

NORTH CAROLINA **SYMPHONY**

# HOLIDAY POPS

**FRIDAY, DEC 9, 2022 | 8PM**  
**SATURDAY, DEC 10 | 3PM & 8PM**

Meymandi Concert Hall  
Woolner Stage

**Duke Energy Center**  
for the Performing Arts  
Raleigh



Weekend Sponsor



Concert Sponsor



The North Carolina Symphony gratefully acknowledges financial support from Wake County, the City of Raleigh, and the State of North Carolina.



# Holiday Pops

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Sat, December 10, 2022 | 3pm & 8pm

MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL, WOOLNER STAGE  
DUKE ENERGY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, RALEIGH

**North Carolina Symphony**  
**Michelle Di Russo**, *conductor*  
**Scarlett Strallen**, *vocals*

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**Leroy Anderson**  
*A Christmas Festival*

**Edward Pola and George Wyle**  
*"It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year"*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

**Traditional / Arr. Hershy Kay**  
*Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly*  
(*A Merry Fugue*)

**Mykola Leontovych / Arr. Richard Hayman**  
*Carol of the Bells: Ukrainian Christmas Carol*

**Richard Rodgers/Oscar Hammerstein II /**  
Arr. Robert Russell Bennett  
*"My Favorite Things"* from *The Sound of Music*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

**Ralph Vaughan Williams / Adapted by**  
Ralph Greeves  
*Fantasia on Greensleeves*

**Adolphe Adam / Arr. Adrian Mann**  
*"O Holy Night"*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

**Traditional / Arr. Chip Davis**  
*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

## INTERMISSION

**Don Sebesky**  
*A Christmas Scherzo*

**Frederick Silver**  
*"The Twelve Days After Christmas"*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

**Sergei Prokofiev**  
*Troika* from *Lieutenant Kije*

**Mel Tormé / Arr. Bob Lowden**  
*"The Christmas Song"*  
**Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane**  
*"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

**Dimitri Tiomkin / Arr. Patrick Russ and**  
Paul Henning  
Selections from *It's a Wonderful Life*  
Prologue  
Theme  
Christmas Eve Finale

**Jerry Herman / Arr. Matt Correia**  
*We Need a Little Christmas* from *Mame*

**Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie / Arr.**  
Bill Holcombe  
*"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town"*  
Scarlett Strallen, *vocals*

## About the Artists

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**Michelle Di Russo, conductor**  
*The Maxine and Benjamin Swalin Chair*

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*Michelle Di Russo is Associate Conductor of the North Carolina Symphony, where she is responsible for conducting the Symphony's extensive statewide music education concerts. She has conducted UNC Health Summerfest performances, Young People's Concerts, and Statewide Holiday Pops concerts with the Symphony. She has also been featured in the Symphony's "Behind the Music" concert preview videos. Recently Di Russo has conducted the North Carolina Symphony in classical subscription performances in Chapel Hill and Wilmington.*

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A graceful and powerful force on the podium, Michelle Di Russo is known for her compelling interpretations, passionate musicality, and championing of contemporary music. She is an advocate for underrepresented artists and in 2020 co-founded the organization Girls Who Conduct to support younger generations of women and non-binary conductors in overcoming obstacles they face due to their gender.

Di Russo's artistic journey began in her native country, Argentina, at the age of three with ballet lessons, followed by studies in voice and piano. She has acted on television and onstage. Di Russo holds multiple degrees in Orchestral Conducting from Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina, University of Kentucky (M.M.), and Arizona State University (D.M.A.). She is a Freeman Conducting Fellow in Chicago Sinfonietta's prestigious Project Inclusion program and a recipient of the Concert Artists Guild's Richard S. Weinert Award.

Previously, Di Russo served as Interim Director of Orchestras at Cornell University, Assistant Conductor for the Phoenix Youth Symphony Orchestra, cover conductor and assistant for The Phoenix Symphony and Arizona Musicfest, and as a conducting fellow at the Cortona Sessions for New Music in Italy. She has also acted as cover conductor for the Minnesota Orchestra, St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, San Diego Symphony, and the National Symphony Orchestra. In the summer of 2022, she served as the Joel Revzen Conducting Fellow at Festival Napa Valley.



