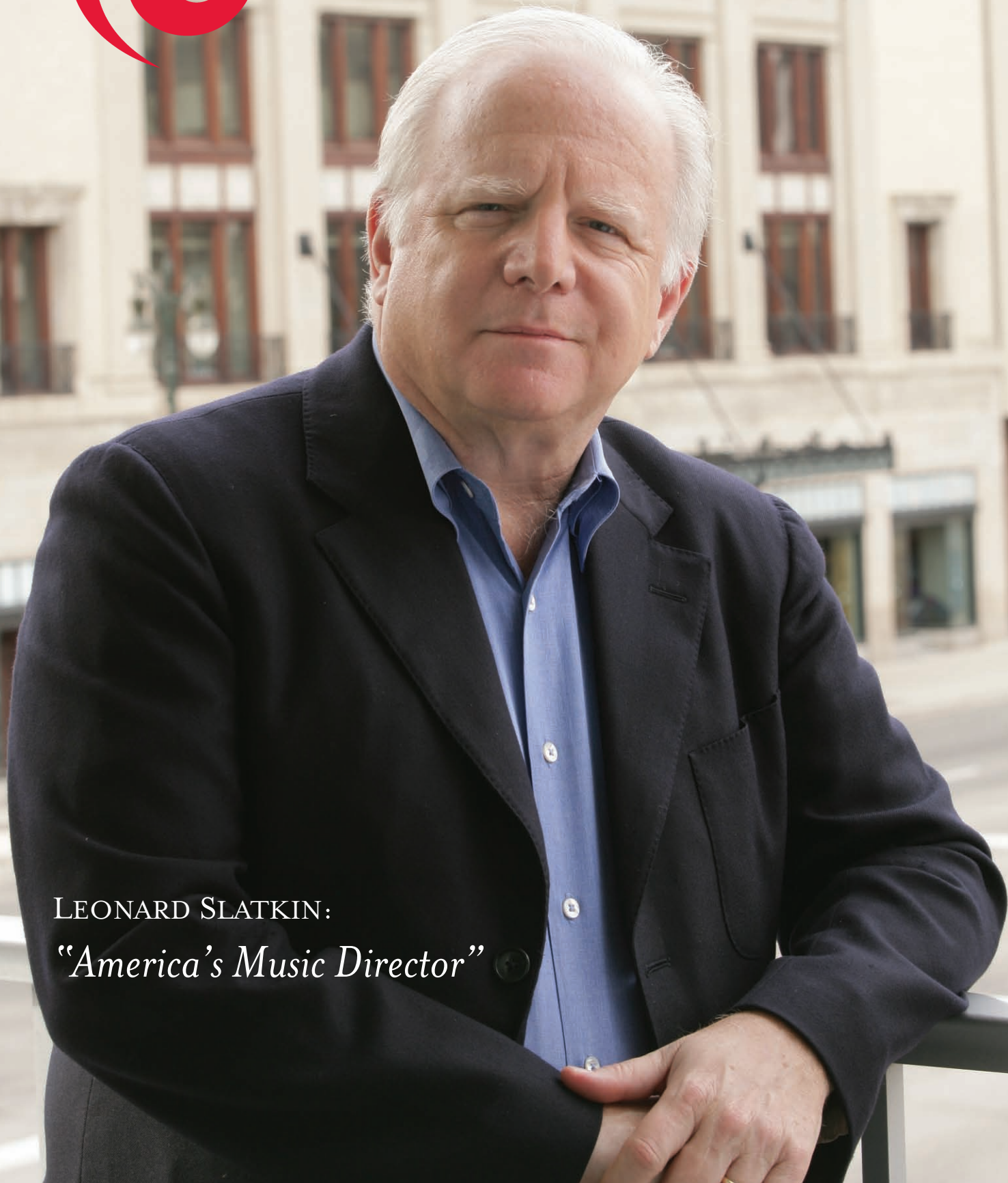


D&P Performance

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LEONARD SLATKIN:

"America's Music Director"



“AMERICA’S MUSIC DIRECTOR”

MAKES HIS MARK ON 2008-09 DSO SEASON



MATTHEW H. STALLING

BY JILL WOODWARD

CALLED “AMERICA’S MUSIC DIRECTOR” BY THE *LOS ANGELES TIMES*, WORLD-RENOWNED CONDUCTOR LEONARD SLATKIN OFFICIALLY STEPS INTO HIS ROLE AS LEADER OF THE DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NEXT FALL. AS THE MUSICIANS, ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM AND MEMBERS OF THE DSO BOARD CAN ALREADY ATTEST, IT WILL NOT BE BUSINESS AS USUAL.

