

**DANA POINT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ANNOUNCES 2017 SEASON  
HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE THE SYMPHONIC WORKS OF BRAHMS,  
HAYDN, DVORAK AND TCHAIKOVSKY**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**(Dana Point) January 11, 2017** - The Dana Point Symphony Orchestra (“DPSO”) is pleased to announce its 2017 Season at St. Edward Church in Dana Point, California. Under the musical direction of Conductor Dean Anderson, the 2017 season opens with flair and vibrance, and promises to take the DPSO’s high standard of performance to new levels of excellence! Also for 2017, the Symphony is very pleased to welcome new Executive Director, Amisha Patankar. In addition to her duties as the DPSO’s Executive Director, Amisha currently works as Social Media Specialist at LA Opera where she handles all social media platforms and manages press and media relations for the organization.

**2017 Musical Program**

**February 4, 2017 - 7:30PM - "Dance and Lullaby"**

“Dance of the Hours” from La Gioconda - Amilcare Ponchielli  
Rococo Variations - Nathan Le, Cello - P. Tchaikovsky  
Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 74 - J. Brahms

The 2017 season opens with flare and vibrance! Ponchielli’s playful “Dance of the Hours” features music from his most popular ballet. It became even more widely known after its inclusion in the 1940 Disney animated film Fantasia where it is depicted as a comic ballet featuring humanized ostriches, hippos, elephants, and alligators. This work will be followed by Tchaikovsky’s virtuosic Rococo Variations featuring brilliant 16-year old Southern California cellist Nathan Le. The second half of the concert features Brahms’ reflective and triumphant Symphony No. 2 in D Major.

**March 25, 2017 - 7:30PM - “The Father of the Symphony - ALL Haydn”**

Overture in D  
Trumpet Concerto - John Aranda, Trumpet  
Symphony No. 94 in G Major “Surprise”

The second concert of the season will pay tribute to Joseph Haydn, popularly known as the “Father of the Symphony” due to his pioneering contribution to the symphonic form as we know it today. In addition the rarely performed Overture in D, the DPSO will feature Haydn’s famous Concerto for Trumpet, featuring DPSO Principal Trumpet, John Aranda. The concert will conclude with a work from Haydn’s first set of symphonies composed for the London audience in 1791, Symphony No. 94, also known as the “Surprise Symphony.”

### **April 8, 2017 - 7:30PM - “Romantic Travels”**

Oberon Overture - Carl Maria von Weber

Concerto for Saxophone - Aleksandr Glazunov - Russell Veirs, Saxophone

Symphony No. 8 in G Major - Antonin Dvorak

Music from Germany, Russia, and the Czech Republic during the Romantic period will be featured in DPSO’s third exciting third program. The concert will open with music from Weber’s opera Oberon, also known as The Elf King’s Oath, featuring musical themes based on mermaids, princes and fairies. The Saxophone Concerto by Glazunov is one of the rare works featuring this amazing instrument during the Romantic period. The concert will conclude with Dvorak’s beloved 8th Symphony, which pays tribute to the folk music of his native Bohemia.

### **May 13, 2017 - 7:30PM - “Theme Russe” - Ignazio Terrasi, Guest Conductor**

“Nocturne” from String Quartet No. 2 in D Major - Alexander Borodin

Concerto for Violin, Op. 82. - Aleksandr Glazunov, Myroslava Khomik - Violin

Symphony No. 5 in E minor - Pyotr Tchaikovsky

The DPSO 2017 Season will close with romantic music from some of Russia’s greatest and best-loved composers. The DPSO strings present the famous “Nocturne” from Borodin’s String Quartet. This will be followed by Ukrainian violinist, Myroslava Khomik, performing the violin concerto by one of “The Five” composers who pioneered Russia’s compositional style. The final work will be the much-adored Symphony No. 5 in E minor by the most famous Russian composer of the late-Romantic era, Pyotr Tchaikovsky. This final concert of the season will be led by Ignazio Terrasi, our guest conductor from the LA Opera who has been featured in previous DPSO seasons. .

### **DEAN ANDERSON – Biography**

Dean Anderson has been the DPSO Music Director for over five seasons and is also the Artistic Director for Symphony Irvine. He is the Principal Conductor for the Montecito International Music Festival. He also is the Director of Orchestral Studies at La Sierra University and the Director of Instrumental Activities at Occidental College.

As a guest conductor, he has led the National Congress Chamber Orchestra (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Grumo Festival Orchestra (Grumo, Italy), Hong Kong Chamber Orchestra, Siam Sinfonietta (Bangkok, Thailand), Yakima Chamber Orchestra, Cerritos College Orchestra, and the Southern California Chamber Ensemble in Nagoya, Japan. In 2011, he was invited to guest conduct the Ho Chi Minh City Ballet Symphony in Vietnam, becoming the first American ever to conduct the orchestra professionally there. In 2017, Mr. Anderson has been invited to guest conduct the Barra Mansa Symphony Orchestra in Rio de Janeiro, the Teatro da Paz Orchestra in Belem, Brazil, and the State Symphony Orchestra of Azerbaijan.

In 2015, he was invited to join the faculty at the Montecito International Music Festival as the Principal Orchestra Director. He also led the combined orchestras of La Sierra University and Symphony Irvine at Walt Disney Hall in the West Coast premiere of Marcos Galvany's operatic tableau *O My Son*.

As an opera conductor, he performed Giuseppe Lupis' *Il Pianista Disgraziata* in Bologna, Assisi, Binetto, Loro Piceno, and Toritto. Other opera performances include Wolf-Ferrari's *Il Segreto di Susanna* and Mercadante's *I Due Figaro* with Opera UCLA and Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* with the Fullerton College Opera Workshop. He conducted the West Coast premiere of Daron Hagen's *Little Nemo in Slumberland*, with the La Sierra University Opera.

Mr. Anderson studied violin with John Mcleod and conducting with Edward Dolbashian at the University of Missouri – Columbia. He earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree at UCLA under the mentorship of Neal Stulberg. He has also participated in conducting master classes with Gustav Meier, Mark Gibson, Marin Alsop, Mihail Agafita, Daron Hagen, Don Thulean, and Lawrence Golan.

## **AMISHA PATANKAR – Biography**

Ms. Amisha Patankar is currently a Social Media Specialist at LA Opera, handling all social media platforms and managing press and media relations for the organization.

She received her B.A. in Music Performance (Flute) and a minor in Music Industry from UCLA in 2014. Her career in the music business began in 2014 as the marketing intern for the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra (LACO). After LACO, she interned for the LA Philharmonic where she focused on social media programming for the Hollywood Bowl, exploring how a major arts institution can bring various genres of music to Los Angeles and still grow audiences' awareness of classical music.

Her first permanent full-time position began in October 2014 as LA Opera's Marketing Associate, where she mainly handled budgets for the Marketing and Public Relations Department. Her hard work paid off in the form of a promotion when she became the company's Social Media Specialist. Amisha promoted LA Opera content to audiences in Los Angeles and New York, as well as global audiences who wanted an insight in one of

the country's leading opera companies. Since becoming Social Media Specialist, she grew the LA Opera fan base by over 50% in the first year.

Amisha continues to work in arts administration, constantly striving to bring classical music awareness to millennials.

Amisha currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

**DPSO Media Contact:**

Dean Anderson, Music Director  
(714) 902-3313