



OMAHA
SYMPHONY

Ankush Kumar Bahl, Music Director

program notes

2023/24 SEASON

Stewart Copeland: Police Deranged for Orchestra

Saturday, September 30, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.

Holland Performing Arts Center

Ernest Richardson, conductor | Stewart Copeland, drums

Selections to be announced from stage.



Ernest Richardson, conductor

Ernest Richardson is the principal pops conductor and resident conductor of the Omaha Symphony. Since 1993, he has been integral in the development of the Symphony's vaunted education and community engagement programs, in addition to his artistic leadership in the creation and curation of the successful Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks, and Movies Series. Richardson's innovation can be especially seen in the Symphony's Choral Collaborative, Celebrate Creativity, and Mission: Imagination programs, which remain mainstays of the organization's season.

In addition to his post in Omaha, Richardson holds the position of music director and principal conductor of the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. During his tenure, the organization has grown from a community orchestra to a resident professional orchestra, attracting the finest musicians from the Front Range of Colorado. He is also the founding artistic director and CEO of the Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory.

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Featured Artists



Stewart Copeland, drums

Stewart Copeland has spent more than three decades at the forefront of contemporary music as a rock star and acclaimed film composer, as well as in the disparate worlds of opera, ballet, and world and chamber music.

Recruiting Sting and Andy Summers in 1977, Copeland is renowned as the founder of The Police,

a band that became a defining force in rock music from the '80s through to the present day. His career includes the sale of more than 60 million records worldwide, and numerous awards, including five GRAMMY awards.

Copeland moved beyond the rock arena in the mid-1980s when he returned to his classical roots with creative pursuits in concert and film music. His concert works include *BEN-HUR: A Tale of the Christ*, which features Copeland as soloist in a live orchestral score for the 1925 silent film; *Tyrant's Crush: Concerto for Trapset and Orchestra* commissioned by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra; *Poltroons in Paradise* commissioned by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra; and *Gamelan D'Drum* commissioned by the Dallas Symphony Orchestra for the world percussion group D'Drum.

In 2017, The Chicago Opera Theatre premiered Copeland's surreal chamber opera *The Invention of Morel*, a co-commission with Long Beach Opera based on the novel by Adolfo Bioy Casares. Copeland has also written two operas based on stories by Edgar Allen Poe: *The Cask of Amontillado* and *The Tell-Tale Heart*.

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This printed program is a condensed version.

For more info about the orchestra, guest artists, and the full program notes, download the Omaha Symphony app or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

*program subject to change