Since the announcement of his appointment last October, Slatkin’s energy has been focused on goal setting for the DSO. As a seasoned director of orchestras both in America and abroad, and as a sought-after international guest conductor, Slatkin brings with him a singular perspective on the classical music scene. With an enormous knowledge of the

orchestral repertoire and a personal network of today’s most influential artists and composers, combined with a passion for true community engagement, the Grammy Award-winning artist is quite unique in the industry. Slatkin’s track record as an orchestra builder is based on a deep understanding of what makes orchestras tick, and how

they can become more essential than ever to their publics.

While he will be on site regularly throughout the year, guiding the behind-the-scenes running of the DSO, Slatkin will conduct the Orchestra in only five weeks of concerts in the 2008-09 season, the most his schedule would permit (major classical artists book at least several years in advance). The intriguing programs he will present are representative of an artistic vision that Orchestra Hall audiences will come to know and rely on. Through the great masterworks, he and the DSO will get to know each other musically, while giving patrons a thrilling demonstration of the musical authority that sparked the DSO-Slatkin era. “I will focus on a defined sonic

profile for the DSO,” says Slatkin, “a sound reflecting Detroit’s individuality, based on what we feel is right for our players and our hall. Over time, this will become our signature.” Equally significant to Slatkin are the new works and American repertoire he will introduce. His landmark tenure launches with three World Premieres in just three weeks, beginning in December.

Slatkin’s first set of concerts pair the blockbuster *Carmina Burana* with the premiere of *A Different Soldier’s Tale* by Michigan-born composer James Lee III, whose work Slatkin has previously championed. The piece is about the experience of Lee’s grandfather, an African-American World War II veteran. His January concerts will introduce the work of composer Margaret Brouwer, winner of the 2008 Elaine Lebonbom Memorial Women’s Composer Competition, which includes a \$10,000 prize. These concerts also feature a Triple Concerto co-composed by double bassist Edgar Meyer, banjo player Béla Fleck and tabla sensation Zakir Hussein: each the world’s leading proponents of their instrument. In a third musical first, Slatkin will lead the DSO in the World Premiere of *Songs for Lada*, a cantata for children’s choir by composer, pianist, conductor and organist Alla Borzova. Possibly the world’s



STEVE J. SHERMAN

important for young people in an era dominated by television and technology.” The YPC season will include two FREE family concerts led by Slatkin on December 13 and April 25. “I hope many parents and grandparents will make plans now to introduce their children to the sound of the DSO.”

“Leonard is a gifted leader and a thoughtful collaborator,” says Anne Parsons, DSO President and Executive Director. “He is an intensely creative person as well as someone who thinks strategically about marketing, education, community engagement and the financial security of an organization. With Leonard’s arrival, Detroit enters a completely new and enormously exciting era.”

In addition to the highlights of Slatkin’s weeks, the new DSO season presents a cycle of all five Beethoven Piano Concertos featuring the debut of some of today’s most talked-about young pianists; a roster of world-class guest artists; a “who’s who” of the conducting world; and of course, the DSO performing hallmark symphonic works. The major works featured in the new season are chosen for their variety and popularity, spanning several centuries, from the Classical sounds of Haydn to trademark Stravinsky.

only major classical work for children’s choir, the piece is being prepared now by the children of the Michigan State University Children’s Choir, who will learn to sing in the language of Borzova’s native Belarus.

Spearheaded by Slatkin, the DSO’s National City Young People’s Concert (YPC) next season will receive a turbo boost, reflecting his passion for music education and early exposure to the classics. “Listening to, or playing music, is one of the few activities today that allows the imagination to be totally self-directed,” says Slatkin. “This is terribly

Wynton Marsalis is New Erb Jazz Chair

Succeeding his brother Branford, legendary trumpeter Wynton Marsalis becomes the DSO’s new *Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Jazz Creative Director Chair* in the 2008-09 season. Marsalis will visit Detroit during the season to collaborate with the DSO and

to participate in educational activities.

The DSO will share the premiere of a new Marsalis work about Motown, co-commissioned with the Michigan State University Wharton Center, on Sept. 27 in Orchestra Hall. The piece, yet to be named, for combined jazz and symphony orchestras, will also be performed by Marsalis’ *Jazz @ Lincoln Center* and the MSU jazz and symphony orchestras on Sept. 25 in Lansing.



SUBSCRIBERS GET THE BEST

Tickets for the DSO’s 2008-09 classical season are on sale now to subscribers only. For tickets and information, call the box office at (313) 576-5111 or log on to www.detroitssymphony.com. Single tickets go on sale in late summer 2008.

For the first time, a discount will be available to Classical Season subscribers for the National City Young People’s Concert Series: \$30 for all six concerts (best seats available, excluding Box seats). Ticket packages for YPC-only subscribers start at just \$54 in the balcony.

