

GEORGE

WALKER

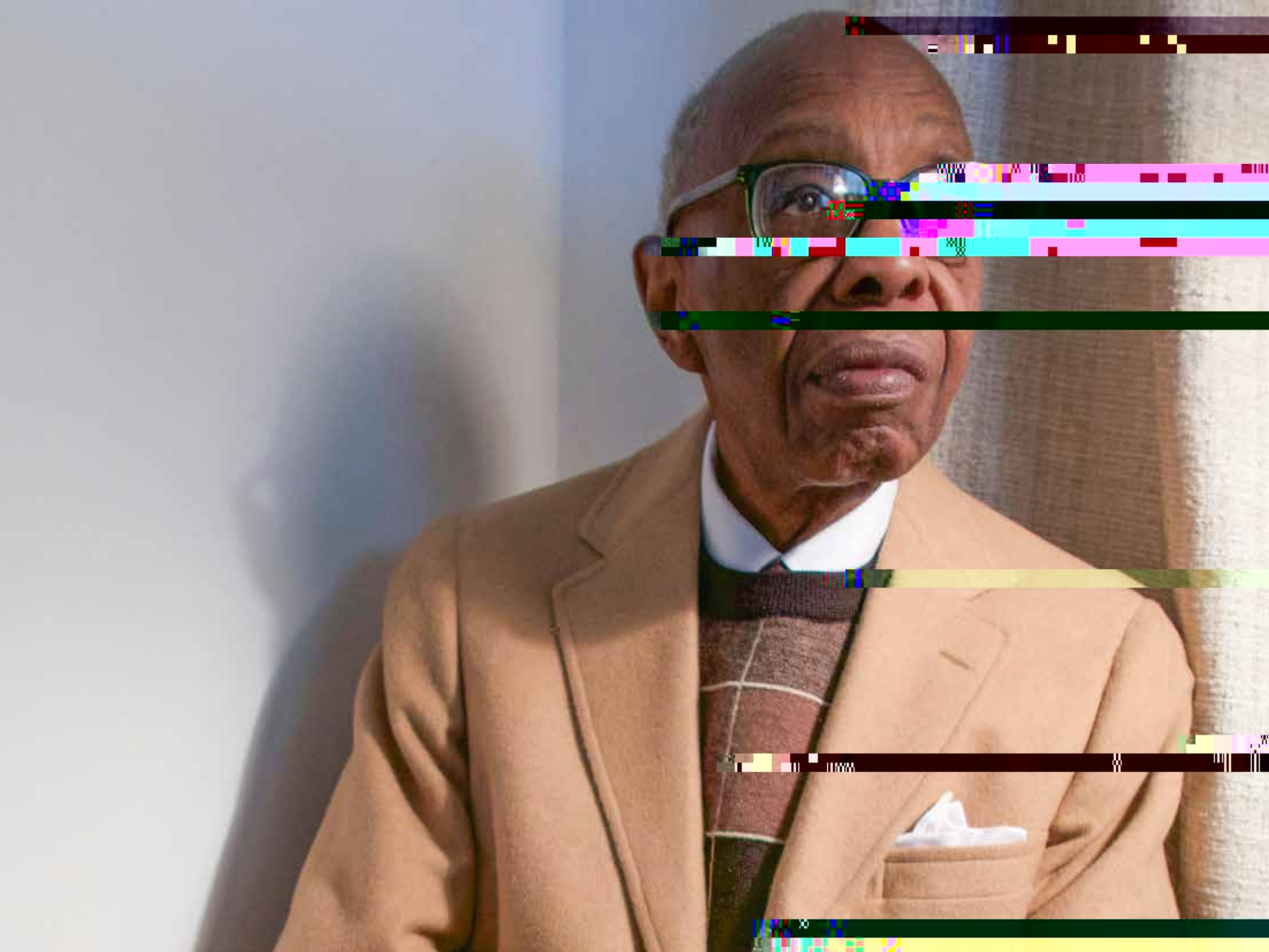
**Sinfonia No. 4
(Strands)**

National
Symphony
Orchestra

Center

Gianandrea Nosed

Gianandrea Nosed



National Symphony Orchestra **Gianandrea Noseda** conductor

George Walker (1922–2018)

Sinfonia No. 4, “Strands” (2012)

9:41

*Co-commissioned by the New Jersey Symphony, National Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony,
and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestras*

Recorded live on January 27, 28, and 29, 2022 in the Concert Hall of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Blanton Alspaugh, *Soundmirror*

Mark Donahue, *Soundmirror*.

Mark Donahue, *Soundmirror*

Nigel Boon and Genevieve Twomey, *National Symphony Orchestra*

Frank Schramm.

Scott Bushnell, *The Kennedy Center*

Scott Suchman.

