

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 21, 2016

**NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Christoph Eschenbach, Music Director**

**MUSIC DIRECTOR DESIGNATE GIANANDREA NOSEDA
LEADS FIRST NSO CONCERTS SINCE BEING APPOINTED
ORCHESTRA'S SEVENTH MUSIC DIRECTOR**

**NSO's Season-long 'Salute to Slava' Begins with
Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet***

November 3, 4, and 5, 2016

(WASHINGTON)—Gianandrea Noseda, the National Symphony Orchestra's music director designate during the 2016–2017 season, makes his much anticipated return to the NSO for the first time since his appointment in January as the Orchestra's seventh music director, on [November 3, 4, and 5, 2016](#), to lead three performances of Prokofiev's ballet score *Romeo and Juliet* in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall.

These performances mark the conclusion of the NSO's season-opening "Shakespeare at the Symphony" theme—honoring this year's 400th anniversary of the Bard's death—as well as the first of four weeks of programs during 2016–2017 that salute the NSO's beloved former music director, Mstislav "Slava" Rostropovich. Slava would have been 90 years old in 2017, and the NSO honors his memory with programs by composers that he not only knew well and collaborated closely with, but whose music he and the Orchestra were particularly well known for performing. Prokofiev was the first of the three great composers (the other two being Dmitri Shostakovich and Benjamin Britten) with whom Slava formed intensely productive artistic and personal relationships.

Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet* was some the most-frequently performed music by Slava and the NSO. Noseda leads the NSO in the complete score in this tribute to one of his predecessors at the helm of the Orchestra. His broad repertoire includes many of the major Russian orchestral works especially given his tenure as principal guest conductor at the Mariinsky Theatre from 1997–2007.

PROGRAM DETAILS

[Thursday, November 3, 2016, at 7:00](#)

[Friday, November 4, 2016, at 8:00](#)

[Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 8:00](#)

National Symphony Orchestra
Gianandrea Noseda, conductor

PROKOFIEV *Romeo and Juliet*

Tickets: \$15-\$89.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The 2016–2017 season marks the NSO’s 86th, and its seventh and final led by Music Director Christoph Eschenbach, also the Music Director of the Kennedy Center. In 2016, Italian conductor Gianandrea Noseda was named the Orchestra’s eighth music director, beginning with the 2017–2018 season; he serves as Music Director Designate for the 2016–2017 season. Founded in 1931, the Orchestra has, throughout its history, 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 has performed a full season of subscription concerts since the Center opened in 1971. The National Symphony Orchestra regularly participates in events of national and international importance, including performances for state occasions, presidential inaugurations and official holiday celebrations. Its regularly televised holiday appearances for Capitol Concerts and local radio broadcasts on WETA make the NSO one of the most-heard orchestras in the country.

The Orchestra itself numbers 96 musicians who perform approximately 150 concerts each year. These include classical subscription series, pops concerts, summer performances at Wolf Trap and on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol, chamber music performances in the Terrace Theater and on the Millennium Stage, and an extensive educational program, with performances designed for ages three years and up, and audience engagement activities, as well. Additionally, the NSO’s community engagement projects are nationally recognized, including NSO In Your Neighborhood which comprises of a week of approximately 50 performances in schools, churches, community centers, and other neighborhood venues) and NSO Sound Health, which has taken the NSO to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Children’s Inn at NIH, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Children’s National Medical Center, and Inova Health System. Career development opportunities include the NSO Youth Fellowship Program and its Summer Music Institute.

For more information, visit nationalsymphony.org.

ABOUT GIANANDREA NOSEDA

Gianandrea Noseda, 52, is widely recognized as one of the leading conductors of his generation. He was named the National Symphony Orchestra’s seventh music director in January 2016, with his tenure beginning as Music Director Designate in the 2016–2017 season, and a four-year term as Music Director in Fall of 2017.

His appointment as Music Director of the Teatro Regio Torino in 2007 ushered in a transformative era for the company matched with international acclaim for productions, tours, recordings, and film projects. His initiatives have propelled the Teatro Regio Torino onto the global stage, where it has become one of Italy’s most important cultural ambassadors.

Noseda is also Principal Guest Conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra and the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, Principal Conductor of the Orquestra de Cadaqués, and Artistic Director of the Stresa Festival located on the shores of Lago Maggiore and among the oldest musical festivals in Italy. He was Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della RAI from 2003 to

2006 and was the BBC Philharmonic's Chief Conductor from 2002 to 2011. In 1997, he was appointed the first foreign Principal Guest Conductor of the Mariinsky Theatre, a position he held for a decade.

Nosedà's intense recording activity counts over 50 CDs, many of which have been celebrated by critics and received awards. His *Musica Italiana* project, which he initiated over ten years ago, has chronicled underappreciated 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, Maestro Nosedà is Cavaliere Ufficiale 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.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets (\$15 - \$89) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at kennedy-center.org, and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4700; toll-free at (800) 444-1324.

FUNDING CREDITS

David and Alice Rubenstein are the Presenting Underwriters of the NSO.

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

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

For more information about the Kennedy Center, visit kennedy-center.org.

Patrons 30 and under and active-duty members of the military are invited to join the Kennedy Center's *MyTix* program for special discount offers and chances to win free tickets. For more information, visit kennedy-center.org/mytix



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TICKETS & INFORMATION:

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