



Delta David Gier
Music Director
South Dakota Symphony Orchestra

Delta David Gier has been called a dynamic voice on the American music scene, recognized widely for his penetrating interpretations of the standard repertoire and his passionate commitment to exploring new music and engaging new audiences.

Gier made his New York Philharmonic debut in 2000 with an acclaimed performance including Stravinsky's *Firebird* (1945) that further solidified his long-standing relationship with the orchestra. Chosen by Kurt Masur as an assistant conductor in 1994, Gier also worked under Lorin Maazel and went on to conduct over 20 performances with the New York Philharmonic, including two complete seasons of Young People's Concerts, the first conductor to do so in over 50 years.

Recent U.S. engagements for Delta David Gier have included the Cleveland Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, the Phoenix Symphony, the Colorado Symphony, the Columbus Symphony (OH) and the American Composers Orchestra. He also conducted over 60 performances of *Carmen* with San Francisco Opera's Western Opera Theater. Abroad, some of the orchestras Gier has performed with include the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, the Bergen Philharmonic (Norway), the the Polish National Radio Symphony, the Bucharest Philharmonic, the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, the Orquestra de Cámara de Bellas Artes in Mexico City, and the Orchestra Sinfonica della Provincia di Bari, Italy. Maestro Gier has performed with many of the world's finest soloists, including Lang Lang, Midori and Sarah Chang. During the 2013-14 season Mr. Gier made his Minnesota Orchestra debut as well as conducting the gala concert of the Thailand International Composition Festival with the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, where he will return in May 2015.

As Music Director of the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra since 2004, Gier has taken a bold approach to programming that has broadened the orchestra's repertoire and positioned it on the national forefront of new orchestral music. Under his direction, the SDSO has won the coveted ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming for seven seasons, largely due to a series of concerts featuring works of

Pulitzer Prize-winning composers – a program heralded by the *Wall Street Journal* as “an unprecedented programming innovation.” Pulitzer prize-winning composers Steven Stucky, Jennifer Higdon, Zhou Long and Paul Moravec have had residencies with the SDSO. His balanced vision for the orchestra has also given rise to a popular annual Mahler celebration and highly successful operatic performances each season.

Delta David Gier’s innovative work in community engagement has been recognized nationally for its impact, including circles sometimes disenfranchised from orchestral music. Designed to promote cross-cultural understanding, the *Lakota Music Project* brought together SDSO and Native American musicians in a one-of-a-kind collaboration exploring the depth of both musical traditions and inspiring other orchestras to launch similar programs. During Maestro Gier’s tenure, the SDSO has also led the way with programs aimed at assimilating immigrant cultures, including African refugees and the Middle Eastern community.



Sherri Prentiss
Vice President of Marketing
Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestra & May Festival

Sherri Prentiss is the Vice President of Marketing for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Pops Orchestra and Cincinnati May Festival, where she oversees marketing, advertising, group sales, digital strategy, branding, market research, customer service and box office operations.

During her tenure, the Orchestra has achieved sustained audience growth. Her passion extends to community and audience engagement initiatives such as the One City, One Symphony™ initiative, launched in 2012 under her leadership, and LUMENOCITY®, now a major community festival that leverages the arts and culture to transform the urban core of Cincinnati.

Prior to her arrival in Cincinnati in 2007, Prentiss served as Marketing and Public Relations Director for the Madison (Wisconsin) Symphony Orchestra. She began her career at PR and advertising agencies both in Madison and her home city of Chicago.

Sherri earned a BA from Northern Illinois University and an MA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She serves on the board of Downtown Cincinnati Inc., and is a graduate of Leadership Cincinnati and the League of American Orchestras' Executive Leadership program.



Jesse Rosen
President and CEO
League of American Orchestras

Since becoming President and CEO of the League of American Orchestras in 2008, Jesse Rosen has been a leading voice for change, empowering the League's 800 member orchestras with knowledge and perspective to navigate their own paths through a rapidly changing environment. Under Rosen's leadership, the League has advocated for orchestras' deeper engagement with community; greater understanding of fiscal health; increased use of data to inform decision-making; and widespread engagement with composers. During his sixteen-year tenure at the League, Rosen has been instrumental in creating new programs in the areas of artistry, leadership development, diversity, governance, capitalization, and community engagement, including Ford Made in America, Music Alive, and Getty Education and Community Investment Grants. Rosen serves on the board of the American Composers Orchestra, as Vice Chair of the Performing Arts Alliance, and on the Board of Overseers of the Curtis Institute of Music. A lifelong musician and experienced orchestra CEO, Rosen has served as general manager of the Seattle Symphony, executive vice president and managing director of the American Composers Orchestra in New York City, orchestra manager of the New York Philharmonic, and vice president of programs for Affiliate Artists, Inc. A trombonist, Jesse Rosen received his bachelor's degree from the Manhattan School of Music and pursued graduate studies at The Juilliard School.



Mark Williams
Director of Artistic Planning
The Cleveland Orchestra

Mark Williams has served as Director of Artistic Planning for The Cleveland Orchestra since 2013. He is responsible for managing all aspects of artistic planning and programming, including artist relations; subscription, festival, and opera programming;

European touring; and presentations at Severance Hall and the Blossom Music Festival. Before coming to Cleveland, Williams was the artistic administrator at the San Francisco Symphony. Prior to that, he was an artist manager at IMG Artists in New York. He began his arts administration career at Columbia Artists Management in New York. Williams holds a bachelor of music degree in horn performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music and Case Western Reserve University, where his primary teachers were Richard Solis and Richard King.