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SHUNSKÉ SATO NAMED CREATIVE PARTNER OF THE TOKYO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Tokyo Symphony Orchestra (Chairman: Tetsuya Okazaki) announced today that Sato Shunske will become the Orchestra's creative partner, beginning in the 2027/28 season. The initial agreement is for three years.

Born in Tokyo, in 1984, Shunske Sato immigrated to the US at the age of four. Resident in The Netherlands, Shunske has been a faculty member of the Amsterdam Conservatory since 2013, where he teaches historical violin. In 2013 Shunske became concertmaster of the Netherlands Bach Society, and was appointed its artistic leader from 2018 to 2023, during which time he directed numerous works by J.S. Bach and contemporaries. Shunske is regularly invited as guest director by ensembles such as the Dutch Radio Philharmonic Orchestra, the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, the Netherlands Chamber Orchestra, the Residentie Orkest (The Hague), the Stavanger Symphony Orchestra (Norway), Orfeo Orchestra (Hungary), Philharmonia Baroque (USA), Australian Brandenburg Orchestra, and Orquestra Barocca de Sevilla. Shunske Sato is a violinist, a conductor, chamber musician, soloist and teacher – the diversity of his activities reflect his versatile and resourceful nature. Historically informed performance practice is central to his identity and allows him to inhabit the music and communicate with audiences in dramatic, revelatory ways.

His relationship with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra began with a highly acclaimed appearance at the orchestra's *Mozart Matinee* series in 2020, where his versatile and spontaneous performances as both violinist and conductor drew widespread praise. Since then, he has continued to collaborate with the orchestra, appearing together in five programs across six concerts. His appointment as Creative Partner marks the next chapter in this ongoing artistic relationship.

Shunske Sato commented: *"Since my performance with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra in 2020 in the "Mozart Matinee" series, I have had the fortune of working with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra on multiple occasions, including "The Masterpiece Classics" series and subscription concerts. Through the time spent together, it quickly became apparent that the desire to deepen our musical dialogue and collaboration was mutual.*

To become TSO's Creative Partner is an immense privilege, and I am looking intensely forward to

continuing on the path of musical exploration, and to building a rich musical language together with the orchestra over the coming years.

My wish as Creative Partner is to shed new light on familiar works, to bring lesser-known corners of our repertoire to the fore, and above all to engage and challenge both our audiences and ourselves. Each and every concert can (even better: must!) be a truly moving, thrilling experience for everyone present, and I am committed to making this come true, together with the TSO."

Yoshitaka Hirooka, Managing Director of the Tokyo Symphony comments, *"We are delighted to welcome Shunske Sato as our Creative Partner. In our work with Sato to date, we have explored ways of creating music without a conductor; with the musicians taking the initiative and shaping the performance collectively. This approach has brought out the individual spontaneity of each member of the orchestra and has resulted in vibrant and fresh musical performances. We look forward to further expanding the possibilities of the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra by taking on new challenges that go beyond the traditional framework of the symphony orchestra."*

公演	出演	プログラム
December 31, 2004 Niigata Sylvester Concert (Ryutopia Niigata)	Conductor: Kazuyoshi Akiyama Violin: Shunske Sato	Paganini: Violin Concerto No.2, 3rd Movement
October 30, 2005 Muse Masterpieces Series (Tokorozawa Muse)	Conductor: Norichika Iimori Violin: Shunske Sato	Sarasate: Zigeunerweisen
October 7, 2006 The Masterpiece Classics No.21(Muza Kawasaki)	Conductor: Seikyo Kim Violin: Shunske Sato	Glazunov: Violin Concerto in A Minor
January 18, 2020 Mozart Matinee #39 (Muza Kawasaki)	Violin (conducting from the violin): Shunske Sato	CPE Bach: Sinfonia in E flat major Thomas Linley Jr. : Violin Concerto in F major Mozart: Symphony No. 26 in E flat major Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 1 in B flat major
June 20, 2021 The Masterpiece Classics No.168(Muza Kawasaki)	Conductor & Violin: Shunske Sato	Rebel: Le Cahos from "Les Éléments" Haydn: Symphony No. 7 in C major, "Le midi" Vivaldi: The Four Seasons
March 18, 2023 Subscription Concert No.708(Suntory Hall)	Conductor & Violin: Shunske Sato	Spohr: Violin Concerto No.8 in A minor op.47 Beethoven : Symphony No.1 in C major op.21 Mendelssohn : Sinfonia No.8 in D major
March 2, 2025 Mozart Matinee #60 (Muza Kawasaki)	Conductor & Violin: Shunske Sato	Vaňhal: Symphony in D minor, Bryan d1 Mysliveček: Violin Concerto in E major Mozart: Symphony No. 38 in D major, "Prague"
October 18, 2025 Kawasaki Subscription Concert, No. 103 (Muza Kawasaki)	Conductor & Violin: Shunske Sato and more.	FLEMING: Fanfare from "Der vollkommene teutsche Jäger"
October 19, 2025 Niigata Subscription Concert 143rd (Ryutopia Niigata)		J.S.BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.1 FUX: Rondeau in C major J.S.BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.5 J.S.BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.3 TELEMANN: Concerto for 2 Oboes and Violin J.S.BACH: Brandenburg Concerto No.4

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