

Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra announces its 2014-15 concert season that will mark the 10-year anniversary of Sarah Ioannides as the Music Director. - *Press Release*

The season will include performances at Converse College's Twichell Auditorium and at Chapman Cultural Center's David Reid Theatre. The season will open with the return of famed German pianist Andreas Boyde in concert with SPO performing Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 2*, with Smetana's much-loved *the Moldau* from *Ma Vlast*. Other season highlights will be a Christmas concert that will include portions of Handel's *Messiah*, alongside the return of Spartanburg Day School Children's Choir, a Valentine's Day concert titled "Romantic Portraits and Preludes" with double Grammy-winning percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie, with Tchaikovsky Romeo & Juliet Fantasy. Profoundly deaf since childhood, Glennie will give public talks and masterclasses during her stay and SPO is in discussion with SCSDB to partner in outreach events. (South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind) The Spring 2015 performance will feature another return by highly popular international Israeli violinist, Vadim Gluzman, for Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto. He will play on Leopold Auer's violin - the authentic Stradivarius that debuted this concerto. The orchestra will also perform Mussorgsky Pictures at An Exhibition and collaborate with the School Districts in the 3rd Annual Art and Music Project.

"The 2014-15 season for Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra will be wonderful and a wonderful tribute to our conductor Sarah Ioannides," Keysie Maddox, SPO Executive Director said. "She has put together a season that will honor the classics, introduce us to new music, and will bring some of the world's most talented and celebrated musicians to Spartanburg."

Ioannides has been Music Director of the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra since 2005. SPO's recent innovative programming has reached national recognition with world premieres and creative community projects. Recognized by the League of American Orchestras, "The orchestra and its Music Director, Sarah Ioannides and this Philharmonic deserve celebration for their commitment to ensuring that this orchestra is ours, that it reflects and helps bind together the Spartanburg community" (published in *Symphony News* and *The Spartanburg Herald Journal*, 2013).

Praised by *The New York Times* as a conductor with "unquestionable strength and authority," she also served as Music Director with the El Paso Symphony Orchestra from 2005-2011. Ioannides' conducting career has spanned five continents including the Rochester Philharmonic, Louisville, Buffalo Philharmonic, Toledo, Tulsa, North Carolina, Flemish Radio, Simon Bolivar Youth, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestras and Orchestra Nationale de Lyon. Assistant Conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra from 2002-4, she served as the Music Director of the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, and was the first woman appointed to the conducting staff of the Cincinnati Symphony.

Conductor & Production Coordinator with composer/conductor Tan Dun from 1999-2003, Ioannides has since directed new multimedia productions including commissioning new films for Holst's *The Planets*, and Steve Reich's *The Desert Music*. A passionate supporter of living composers Ioannides has conducted over 35 World, US & European premiers. With Masters degrees from both Oxford University (Instrumental Scholar) and the Juilliard School of Music (Bruno Walter Award), Ioannides studied violin, piano and French Horn. Recipient of many prizes including the Leeds Conducting Competition and JoAnn Falletta Award, Ioannides first came to the United States on a Fulbright Scholar to attend the Curtis Institute of Music.

Also, in addition to the upcoming year being her 10th Season Anniversary with SPO, she was invited to serve as Music Director with the Tacoma Symphony Orchestra in Washington. Her five-year contract with TSO will officially begin July 1.

"Spartanburg is a wonderful city. It knows how to embrace the arts, provide opportunities for all, share its great talents and give happiness through the arts to all who seek it" Ioannides said. "My time as Music Director of Spartanburg Philharmonic for the past 9 years has been very rewarding, and a period of growth in many new directions. There's a lot to celebrate, a lot to remember and certainly a lot more to look forward to! This coming season is definitely the most exciting yet. I am thrilled to continue the new partnerships and projects we have begun that are meaningful to our community. I hope that this coming season will be the beginning of a new era of musical excitement & excellence and most of all, a perfect match for everyone, with amazing stars to inspire and musical moments to cherish."

[View 2014-15 Season Plans.](#)