DETROIT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2008-09 SEASON SCHEDULE

Sept. 11-13

SHAHAM PLAYS BRAHMS

Peter Oundjian, *conductor* / Gil Shaham, *violin*
 WAGNER *Lohengrin*, Prelude to Act III
 BRAHMS *Violin Concerto*
 RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Capriccio Espagnol*
 STRAUSS *Der Rosenkavalier*

Sept. 14 – *Special Concert*

Lang Lang Returns

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Capriccio Espagnol*
 TCHAIKOVSKY *Francesca de Rimini*
 CHOPIN *Piano Concerto No. 2*

Sept. 19-21

DEMAINE PLAYS SCHUMANN

Arild Remmereit, *conductor*
 Robert deMaïne, *cello*
 GROVEN *Joyful Shout*
 SCHUMANN *Cello Concerto*
 FRANCK *Symphony in D minor*

Sept. 25-28

WILKINS & SIBELIUS

Thomas Wilkins, *conductor* / Karl Pituch, *horn*
 BERNSTEIN/HARMON *Candide Suite*
 GLIÈRE *Horn Concerto*
 SIBELIUS *Symphony No. 2*

Sept. 27

MARSALIS' MOTOWN

Thomas Wilkins, *conductor*
 Jazz @ Lincoln Center Orchestra,
 Wynton Marsalis, *Artistic Director*
 BERNSTEIN/HARMON *Candide Suite*
 ELLINGTON/MARSALIS *Selections, TBA*
 WYNTON MARSALIS *DSO Premiere,*
co-commission, Wharton Center for Performing
Arts and the Michigan State University College
of Music – Co-World Premiere

Oct. 9-11

BRAHMS & BRUCH

Günther Herbig, *conductor* / Tianwa Yang, *violin*
 WEBER *Overture to Oberon*
 BRUCH *Violin Concerto No. 1*
 BRAHMS *Symphony No. 1*

Oct. 12 – *Special Concert*

SPHINX ORCHESTRA NATIONAL TOUR

MOZART *Divertimento in D major, III*
 PIAZZOLLA *Winter in Buenos Aires*
 VILLA LOBOS *Fugue*
 WALKER *Lyrical*
 WYNTON MARSALIS *Hellbound Highball*
(Harlem Quartet)

VIVALDI *Concerto for Four Violins*
 MICHAEL ABELS *"Delights and Dances" for*
String Quartet and
Orchestra

Oct. 17-18

ROMEO & JULIET

Bright Sheng, *conductor* / Yang Wei, *pipa*
 PROKOFIEV *War and Peace Overture*
 BRIGHT SHENG *Nanking! Nanking!*
 BRIGHT SHENG *Tibetan Swing*
 PROKOFIEV *Romeo and Juliet, Suite No. 2*

Oct. 24-26

DUTOIT'S SHEHERAZADE

Charles Dutoit, *conductor* / Yuja Wang, *piano*
 DEBUSSY *Petite Suite*
 PROKOFIEV *Piano Concerto No. 2*
 RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Sheherazade*

Oct. 30-Nov. 2

FLEISHER PLAYS MOZART

Peter Oundjian, *conductor* / Leon Fleisher, *piano*
 BARTÓK *Dance Suite*
 MOZART *Piano Concerto No. 12*
 RACHMANINOFF *Symphonic Dances*

Nov. 6-8

MOZART & BEETHOVEN

Marek Janowski, *conductor*
 Baiba Skride, *violin*
 MOZART *Symphony No. 30*
 MOZART *Violin Concerto No. 3*
 BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 2*

Nov. 21-23

EVELYN GLENNIE

Ludovic Morlot, *conductor*
 Evelyn Glennie, *percussion*
 DEBUSSY *Iberia*
 TOWER *Strike Zones*
 VIVALDI/Arr. Glennie *Concerto for Piccolo*
Recorder/Transcribed for
Vibraphone
 ELGAR *Enigma Variations*

Nov. 28-30

HOUGH PLAYS BRAHMS

Mark Wigglesworth, *conductor*
 Stephen Hough, *piano*
 WAGNER *Tannhauser Overture and*
Venusberg
Die Meistersinger, Act III and
Procession
Prelude to Die Meistersinger
 BRAHMS *Piano Concerto No. 1*

Dec. 11-14

THE SLATKIN ERA BEGINS

Leonard Slatkin, *conductor* / Mary Wilson, *soprano*
 Robert Baker, *tenor* / Hugh Russell, *baritone*
 UMS Choral Union / Ann Arbor Youth Chorale
 VERDI *La Forza del Destino Overture*
 JAMES LEE III *A Different Soldier's Tale,*
World Premiere
 ORFF *Carmina Burana*