**Scarlett Strallen**, *vocals*

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*These concerts are the North Carolina Symphony debut of Scarlett Strallen.*

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Scarlett Strallen performs with symphonies all over the world and has been requested on three separate occasions to sing for Queen Elizabeth II. She made her German debut at the Philharmonie in Berlin with the John Wilson Orchestra in *A Celebration of the MGM Film Musicals*. Recent concerts include *Disney on Broadway* at the Royal Albert Hall, *I Love Musicals* for an arena tour of Sweden with Peter Jöback, *Cole Porter in Hollywood* on UK tour with the John Wilson Orchestra, a broadcast on Sky television from the Royal Albert Hall in London, and “Bernstein Stage and Screen” at the BBC Proms with the John Wilson Orchestra for broadcast on BBC television. She has recorded the album *Something’s Gotta Give* with Sir Simon Keenleyside, conducted by David Charles Abel.

Strallen has starred in productions on Broadway and in London’s West End, including *Singin’ in the Rain* at Chichester Festival Theatre and The Palace Theatre London, for which she was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best Actress in a Musical. She most recently starred on Broadway as Gwendolyn in Tom Stoppard’s *Travesties* and has appeared in the title role of *Mary Poppins*, a role she also played in the West End, and as Sibella Hallward in Robert L. Freedman’s *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder*. Additional theater credits include the title role in Jessica Swale’s *Nell Gwynn* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, *The Pirates of Penzance* at Barrington Stage Company, *Macbeth* at the Armory in New York, *Candide* at the Menier Chocolate Factory, and *A Chorus Line* at The London Palladium. Film and television credits include the movie *Beyond the Sea* and the title role in the BBC production of *Mary Poppins* celebrating Queen Elizabeth’s 80th birthday.

## About Our Musicians

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Carlos Miguel Prieto,  
Music Director Designate  
*The Maxine and Benjamin Swalin Chair*

Grant Llewellyn,  
Music Director Laureate

Michelle Di Russo,  
Associate Conductor  
*The Lucy Moore Ruffin Chair*

### Violin I

Brian Reagin, Concertmaster  
*The Annabelle Lundy Fetterman Chair*

To Be Filled, Associate Concertmaster  
*The Assad Meymandi and Family Chair*

To Be Filled, Assistant Concertmaster  
*The Anne Heartt Gregory Chair*

Karen Strittmatter Galvin, Assistant  
Concertmaster

Emily Rist Glover  
*The Jessie Wyatt Ethridge Chair*

Paul Goldsberry  
*The Richard and Joy Cook Chair*

So Yun Kim  
*The Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Chair*

Marilyn Kouba  
*The Phyllis ("Pat") Conrad Wells Chair*

Maria Meyer  
*The Tom and Mary Mac Bradshaw Chair*

Pablo Sánchez Pazos

Jessica Ryou

Lin-Ti Wang\*

Eileen Wynne  
*The Harvey At-Large Chair*

Erin Zehngut  
*The J. Felix Arnold Chair*

To Be Filled  
*The James C. Byrd and Family Chair*

**The North Carolina Symphony Foundation  
gratefully acknowledges the generous gift of  
the Lupot violin from Arnold and Zenat  
Lerman.**

*\*deceased*

### Violin II

Jacqueline Saed Wolborsky, Principal  
*The Nancy Finch Wallace Chair*

To Be Filled, Associate Principal  
*The Blanche Martin Shaw Chair*

David Kilbride, Assistant Principal

Qi Cao

Janet Gayer Hall

Oskar Ozolinch

Anton Shelepov

Jeanine Wynton

To Be Filled

### Viola

Samuel Gold, Principal  
*The Florence Spinks and Charles Jacob  
Cate and Alma Yondorf and Sylvan  
Hirschberg Chair*

Kurt Tseng, Associate Principal  
*The Betty Ellen Madry Chair*

Brian Sherwood, Assistant Principal

Petra Berényi

Paul Malcolm

Amy Mason  
*The J. Sidney Kirk Chair*

Sandra Schwarcz  
*The Samuel H. and Anne Latham Johnson  
Chair*

Kirsten Swanson\*

### Cello

Bonnie Thron, Principal  
*The June and Tom Roberg Chair*

Elizabeth Beilman, Associate Principal  
*The Sarah Carlyle Herbert Dorroh Chair*

