

MUSIC DIRECTOR CARL ST. CLAIR

The 2024-25 season marks Music Director Carl St. Clair's 35th year leading Pacific Symphony.

He is the longest-tenured American-born conductor of a major American orchestra. During St. Clair's lengthy history, Pacific Symphony has become the largest budgeted orchestra formed in the last 50 years. Pacific Symphony was invited by the League of American Orchestras to become the newest and youngest orchestra among America's Tier 1 Orchestras. Few orchestras can claim such rapid artistic development.

During his tenure, St. Clair has become widely recognized for his musically distinguished performances and his innovative approaches to programming. In April 2018, St. Clair led Pacific Symphony in its sold-out Carnegie Hall debut, celebrating Philip Glass' 80th birthday at the final concert of Carnegie's yearlong celebration of the preeminent composer. The concert ended with a standing ovation and with *The New York Times* calling the Symphony "a major ensemble!" St. Clair led Pacific Symphony on its first tour to China in May 2018, the orchestra's first international tour since touring Europe in 2006. The orchestra's European tour included playing concerts in nine cities (including Munich, Frankfurt, Cologne, Lucerne, and Vienna) in three countries appearing before capacity houses and receiving standing ovations and critical acclaim. The *Hannoversche Allgemeine* raved, "St. Clair and his fabulous orchestra completely won over Hanover... with spirit, a sense of sound, and utterly breathtaking precision" and Cologne's *General Anzeiger* exclaimed, "Electrifying...captivating!"

The orchestra made its national PBS debut in June 2018 on *Great Performances* with Peter Boyer's *Ellis Island: The Dream of America*, conducted by St. Clair. Among St. Clair's many creative endeavors are the highly acclaimed American Composers Festival, which began in 2000, and the opera initiative, "Symphonic Voices," which has included concert-opera productions of *Madama Butterfly*, *The Magic Flute*, *Aida*, *Turandot*, *Carmen*, *La Traviata*, *Tosca*, *Rigoletto*, and *La Bohème* in previous seasons.

St. Clair's commitment to the development and performance of new works by composers is evident in the wealth of commissions and recordings by the Symphony. Beginning in the 2023-24 season, Viet Cuong was named the Symphony's Composer-in-Residence. The 2016-17 season featured commissions from pianist/composer Conrad Tao and Composer-in-Residence Narong Prancharoen, a follow-up to the slate of recordings of works commissioned and performed by the Symphony in recent years. Other commissions include John Wineglass' *Alone Together*, William Bolcom's *Songs of Lorca* and *Prometheus*, Elliot Goldenthal's Symphony in G-sharp minor, Richard Danielpour's *Toward a Season of Peace*, Philip Glass' *The Passion of Ramakrishna*, and Michael Daugherty's *Mount Rushmore*, and *The Gospel According to Sister Aimee*. St. Clair has led the orchestra in other critically

acclaimed recordings including two piano concertos of Lukas Foss, Danielpour's *An American Requiem*, and Goldenthal's *Fire Water Paper: A Vietnam Oratorio* with cellist Yo-Yo Ma. Other commissioned composers include James Newton Howard, Zhou Long, Tobias Picker, Frank Ticheli, Sir James MacMillan, Chen Yi, Curt Cacioppo, Stephen Scott, Jim Self (Pacific Symphony's Principal Tubist), and Christopher Theofanidis.

Internationally, St. Clair has appeared with orchestras throughout the world. He has led orchestras in Asia, Central and South America, and Europe. In January 2024, following a 27-year relationship with Sinfonieorchester Wuppertal (Germany), St. Clair was named Honorary Guest Conductor for Life. In 2023, he concluded a successful 10-year tenure as Music Director with the National Symphony of Costa Rica. From 2008-10, St. Clair was General Music Director for the Komische Oper in Berlin. He also served as General Music Director and Chief Conductor of the German National Theater and Staatskapelle (GNTS) in Weimar, Germany, where he led Wagner's *Ring Cycle* to critical acclaim. He was the first non-European to hold this position at the GNTS; the role also gave him the distinction of simultaneously leading one of the newest orchestras in America and one of the oldest in Europe.

St. Clair has led the Boston Symphony Orchestra (where he served as Assistant Conductor for several years 1985-90), New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and the San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, Atlanta, Houston, Indianapolis, Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver symphonies, among many.

Carl St. Clair is a strong advocate of music education for all ages and is internationally recognized for his distinguished career as a master teacher. He has been essential to the creation and implementation of the Symphony's extensive education and community engagement programs. In addition to his professional conducting career, St. Clair has worked with most major music schools across the country. He received an Honorary Doctorate from Chapman University and has served as a Presidential Fellow, working closely with the students of the College of the Performing Arts (2018-22). St. Clair has been named "Distinguished Alumni" at the University of Texas Butler School of Music beginning 2019. And, for over 30 years, he has had a continuing relationship with the USC Thornton School of Music where he is Artistic Leader and Principal Conductor of the orchestral and large ensemble program.



PACIFIC SYMPHONY

Carl St.Clair's 35th Anniversary Celebratory Season

Pacific Symphony, led by Music Director Carl St.Clair for the last 35 years, has been the resident orchestra of the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall since 2006.

