Gianandrea Noseda Music Director

Press Release October 12, 2018

CONDUCTOR CARLOS MIGUEL PRIETO AND PIANIST DENIS KOZHUKHIN MAKE NSO DEBUTS

November 15-17 in the Kennedy Center Concert Hall

(WASHINGTON) — Guest conductor Carlos Miguel Prieto and pianist Denis Kozhukhin make their NSO debuts in a program featuring works inspired by Mexico. Three performances—

Thursday, November 15, at 7 p.m.; Friday, November 16, at 11:30 a.m.; and Saturday, November 17, at 8 p.m. — take place at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall. The program features Copland's El Salón México; Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3; and Silvestre Revueltas's La Noche de los Mayas.

Conductor Carlos Miguel Prieto brings a unique perspective to this program as a Mexican conductor working in both Mexico City and the U.S. The Mexican National Symphony and Louisiana Philharmonic music director leads a program that blends his Mexican and American roots. Aaron Copland visited Mexico in 1936, and wrote his *El Salón México*—a musical depiction of a Mexican dance hall—after his return to the States. *La Noche de los Mayas* was originally a film score by Silvestre Revueltas, but the four-movement suite is now more frequently performed. Notable is the composer's creative use of percussion, calling for 13 players and many unique instruments, including a conch shell.

Russian virtuoso Denis Kozhukhin came to international attention after winning the 2010 Queen Elisabeth Competition in Brussels at the age of 23. He has since appeared with the world's greatest orchestras and artists, and the *Chicago Tribune* wrote about a recent appearance, "Even in a day when keyboard virtuosos are thick on the ground, Kozhukhin is special." Kozhukhin makes his first NSO appearances in this fiendishly difficult work by Rachmaninoff. His Third

Piano Concerto is one of the largest and most demanding in the repertoire, written for the composer's first American tour in 1909.

PROGRAM DETAILS

Thursday, November 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. Friday, November 16, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, November 17, 2018, at 8:00 p.m. National Symphony Orchestra Carlos Miguel Prieto, conductor Denis Kozhukhin, piano

COPLAND El Salón México
RACHMANINOFF Piano Concerto No. 3
REVUELTAS La Noche de los Mayas

Tickets: \$15–\$89.

A free *Forewords* preconcert talk takes place 75 minutes prior to the performance on November 17.

ABOUT CARLOS MIGUEL PRIETO

ABOUT DENIS KOZHUKHIN

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.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets (\$15–\$89) are available at the Kennedy Center Box Office, online at <u>kennedy-center.org</u>, and via phone through Instant Charge, (202) 467-4700; toll-free at (800) 444-1324. For all other ticket-related customer service inquires, call the Advance Sales Box Office at (202) 416-8540.

FUNDING CREDITS

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

The Blue Series is sponsored by United Technologies Corporation.

For more information about the NSO, visit national symphony.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.

When available, MyTix Student Rush tickets (\$10-20) can be purchased online or at the box office with valid student I.D. beginning 2 weeks prior to a performance.

For more information, visit kennedy-center.org/mytix













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TICKETS & INFORMATION

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