

Carl St. Clair

Conductor



The 2021–22 season marks Music Director **Carl St. Clair's** 32nd year leading Pacific Symphony; he is one of the longest-tenured conductors among major American orchestras. During this tenure, he has become widely recognized for his musically distinguished performances, as well as his commitment to innovative programming and outstanding educational programs. Due in large part to **St. Clair's** leadership, Pacific Symphony was recently elevated to the status of a Tier 1 orchestra by the League of American Orchestras, the largest-budgeted orchestra formed in the United States in the last 50 years.

In April 2018, **St. Clair** led Pacific Symphony in its sold-out Carnegie Hall debut as the finale to Carnegie's year-long celebration of pre-eminent composer Philip Glass's 80th birthday. He led Pacific Symphony on its first tour to China in May 2018 (the orchestra's first international tour since touring Europe in 2006) and made its national PBS debut in June 2018 on Great Performances with **St. Clair** conducting Peter Boyer's "Ellis Island: The Dream of America."

Carl St. Clair's commitment to the development and performance of new works by composers is evident in the wealth of commissions and recordings by the Symphony. The 2016-17 season featured commissions by pianist/composer Conrad Tao and composer-in-residence Narong Prangcharoen, a follow-up to the slate of recordings of works commissioned and performed by the Symphony in recent years. These include William Bolcom's *Songs of Lorca* and *Prometheus*, Elliot Goldenthal's *Symphony in G-sharp Minor*, Richard Danielpour's *Toward a Season of Peace*, Philip Glass's *The Passion of Ramakrishna*, John Wineglass's *Alone Together*, and Michael Daugherty's *Mount Rushmore* and *The Gospel According to Sister Aimee*.

In addition to Pacific Symphony, **St. Clair** has led the Boston Symphony Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the San Francisco, Seattle, Detroit, Atlanta, Houston, Indianapolis, Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver symphonies, among others. His international career includes having been music director of the Komische Oper in Berlin and chief conductor of the German National Theater in Weimar. He was the principal guest conductor of the WDR/Stuttgart from 1998-2004, where he completed a three-year recording project of the Villa-Lobos symphonies. He has also appeared with orchestras in Israel, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, South America, China, Thailand, Malaysia, in addition to summer festivals worldwide.

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"The Pacific Symphony, making its Carnegie debut [under music director, Carl St. Clair], had the good fortune to be presented by the hall itself, as part of a season-long series of concerts centering on Philip Glass ... The performance was excellent, with the orchestra sounding like a major ensemble."

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