Stefano Pasqualetti

Richard Barnes

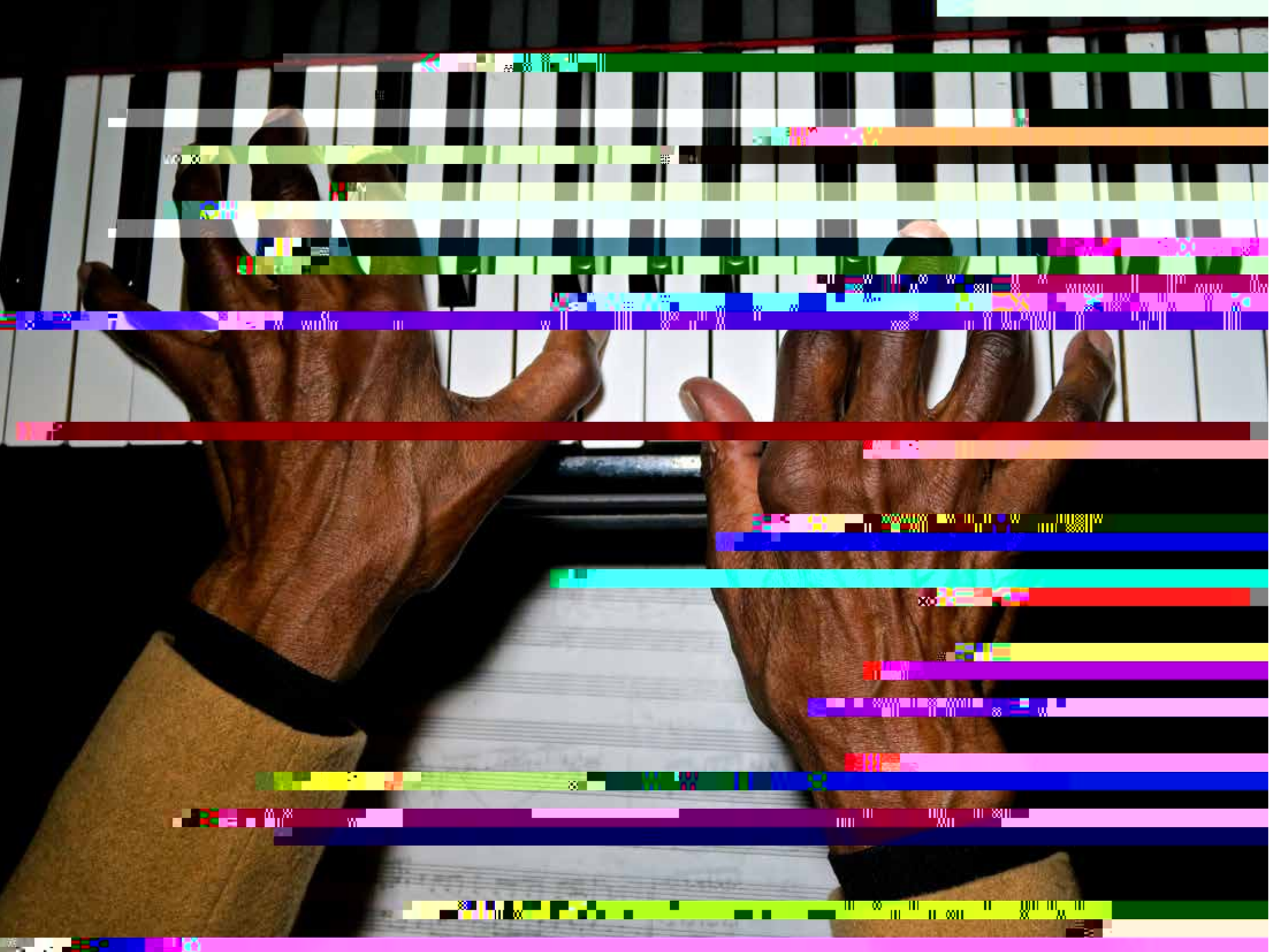
In January 2022, the National Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Gianandrea Noseda began performing and recording the complete cycle of George Walker's five sinfonias, in celebration of the composer's 100th birthday. Remembering and honoring the music of George Walker is particularly special for the National Symphony Orchestra given the mutual connection to Washington, D.C., and the orchestra's unique history of collaboration and commissions.

~~~~

George Walker celebrated the year of his ninetieth birthday with the premiere of a brand new work, Sinfonia No. 4 ("Strands"). The commission came from a consortium of orchestras, including the National, Cincinnati, New Jersey and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras, with a grant from Meet the Composer, and was

premiered by the New Jersey Symphony in March 2012 under the direction of Jacques Lacombe.

The subtitle refers to the "strands" and George Walker celebrated "Strands" from two spirituals, "There is a Balm in Gilead" and "Roll, Jordan, Roll" that the composer wove into the fabric of his composition. Walker's use of these quotes is rather subtle and somewhat reminiscent of the way Charles Ives worked with church hymns in many of his works: the melodies are fragmented, transformed, and hinted at more than presented in full. Their "strands" are integrated into a rhythmically vibrant and colorfully orchestrated one-movement work, projecting high energy and constant excitement.



# George Walker (1922-2018)



Walker was a distinguished member of several faculties, including that of the Dalcroze School of Music, the New School for Social Sciences, Smith College, the University of Colorado, and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. In 1969, he was appointed Professor of Music at Rutgers University, where he served as Chairman





# Gianandrea Noseda

## Conductor

Gianandrea Noseda is one of the world's most sought-after conductors, equally recognized for his artistry in both the concert hall and opera house. Noseda's artistic leadership has inspired the NSO and in 2019, he and the National Symphony Orchestra earned rave reviews for their first concerts together at New York's Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. The 2019–2020 season saw their artistic partnership continue to flourish with the launch of a new NSO recording label distributed by LSO Live for which Noseda also records as principal guest conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra.

The 2021–2022 season saw Noseda begin his tenure as General Music Director of the Zurich Opera house where the centerpiece of his time there will be a new production of Wagner's "Ring" Cycle.

Noseda has conducted the most important orchestras and at the leading opera houses and festivals including