Currently celebrating its 46th anniversary season, the Symphony is the largest orchestra formed in the U.S. in the last 50 years and is recognized as an outstanding ensemble making strides on both the national and international scene, as well as in its own community of Orange County.

In April 2018, Pacific Symphony made its debut at Carnegie Hall as one of two orchestras invited to perform during a yearlong celebration of composer Philip Glass' 80th birthday, and the following month the orchestra toured China. The orchestra made its national PBS debut in June 2018 on *Great Performances* with Peter Boyer's *Ellis Island: The Dream of America*, conducted by St.Clair. Presenting more than 100 concerts and events a year and a rich array of education and community engagement programs, the Symphony reaches more than 300,000 residents—from school children to senior citizens.

In both 2005 and 2010, the Symphony received the prestigious ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. Also in 2010, a study by the League of American Orchestras, *Fearless Journeys*, included the Symphony as one of the country's five most

innovative orchestras. The Symphony's award-winning education and community engagement programs benefit from the vision of St.Clair and are designed to integrate the orchestra and its music into the community in ways that stimulate all ages.

The Symphony's Class Act program has been honored as one of nine exemplary orchestra education programs by the National Endowment for the Arts and the League of American Orchestras. The list of instrumental training initiatives includes Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings, and Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band.

The Symphony also spreads the joy of music through arts-X-press, Class Act, Heartstrings, Lantern Festival Orchestra, *Symphony on the Go!*, and Symphony in the Cities.



If you would like to make a gift to support the legacy of Carl St.Clair, please consider a gift to the **St.Clair Tribute Fund**. Scan to make your gift today!



MEET THE ORCHESTRA

Carl St.Clair / Music Director

William J. Gillespie Music Director Chair

Alexander Shelley / Artistic and Music Director Designate

Phillip N. and Mary A. Lyons Artistic and Music Director Designate Chair

Enrico Lopez-Yañez / Principal Pops Conductor

Hal and Jeanette Segerstrom Family Foundation Principal Pops Conductor Chair

Richard Kaufman / Principal Pops Conductor Laureate

Jacob Sustaita / Assistant Conductor

Mary E. Moore Family Assistant Conductor Chair

FIRST VIOLIN

Dennis Kim

Concertmaster

Eleanor and Michael Gordon Chair

Yoomin Seo

Associate Concertmaster

Judy and Wes Whitmore Chair

Jeanne Skrocki

Assistant Concertmaster

Arlene and Seymour Grubman Chair

Michael Siess

Christine Frank

Ayako Sugaya

Ann Shiao Tenney 30

Joanna Lee

Robert Schumitzky

Agnes Gottschewski

Dana Freeman

Julie Ahn

Paul Manaster

SECOND VIOLIN

Madalyn Parnas Möller *

Elizabeth and John Stahr Chair

Jennise Hwang**

Yen Ping Lai

Yu-Tong Sharp 30

Ako Kojian+ 25

Linda Owen

Sooah Kim

MarlaJoy Weisshaar

Alice Miller-Wrate

Shelly Shi

VIOLA

Meredith Crawford*

Victor de Almeida**

Carolyn Riley

John Acevedo

Adam Neeley+

Hanbyul Jang

Julia Staudhammer

Joseph Wen-Xiang Zhang

Cheryl Gates

Phillip Triggs 30

CELLO

Warren Hagerty*

Catherine and James Emmi Chair

Benjamin Lash**

Robert Vos

László Mezö

Ian McKinnell 45

M. Andrew Honea

Rudolph Stein

Emma Lee

BASS

Richard Cassarino *

Douglas Basye**

Christian Kollgaard

David Parmeter+ 30

Andrew Chilcote

David Black 45

Andrew Bumatay

Constance Deeter

FLUTE

Benjamin Smolen*

Valerie and Hans Imhof Chair

Sharon O'Connor 45

Cynthia Ellis 45

PICCOLO

Cynthia Ellis

OBOE

Jessica Pearlman 15

Suzanne R. Chonette Chair

Ted Sugata 10

ENGLISH HORN

Lelie Resnick

CLARINET

Robert Walker*

The Hanson Family Foundation Chair

David Chang

Charlie and Ling Zhang Chair

BASS CLARINET

Joshua Ranz

BASSOON

Rose Corrigan*

Ruth Ann and John Evans Chair

Elliott Moreau 20

Andrew Klein

Allen Savedoff

CONTRABASSOON

Allen Savedoff

FRENCH HORN

Keith Popejoy* 20

Adedeji Ogunfolu

Kaylet Torrez**

Henry Bond

TRUMPET

Barry Perkins*

Susie and Steve Perry Chair

Tony Ellis

TROMBONE

Michael Hoffman*

David Stetson

TUBA

James Self*

TIMPANI

Vacant

PERCUSSION

Robert A. Slack*

HARP

Michelle Temple 30

The Sungaila Family Chair

* Principal

** Assistant Principal

+ On Leave

Celebrating milestone years
with Pacific Symphony this season.

10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45

The musicians of Pacific Symphony are
members of the American Federation of
Musicians, Local 7.