

Two National Symphony Orchestra Musicians to Retire at the End of the 2018–2019 Season; Three New Musicians Appointed

Retirees' Combined Tenure is 91 Years

(WASHINGTON)— Two long-time National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) musicians, with a combined tenure of 91 years, will retire from the Orchestra at the conclusion of the current season. **Cellist Janet Frank** has played in the NSO for 50 years, joining in 1969 after being appointed to the cello section by then-music director Howard Mitchell. **Violinist Linda Schroeder** (41 years) joined the NSO in 1978, having been appointed by then-music director Mstislav Rostropovich; she will be honored at the June 6 NSO performance.

In addition, National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) Music Director Gianandrea Noseda and Executive Director Gary Ginstling announce the appointment of three new musicians to the NSO roster: **Scott Christian, Assistant Principal Timpani and Percussion;** and **Loewi Lin** and **Britton Riley, cellos.** These musicians bring the number of new appointments to the NSO roster by Noseda to 11 since beginning his tenure as music director in the Fall of 2017.

Prior to his appointment to the NSO as **Assistant Principal Timpani and Percussion, Scott Christian** served as Principal Timpani for six years for the West Virginia Symphony, for two years with the Erie Philharmonic, and for a season with the Des Moines Metro Opera. Christian was a section percussionist at the 2016 Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, and served as Acting Principal Timpani of the 2015 Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, the West Virginia Symphony for the 2011–2012 season, and the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra from 2002–2009.

He was Visiting Professor of Music at West Virginia State University for five years, and has performed with the Atlanta, Baltimore, Fort Worth, and San Diego symphony orchestras, as well as the Cleveland Orchestra, Malaysian Philharmonic, and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. Christian received both his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Cellist Loewi Lin joins the NSO from Boston, where he has been performing as a substitute with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and as Principal Cello with the Boston Landmarks Orchestra since 2015 and Boston Lyric Opera since 2013. He has also performed with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Rochester Philharmonic, and the Rhode Island Philharmonic, and has been a member of the Florida Grand Opera orchestra since 2009. Lin has participated in numerous summer music festivals and programs, including those at Ravinia, Tanglewood, and Chautauqua, as well as Halcyon Music Festival in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Lin earned his master's degree at New England Conservatory and bachelor's degree from the University of Ottawa; he also studied for several years at the Cleveland Institute of Music.

Cellist Britton Riley has been a member of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra since 2015. Prior to his work in Toronto, he served as Assistant Principal Cello of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, and has enjoyed a diverse musical career as a performer, teacher, artistic director, and recording engineer. He has recorded for film and radio for Sony Pictures, CBC Radio 2, KUSC, and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Live from Orchestra Hall series. Riley has received recognition throughout North America in the National Foundation for the Advancement in the Arts Awards (now YoungArts), the Boston Symphony Orchestra's Concerto Competition, and the Sphinx and Hellam Competitions, and has appeared at festivals throughout North America and Europe. After receiving degrees in Cello Performance and Music Industry from the University of Southern California, Riley went on to earn Master of Music and Doctoral degrees from the University of Michigan. Following his graduation, he was named a Rebanks Fellow at The Royal Conservatory in Toronto.

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

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

The NSO Music Director Chair is generously endowed by **Vicki[†] and Roger Sant**.

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

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

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