



THE DELAWARE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

DAVID AMADO, MUSIC DIRECTOR

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DELAWARE SYMPHONY MUSIC DIRECTOR DAVID AMADO

SIGNS NEW LONG-TERM AGREEMENT

Contract will go through 2022-2023 Season

Wilmington, Delaware – August 17, 2016. The Delaware Symphony Association (DSA) and Music Director David Amado have entered into a new agreement that will extend through the 2022-2023 season. That season will mark Amado's 20th Anniversary as Music Director of the Delaware Symphony Orchestra.

"The DSO Board is delighted to have successfully reached this new agreement with Maestro Amado, one of the leading young orchestral conductors in the United States," said DSO President Charles Babcock. "Delaware audiences have much to anticipate for years to come."

Amado was named Music Director of the Delaware Symphony beginning with the 2003-2004 season. He quickly rose to prominence in the Delaware arts scene as a consummate musician, a strong advocate for the role that music and all the arts play in the lives of Delawareans, and the ideal public persona for the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. Often referred to as a "rock star" in Delaware, Amado helped the DSA successfully navigate through its near collapse in 2012, when the Orchestra announced it would cease operations due to financial challenges. Amado has been a steady, reliable, and enthusiastic figure during the successful rebuilding efforts. The Delaware Symphony Orchestra has just completed its 110th Anniversary season.

"I am honored that the DSA has such faith in my leadership and musicianship," said David Amado. "I am delighted to continue this wonderful relationship with the talented musicians of the DSO, our committed staff, engaged board, and of course our wonderful community. I look forward to many more years of great, inspiring, and satisfying music-making."

The Delaware Symphony Orchestra will open its 2016-2017 season with a September 23, 2016, Classics Series concert conducted by David Amado in Copeland Hall at The Grand Opera House in downtown Wilmington. The program features violinist Jaime Laredo and cellist Sharon Robinson performing André Previn's *Double Concerto*, a work he wrote for Laredo and Robinson. Mr. Previn will attend the performance and receive the DSO's 2016-2017 Season A. I. du Pont Composers Award. The concert will conclude with the monumental Symphony No. 5 by Gustav Mahler. Single tickets for this performance are available through The Grand Opera House Box Office at 818 North Market Street, or by calling (302) 652-5577, or by purchasing online at www.ticketsatthegrand.org.



THE DELAWARE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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ABOUT DAVID AMADO – DSO Music Director and Conductor

Music Director since 2003, Maestro David Amado has led the Delaware Symphony through both exciting and challenging times with thoughtfulness, sensitivity, and a constant ear toward musical excellence and refinement. His insightful music-making, energetic performances, and his gift to connect intimately with audiences have made him a respected figure in Delaware and beyond. In 2014, Amado received the prestigious Governor's Award for the Arts from Delaware Governor Jack Markell. In addition to his Delaware post, in April, 2016, David Amado was also named Music Director of the Atlantic Classical Orchestra in Florida.

Descended from a long line of fine musicians, including his grandmother, violist Lillian Fuchs, and great uncle, violinist Joseph Fuchs, Amado continues his family's proud musical tradition. In pre-college studies at The Juilliard School, he became a dedicated pianist, determined to forge a career as a musician. As a college student there, he studied piano with the great pedagogue Herbert Stessin and began to explore orchestral repertoire. He earned a Master's degree in Instrumental Conducting at Indiana University, and then returned to Juilliard to study conducting with Otto-Werner Mueller. After a one year apprenticeship with the Oregon Symphony, Amado began a fruitful six-year tenure with the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, where he served as staff conductor and as music director of the Youth Orchestra, introducing symphony music to over 55,000 young people annually.

Maestro Amado's unique and appealing programming has propelled the DSO to new artistic heights. In 2010, the orchestra released its first recording on the Telarc label, with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet. Gramophone Magazine called it *"tense and exciting"* and added that *"...the excellent Delaware Symphony Orchestra...seize on the drama and exoticism inherent in the music, making it their own."*

Amado also continues to share his passion for great music while connecting with diverse audiences around the world, including engagements with the Chicago Symphony, the National Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic, and the Symphony Orchestras of Houston, Saint Louis, Baltimore, and Toronto.

In addition to conducting, Amado teaches and coaches young conductors at both the Curtis Institute of Music and the Atlantic Music Festival, where he is a faculty member. A Philadelphia native, Maestro Amado is married to violinist Meredith Amado.

ABOUT THE DELAWARE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Delaware Symphony is one of the premier regional orchestras in the United States and Delaware's only fully professional orchestra. The DSO has been an integral part of the First State's cultural life since 1906. Recognized for artistic excellence, the Symphony presents classical and contemporary repertoire in full orchestra and chamber music concerts, educational programs, and special events that attract audiences from throughout the Delaware Valley region. In 2010, the orchestra released a highly acclaimed first recording on the Telarc label, with the Los Angeles Guitar Quartet. For more information, visit www.delawaresymphony.org or call the DSO office at (302) 656-7442.

Contact Dan Colburn (above) to inquire about an interview with David Amado.

The DSO is supported, in part, by the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com