredible musical journey that Gianandrea and the NSO musicians will lead us on for the next seven years.”

Noseda and the NSO will launch a number of major artistic initiatives to engage audiences both at home and around the world. Drawing on Noseda’s extensive operatic experience, the NSO plans **annual operas in-concert** with performances of familiar and less well-known operas. Noseda’s opera experience includes leading the Teatro Regio Torino from 2007–2018; returning regularly to the Metropolitan Opera since 2002, where he’ll conduct *Adriana Lecouvreur* at this season’s New Year’s Eve Gala and through January 2019; and his recent appointment as General Music Director of the Zurich Opera beginning with the 2021–2022 season.

The NSO also plans to launch a new in-house **digital media initiative** which will begin with the release of live recordings of the complete Beethoven symphonies under Noseda’s direction

in 2020, marking the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. Future plans will call for both digital and physical audio and video releases. Preserving an orchestra's artistic achievements is of vital importance to its legacy, and the NSO possesses a rich and varied catalogue of recordings ranging more than seven decades from 1940 with Hans Kindler to 2011 with Christoph Eschenbach, earning several Grammy Award® nominations and a win in 1996 for Best Classical Album for John Corigliano's *Of Rage and Remembrance*. Nosedá, too, has a history of recording with more than 50 to his credit with the BBC Philharmonic, Teatro Regio Torino, Vienna Philharmonic, and ongoing projects with the London Symphony Orchestra where he is Principal Guest Conductor. He also initiated the NSO concert livestreams on medici.tv, the sixth of which is tonight's gala, available for free streaming in full until October 21.

The NSO also plans to **return to the national airwaves** under a new collaboration with Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media, which will broadcast several NSO performances on its national radio network.

Domestic and international touring has been a significant part of the NSO's history, and Nosedá will build on its legacy as a national and international **cultural ambassador**. Nosedá and the Orchestra will make their first Carnegie Hall appearance together on May 19, 2019, in a program that includes Liszt's *Dante Symphony* and Rossini's *Stabat Mater*. Future touring plans call for visits to Asia and Europe, providing audiences around the world the opportunity to experience the NSO/Nosedá partnership.

Furthering their commitment to deepening the NSO's ties to its community and igniting an interest in orchestral music for new audiences in greater Washington, D.C., Nosedá and the Orchestra will also launch a **new, lower-priced concert series at The Anthem** to begin in the spring of 2019. This new series is being produced in partnership with The Anthem and I.M.P. and will provide new audiences the opportunity to experience classical music.

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ABOUT GIANANDREA NOSEDA

Gianandrea Nosedà is one of the world's most sought-after conductors, equally recognized for his artistry in both the concert hall and opera house. He was named the National Symphony Orchestra's seventh music director in January 2016 and began his four-year term with the 2017–2018 season. He leads 12 weeks of subscription concerts with the Orchestra this season, as well as their first appearance together at Carnegie Hall in New York in May 2019.

In addition to his position with the NSO, Nosedà also serves as Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the Orquestra de Cadaqués, and Artistic Director of the Stresa Festival in Italy. In July 2018, the Zurich Opera House appointed him the next General Music Director beginning in the 2021–2022 season where the centerpiece of his tenure will be a new *Ring* Cycle directed by Andreas Homoki, the opera house's artistic director.

Nurturing the next generation of artists is important to Nosedà, as evidenced by his ongoing work in masterclasses and tours with youth orchestras, including the European Union Youth Orchestra, and with his recent appointment as music director of the newly-created Tsinandali Festival and Pan-Caucasian Youth Orchestra in the village of Tsinandali, Georgia, which begins in 2019.

Nosedà has conducted the most important orchestras and at leading opera houses and festivals including the Berlin Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, La Scala, Munich Philharmonic, Met Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, NHK Symphony, Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de France, Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Opera House, Salzburg Festival, Vienna Philharmonic, Vienna Symphony, and Zurich Opera House. From 2007 until 2018, Nosedà served as Music Director of Italy's Teatro Regio Torino where he ushered in a transformative era for the company matched with international acclaim for its productions, tours, recordings, and film projects.

Gianandrea Nosedà also has a cherished relationship with the Metropolitan Opera dating back to 2002. He returns this season to lead performances of a new production of *Adriana Lecouvreur* featuring Anna Netrebko, which receives its premiere at the New Year's Eve Gala on December 31, 2018. In recent years, he has conducted Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*, which received its premiere at the New Year's Eve Gala in 2016, and a critically acclaimed new production of *Les pêcheurs de perles* which premiered at the New Year's Eve Gala in 2015. His widely praised interpretation of *Prince Igor* from the 2013–2014 season is available on DVD from Deutsche Grammophon.

The institutions where he has had significant roles include the BBC Philharmonic which he led from 2002–2011; the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, where the Victor de Sabata Chair was created for him as principal guest conductor from 2010–2014; and the Mariinsky Theatre in St. Petersburg, which appointed him its first-ever foreign principal guest conductor in 1997, a position he held for a decade. He was Principal Guest Conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic from 1999 to 2003 and Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI from 2003 to 2006.

Nosedà's intense recording activity counts more than 60 CDs, many of which have been celebrated by critics and received awards. His Musica Italiana project, which he initiated more than ten years ago, has chronicled under-appreciated Italian repertoire of the 20th century and brought to light many masterpieces. Conducting the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra and the Orchestra Teatro Regio Torino, he has also recorded opera albums with celebrated vocalists such as Ildebrando d'Arcangelo, Rolando Villazon, Anna Netrebko, and Diana Damrau.

A native of Milan, Nosedà is Commendatore al Merito della Repubblica Italiana, marking his contribution to the artistic life of Italy. In 2015, he was honored as *Musical America's* Conductor of the

Year, and was named the 2016 International Opera Awards Conductor of the Year. In December 2016 he was privileged to conduct the Nobel Prize Concert in Stockholm.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The 2018–2019 season marks the National Symphony Orchestra’s 88th, and Gianandrea Noseda’s second as its music director. The Italian conductor serves as the Orchestra’s seventh music director, joining the NSO’s legacy of such distinguished leaders. Its artistic leadership also includes Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke and Artistic Advisor Ben Folds.

Founded in 1931, the Orchestra has always been committed to artistic excellence and music education. In 1986, the National Symphony became an artistic affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where it performs year-round. The NSO’s community engagement projects are nationally recognized, including NSO In Your Neighborhood, an annual week of approximately 50 performances in schools, churches, community centers, and other unexpected venues; Notes of Honor, which offers free performances for active, veteran, prior service, and retired members of the military and their families; and Sound Health, a collaboration with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and its affiliated organizations. Career development opportunities for young musicians include the NSO Youth Fellowship Program and its tuition-free Summer Music Institute. For more information, visit nationalsymphony.org.

FUNDING CREDITS

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The NSO Music Director Chair is generously endowed by **Victoria and Roger Sant**.

For more information about the NSO, visit nationalsymphony.org.

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