



steven reineke, principal pops conductor

Press Release

**THE  
KENNEDY  
CENTER**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

September 28, 2016

**NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA POPS  
Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke**

**CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE JOINS NSO POPS FOR FOUR  
PERFORMANCES OF HIGH-FLYING HALLOWEEN FUN  
OCTOBER 13–15**

**Family Matinee Takes Place October 16**

(WASHINGTON)— Cirque de la Symphonie returns to the NSO Pops for four performances of *Cirque de la Symphonie: Halloween Extravaganza*—spooky fun for all ages on [Thursday, October 13, at 7 p.m.](#); [Friday and Saturday, October 14 and 15, 2016, at 8 p.m.](#); and [Sunday, October 16, 2016, at 2 p.m.](#).

The Sunday matinee performance is part of the NSO Family Concert Series, designed for young audiences. Beginning one hour before the performance, children and families can enjoy the “Haunted Hall” activities, which include games and activities, an instrument petting zoo, and spook-tacular decorations. Audiences are encouraged to come in costume for all for performances.

Cirque de la Symphonie brings its trademark brand of awe-inspiring feats and thrills, including jugglers, aerialists, contortionists, strongmen, and more, to a program set to classic spooky music, such as Dukas’s *The Sorcerer’s Apprentice*, Saint-Saëns’s *Danse macabre*, and Bach’s Toccata and Fugue in D minor, among other familiar tunes.

**Cirque de la Symphonie** is an exciting production designed to bring the magic of cirque to the music hall. It is an elegant adaptation of some of the most amazing cirque acts performed on a stage shared with the full symphony orchestra, showcasing many of the best artists in the world. These accomplished veterans include world record holders, gold-medal winners of international competitions, Olympians, and some of the most original talent ever seen. Each performance is perfectly choreographed to classical masterpieces, raising cirque artistry to a fine arts level. Adding a stunning visual element to the concert experience, these aerialists and acrobats provide a three-

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dimensional entertainment extravaganza. Orchestras play with enhanced enthusiasm, while patrons marvel at the jaw-dropping spectacle of aerialists flying overhead and astonishing acrobatic feats. Fusing the power and majesty of the live orchestra with the best of cirque artistry, Cirque de la Symphonie is the only cirque company in the world that performs exclusively with symphony orchestras. More than 100 orchestras worldwide have featured Cirque de la Symphonie in sold-out venues, adding energy and excitement to the concert experience.

**Program Details**

[Thursday, October 13, 2016, at 7 p.m.](#)

[Friday, October 14, 2016, at 8 p.m.](#)

[Saturday, September 15, 2016, at 8 p.m.](#)

[Sunday, October 16, 2016, at 2 p.m.](#)

NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

STUART CHAFETZ, conductor

CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE

Tickets: \$24-\$99.

**2016-2017 NSO POPS SCHEDULE**

<b>Artist</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<i>E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial</i> (Film with Live Music) Steven Reineke, conductor	November 25 and 26
Special: Diana Ross Emil de Cou, conductor	December 1–3
A Holiday Pops! Steven Reineke, conductor Laura Osnes and Santino Fontana, vocals The Washington Chorus	December 9 and 10
Special: Snarky Puppy Jules Buckley, conductor	February 22, 2017
An Evening with Ledisi Damon Gupton, conductor Mellow Tones	February 24 and 25, 2017

<i>Sophisticated Ladies: 100 Years of Ella &amp; Company</i> Steven Reineke, conductor Sy Smith Capathia Jenkins Montego Glover	March 24 and 25, 2017
Special: LeAnn Rimes Emil de Cou, conductor	April 28, 2017
Indigo Girls Steven Reineke, conductor	May 5 and 6, 2017
The Music of John Williams Steven Reineke, conductor Choral Arts Society of Washington	June 22–24, 2017

### **ABOUT THE NSO POPS**

Show-stopping pops concerts have been a staple of the National Symphony Orchestra's more than 80 years of performances. These concerts have ranged from performances on a barge on the Potomac River, to concerts on the Ellipse, and in National Parks around the greater Washington area. The 2000–2001 season saw the creation of the post of Principal Pops Conductor specifically for Broadway great Marvin Hamlisch, who held the position until the 2010–2011 season. The 2011–2012 season was the first with Steven Reineke as Principal Pops Conductor. NSO Pops performances take place at all the NSO's principal performance venues: Wolf Trap, the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, and in the NSO's primary home, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, with a subscription season featuring the Orchestra with guest artists from a variety of musical genres.

### **ABOUT STUART CHAFETZ**

Stuart Chafetz is a conductor with a dynamic podium demeanor and a refined sense of audience engagement. Increasingly in demand with orchestras across the continent, this season Chafetz will be on the podium in Seattle, Washington, D.C. (National Symphony Orchestra), Naples, Phoenix, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Vancouver, Costa Mesa (Pacific Symphony), Raleigh-Durham (N. Carolina Symphony) and others.

Chafetz has had the privilege to work with renowned artists such as Chris Botti, Roberta Flack, George Benson, Richard Chamberlain, The Chieftains, Jennifer Holliday, John Denver, Marvin Hamlisch, Thomas Hampson, Wynonna Judd, Jim Nabors, Randy Newman, Jon Kimura Parker, and Bernadette Peters. He previously held posts as resident conductor of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and associate conductor of the Louisville Orchestra. As principal timpanist of the Honolulu Symphony for 20 years, Chafetz would also conduct the annual performances of *The Nutcracker* with Ballet Hawaii and principals from the American Ballet Theatre. It was during that time that Chafetz led numerous concerts with the Maui Symphony and Pops.

In the summers, Chafetz spends his time at the Chautauqua Institution, where he conducts the annual Fourth of July and Opera Pops concerts with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra in addition to his role as that orchestra's timpanist. When not on the podium, Chafetz makes his

home near San Francisco, CA, with his wife Ann Krinitzky. Chafetz holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati and a master's from the Eastman School of Music.

**FUNDING CREDITS:**

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

**TICKET INFORMATION:**

Tickets for *The Second City Guide to the Symphony* begin at \$24 and are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at [kennedy-center.org](http://kennedy-center.org), and via phone Instant-Charge, (202) 467-4700 or (800) 444-1324.

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](http://kennedy-center.org/mytix)  
[nationalsymphony.org](http://nationalsymphony.org)  
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**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Rachelle Roe  
(202) 416-8443  
[rroe@kennedy-center.org](mailto:rroe@kennedy-center.org)

**TICKETS & INFORMATION:**

(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324  
[www.kennedy-center.org](http://www.kennedy-center.org)