Peng Li, Assistant Principal  
*Anonymously Endowed*

Yewon Ahn  
*Anonymously Endowed*

Sunrise Kim\*\*  
*The William Charles Rankin Chair*

Rosalind Leavell\*

David Meyer\*\*  
*The Nell Hirschberg Chair*

Marc Moskovitz\*

Lisa Howard Shaughnessy  
*The Sara Wilson Hodgkins Chair*

Nathaniel Yaffe  
*The Secretary of Cultural Resources  
Betty Ray McCain Chair*

### Double Bass

Leonid Finkelshteyn, Principal  
*The Martha and Peyton Woodson Chair*

Bruce Ridge\*, Associate Principal  
*The John C. and Margaret P. Parker Chair*

Craig Brown  
*The Mark W. McClure Foundation Chair*

Erik Dyke  
*The Harllee H. and Pauline G. Jobe Chair*

John Spuller\*  
*The Dr. and Mrs. Preston H. Gada Chair*

### Flute

Anne Whaley Laney, Principal  
*The Mr. and Mrs. George M. Stephens  
Chair*

Mary E. Boone, Assistant Principal  
*The Dr. and Mrs. Shaler Stidham, Jr. Chair*

Elizabeth Anderton Lunsford  
*The Jack and Sing Boddie Chair*

### Piccolo

Elizabeth Anderton Lunsford  
*The Jean Dunn Williams Chair*

## Oboe

Melanie Wilsden, Principal  
*The Hardison and Stoltze Chair*

Joseph Peters, Associate Principal  
*The Lizette T. Dunham Chair*

Amanda LaBrecque\*

Sandra Posch\*\*  
*The Clarence and Alice Aycock Poe Chair*

## English Horn

Joseph Peters  
*The Bruce and Margaret King Chair*

## Clarinet

Samuel Almaguer, Principal  
*The Mr. and Mrs. J. Christopher Walker, II Chair*

Zhenyu Wang\*, Assistant Principal  
*The Kathryn Powell and Green Flavie Cooper Chair*

## Bassoon

Aaron Apaza, Principal  
*The Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald S. Hudson Chair*

Wenmin Zhang, Assistant Principal  
*The Beethoven Chair*

## French Horn

Rebekah Daley, Principal  
*The Mary T. McCurdy Chair*

Kimberly Van Pelt, Associate Principal  
*The Paul R. Villard and Gabriel Wolf Chair*

Corbin Castro\*  
*The Roger Colson and Bobbi Lyon Hackett Chair*

Tanner West\*  
*The James Marion Poyner Chair*

To Be Filled  
*The Mary Susan Kirk Fulghum Chair*

## Trumpet

Paul Randall, Principal  
*The George Smedes Poyner Chair*

David Dash\*, Associate Principal  
*The Henry and Martha Zaytoun and Family Chair*

## Trombone

John Ilika, Principal  
*The Thomas Warwick Steed, Jr. Family Chair*

Jonathan Randazzo, Assistant Principal  
*The Frances Armour Bryant Chair*

## Bass Trombone

Matthew Neff  
*Anonymously Endowed*

## Tuba

Seth Horner, Principal  
*The Governor and Mrs. James G. Martin, Jr. Chair*

## Harp

Anita Burroughs-Price  
Vonda Darr

## Timpani

Colin Hartnett, Principal  
*The Patricia R., Steven T. and George F. Hackney III Chair*

## Percussion

Richard Motylinski, Principal  
*The Margery and Earl Johnson, Jr. Chair*

Rajesh Prasad, Assistant Principal  
*The Abram and Frances Pascher Kanof Chair*

## Organ

To Be Filled  
*The Albert and Susan Jenkins and Family Organ Chair*

## Library

Stephanie Wilson, Principal Orchestra Librarian  
*The Mary Colvert and Banks C. Talley Chair*

\*Acting position

\*\*Leave of absence

*Named musician chairs are made possible through very meaningful gifts to the Symphony's endowment. As such, these donor families are also members of the Lamar Stringfield Society.*

*All string players rotate stands on a periodic basis in each section with the exception of titled players: Principals, Associate Principals, and Assistant Principals.*

*The North Carolina Symphony is a member of the League of American Orchestras and the International Conference of Symphony and Opera Musicians.*

*The North Carolina Master Chorale is the Resident Chorus of the North Carolina Symphony.*

**Thank you** to the generous individuals, businesses, foundations, and community partners who support the North Carolina Symphony through contributions each season. The Symphony's performances and extensive music education and community service programs are made possible by your support.

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