Jan. 9-11

AMERICANS HERE & ABROAD

Leonard Slatkin, *conductor* / Edgar Meyer, *double*
bass / Béla Fleck, *banjo* / Zakir Hussein, *tabla*
 MARGARET BROUWER *World Premiere*
 MEYER/FLECK/HUSSEIN *Triple Concerto*
 GERSHWIN *American in Paris*

Jan. 15-18

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

Leonard Slatkin, *conductor* / Olga Kern, *piano*
 MSU Children's Choir
 GLINKA *Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture*
 ALTSCHULER *Russian Sailor Dance*
 ALLA BORSOVA *Songs for Lada, World*
Premiere

RACHMANINOFF *Rhapsody on a Theme of*
Paganini
 TCHAIKOVSKY *Romeo and Juliet*

Jan. 30-31

OUNDJIAN & BEETHOVEN

Peter Oundjian, *conductor*
 Ingrid Fliter, *piano*
 MOZART *Marriage of Figaro Overture*
 BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 2*
 BRUCKNER *Symphony No. 8*

Feb. 6-8

MENDELSSOHN & MAHLER

James Conlon, *conductor*
 Kristine Jepsen, *alto*
 John Treleaven, *tenor*
 MENDELSSOHN *Symphony No. 1*
 MAHLER *Das Lied von der Erde*

Feb. 19-21

BEETHOVEN & STRAUSS

Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, *conductor*
 Horacio Gutierrez, *piano*
 BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 4*
 STRAUSS *Ein Heldenleben*

Feb. 26-28

BAROQUE SPECTACULAR

Nicholas Kraemer, *conductor* / DSO soloists, TBD
 BACH *Brandenburg Concerto No. 1*
 BACH *Concerto for Two Violins*
 HANDEL *Water Music*

Mar. 6-8

CLASSICAL ROOTS

Thomas Wilkins, *conductor* / Janice Chandler-
 Eteme, *soprano* / TBD, *mezzo-soprano*
 Kevin Deas, *baritone* / Rackham Symphony Choir
 and Brazeal Dennard Chorale / child soprano, TBD
 STILL *Symphony No. 1*
 HANNIBAL LOKUMBE *Dear Mrs. Parks*

Mar. 12-15

BEETHOVEN & DEBUSSY

Sir Andrew Davis, *conductor* / Jeremy Denk, *piano*
 ELGAR *Serenade for Strings*
 BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 1*
 DEBUSSY *Prelude to the Afternoon of a*
Faun
 STRAVINSKY *Symphony in Three Movements*

Mar. 27-28

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Susanna Mälkki, *conductor* / Peter Serkin, *piano*
 BIZET *Symphony in C*
 STRAVINSKY *Movements for Piano and*
Orchestra
 MESSIAEN *Colors of the Celestial City*
 RAVEL *Daphnis et Chloe Suite No. 2*

Apr. 2-4

SLATKIN & BOISVERT

Leonard Slatkin, *conductor*
 Emmanuelle Boisvert, *violin*
 BRITTEN *Four Sea Interludes*
 BERG *Violin Concerto*
 BRAHMS *Symphony No. 4*

Apr. 23-25

SLATKIN & MAHLER

Leonard Slatkin, *conductor*
 MAHLER *Symphony No. 1, "Blumine"*
 ROUSE *Friandises*
 MAHLER *Symphony No. 1*

Apr. 30-May 3

ALL BEETHOVEN

Jerzy Semkow, *conductor* / Jonathan Biss, *piano*
 BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 3*
 BEETHOVEN *Symphony No. 5*

May 21-23

A MUSICAL COLLABORATION

Hans Graf, *conductor*
 Jaime Laredo, *violin* / Sharon Robinson, *cello*
 MOZART *Symphony No. 1*
 ZWILICH *Double Concerto*
 SAINT-SAËNS *La Muse et le Poete*
 STRAVINSKY *Petrushka* (1947)
Ellen Zwilich, Jaime Laredo and Sharon Robinson
appear with the DSO through collaboration with
the Chamber Music Society of Detroit.

May 29-31

BEETHOVEN & TCHAIKOVSKY

Hans Graf, *conductor* / Orion Weiss, *piano*
 RIMSKY-KORSAKOV *Skazka*
 BEETHOVEN *Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"*
 TCHAIKOVSKY *Symphony No. 2, "Little Russian"*

June 4-6

SEASON FINALE

Peter Oundjian, *conductor*
 Measha Brueggergosman, *soprano*
 HAYDN *Symphony No. 49 "La Passione"*
 STRAUSS *Four Last Songs*
 BARTÓK *Concerto for Orchestra*