the Berlin Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Edinburgh Festival, La Scala, Munich Philharmonic, Met Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, NHK Symphony, Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, Orchestre de Paris, Orchestre National de France, Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Royal Opera House (UK), Salzburg Festival, Verbier Festival, Vienna Philharmonic, Vienna State Opera, and Vienna Symphony.

From 2007 until 2018, Noseda served as Music Director of Italy's Teatro Regio Torino where he ushered in a transformative era for the company matched with international acclaim for its productions, tours, recordings, and film projects. His leadership resulted in a golden era for this opera house. Other institutions where he has had significant roles include the BBC Philharmonic which he led from 2002





to 2011; Principal Guest Conductor of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra from 2011 to 2020; the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, where the Victor de Sabata Chair was created for him as principal guest conductor from 2010 to 2014; and

# National Symphony Orchestra

In 2021, the National Symphony Orchestra celebrated its 90th anniversary and Gianandrea Noseda's fourth season as its music director. The Italian conductor serves as the Orchestra's seventh music director, joining the NSO's legacy of such distinguished leaders as

Christoph Eschenbach, Leonard Slatkin, Mstislav Rostropovich, Antal Doráti, Howard Mitchell, and Hans Kindler. Its artistic leadership also includes Principal Pops Conductor Steven Reineke and Artistic Advisor Ben Folds.



Since assuming the leadership of the NSO, Gianandrea Nosedà has brought a renewed sense of energy and focus to the orchestra, which has resulted in wide-

Nurit Bar-Josef

*Concertmaster*

Ying Fu

*Associate Concertmaster, The*

*Jeanne Weaver Ruesch Chair*

Ricardo Cyncynates

*Assistant Concertmaster*

Jane Bowyer Stewart

Teri Hopkins Lee

Yikszualzcl 3so(J)20ekarskyee

Aaron Goldman *Principal*  
Leah Arsenault Barrick  
*Assistant Principal*  
Alice Kogan Weinreb  
Carole Bean *Piccolo*

Nicholas Stovall *Principal*  
Jamie Roberts  
*Assistant Principal*  
Harrison Linsey  
Kathryn Meany Wilson  
*English Horn*

Lin Ma *Principal*  
Eugene Mondie  
*Assistant Principal*  
Paul Cigan  
Peter Cain *Bass Clarinet*

Sue Heineman *Principal*  
Steven Wilson  
*Acting Assistant Principal*  
Lewis Lipnick *Contrabassoon*

Abel Pereira *Principal*  
Laurel Bennert Ohlson  
*Associate Principal*  
Markus Osterlund  
James Nickel  
Scott Fearing  
Robert Rearden

William Gerlach *Principal*  
Tom Cupples  
Keith Jones

Craig Mulcahy *Principal*  
Kevin Carlson  
*Assistant Principal*  
David Murray  
Matthew Guilford  
*Bass Trombone*

Stephen Dumaine *Principal*

Jauvon Gilliam *Principal*  
Scott Christian  
*Assistant Principal*

Eric Shin *Principal*  
Scott Christian  
Joseph Connell \*

Lambert Orkis *Principal*  
Lisa Emenheiser \*

William Neil \*

Elizabeth Cusato Schnobrick  
*Principal*  
Susan Stokdyk *Associate*  
Karen Lee *Assistant*

\* Regularly engaged extra







CELEBRATING  
GEORGE  
WALKER  
@ 100

