

**Press Release**

April 19, 2018

**WILL.I.AM, MICHAEL GIACCHINO, GRACE POTTER,  
COHEED AND CAMBRIA, JOHN CHO, AND NICK  
SAGAN JOIN NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
FOR CONCERTS CELEBRATING  
NASA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY**

**June 1 & 2, 2018**

(WASHINGTON)— On June 1 and 2, Emil de Cou leads the National Symphony Orchestra, in collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), for a musical celebration of NASA's 60th anniversary. The concerts feature bold and breathtaking photography and video footage accompanying space-themed music performed by the NSO and featured guest artists will.i.am, Grace Potter, and Coheed and Cambria, with special appearances by John Cho and Nick Sagan.

The NSO performs music inspired by space—both fact and fiction—ranging from the theme to *2001: A Space Odyssey*—Strauss's *Also Sprach Zarathustra*—to music from Carl Sagan's *Golden Record* and more. Projections of photos and video ranging from the International Space Station and the Hubble Space Telescope, examine our planet and beyond through the six decades since NASA's inception, including special visuals by **NASA TV, Taschen Books, NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center**, and producer **Duncan Copp**, and more.

In these concerts, the NSO will give the world premiere performances of a new work co-commissioned from the Emmy®, Golden Globe, Grammy® and Academy Award®-winning composer **Michael Giacchino** (*Star Trek* trilogy, *Star Wars: Rogue One*, and

numerous Pixar films), while throughout the program, actor **John Cho** (Sulu in *Star Trek* series), novelist and screenwriter **Nick Sagan** (son of astronomer Carl Sagan), singer-songwriter **Grace Potter**, progressive rock band **Coheed and Cambria**, and singer-songwriter and composer **will.i.am** (also front man of Black Eyed Peas) make special appearances.

From May 27 through June 3, a special exhibit in the Kennedy Center's Hall of Nations, curated in collaboration with NASA, will explore the story of man's advancement into space and beyond, looking at aeronautics, planetary discovery, earth science, exploring the universe, and more.

Visual attractions and a space-themed photo booth will be stationed in the Grand Foyer and Concert Hall lobby, and a special post-concert party in the Grand Foyer is open to all ticketholders on June 1.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets (from \$49) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at [kennedy-center.org](http://kennedy-center.org), and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4700; toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquiries, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

### **ABOUT THE NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORHCESTRA POPS**

Great performances featuring the highest levels of artistic talent have been a staple of the NSO's 87 seasons. Popular offerings 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 2011–2012 season was the first with Steven Reineke as Principal Pops Conductor. NSO popular programming—which ranges in genre from Broadway and American song to jazz and from film scores to Hip-Hop to rock 'n' roll—take place at the NSO's principal performance venues: the NSO's primary home, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Concert Hall, Wolf Trap, and the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, with a subscription season featuring a variety of musical genres.

### **FUNDING CREDITS:**

**David M. Rubenstein** is the Presenting Underwriter of the NSO.

AARP is the presenting sponsor of the NSO Pops Season.

Support for NSO Pops: *Space: the Next Frontier* is provided by Siemens Government

Technologies.

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)  
[kennedy-center.org](http://kennedy-center.org)



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**TICKETS & INFORMATION**

(202) 467-4600; (800) 444-1324  
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