

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Arkansas Symphony Announces New Symphony Local Festival with Food Trucks, Locally Brewed Beer, Local Partnerships

Little Rock, ARK, October 15, 2018 - Arkansas Symphony Orchestra, Philip Mann, Music Director and Conductor, introduces Symphony Local, a new festival to accompany the second concert of the 2018-2019 Stella Boyle Smith Masterworks season, *Elgar's Enigma* on Saturday, November 10th and Sunday, November 11th at the Robinson Center.

Symphony Local will celebrate local community organizations, including Arkansas Foodbank, and local arts and crafts vendors. Food trucks and drink vendors include Lost 40 Brewing, Count Porkula, Adobo-to-Go, Arkansas Heart Hospital Food Truck 'Food from the Heart,' Adams Mobile BBQ and more. The festival takes place before the concert from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday and admission is free with a concert ticket to *Elgar's Enigma*.

The concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 10th and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 11th. Guest conductor Sarah Ioannides will begin the concert with Joan Tower's *Made in America*. The program continues with Smetana's *The Moldau* and *Šárka* from his set of symphonic poems entitled *Má Vlast*, and concludes with Elgar's *Enigma Variations*. The Masterworks Series is sponsored by the Stella Boyle Smith Trust. *Elgar's Enigma* is sponsored by Doubletree Hotel.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra and Arkansas Foodbank will collect food donations during Symphony Local. Anyone who brings 10 or more non-perishable food items will receive a voucher good for one pair of tickets to any upcoming ASO concert in the 2018-2019 season. Detailed information about the Symphony Local festival and food drive may be found at <https://www.arkansassymphony.org/symphony-local>

All concert ticket holders are also invited to Concert Conversations, a pre-concert talk one hour before each Masterworks concert in the Upper Tier Lobby of the Robinson Center. These talks feature insights from the Maestro and guest artists, and feature musical examples to enrich the concert experience.

Tickets are \$16, \$36, \$57, and \$68; active duty military and student tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.ArkansasSymphony.org; at the Robinson Center street-level box office beginning 90 minutes prior to a concert; or by phone at 501-666-1761, ext. 100. All Arkansas students grades K-12 are admitted to Sunday's matinee free of charge with the purchase of an adult ticket using the Entergy Kids' Ticket, downloadable at <https://www.arkansassymphony.org/freekids>.

Artists

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Sarah Ioannides, guest conductor
(bio: <https://www.arkansassymphony.org/sarah-ioannides>)

Program

TOWER	<i>Made in America</i>
SMETANA	<i>Má Vlast: Vltava (the Moldau) & Šárka</i>
ELGAR	<i>Enigma Variations</i>

About Arkansas Symphony Orchestra

The Arkansas Symphony Orchestra celebrates its 53rd full season in 2018-2019, under the leadership of Music Director Philip Mann. ASO is the resident orchestra of Robinson Center Music Hall, to which the ASO returned in November of 2016 after a two-year renovation of the historic structure. ASO performs more than sixty concerts each year for more than 165,000 people through its Stella Boyle Smith Masterworks Series, ACXIOM Pops LIVE! Series, River Rhapsodies Chamber Music Series, Intimate Neighborhood Concerts, and numerous concerts performed around the state of Arkansas, in addition to serving central Arkansas through numerous community outreach programs and bringing live symphonic music education to over 26,000 school children and over 200 schools. ASO is a member of the League of American Orchestras.

For more information about the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra call 501-666-1761 or visit www.ArkansasSymphony.org

Program notes, artist bios and high resolution headshots available upon request.

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