

Chris Peimann  
Director of Marketing and Publicity  
[cpeimann@TheSheldon.org](mailto:cpeimann@TheSheldon.org)  
Ph: 314.533.9900 ext. 19

Sarah Samples  
Marketing and Publicity Coordinator  
[ssamples@TheSheldon.org](mailto:ssamples@TheSheldon.org)  
Ph: 314.533.9900 ext. 21

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 17, 2013



**CONCERTMASTER DAVID HALEN OPENS "SHELDON CLASSICS"  
SERIES WITH STL 250 CELEBRATION**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents “Greatest Hits of 1764” featuring David Halen and members of the St. Louis Symphony, Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at 8 p.m. in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall. Violinist David Halen leads members of the St. Louis Symphony in Mozart's *Symphony No. 1*, written in 1764 when the wunderkind was only eight years old, and the same year that St. Louis was founded. Our small chamber orchestra of Symphony musicians also performs the first symphony by young composer Grant Bradshaw, as well as the music of Jean-Philippe Rameau, Johann Christian Bach and Franz Josef Haydn.

David Halen served as Assistant Concertmaster with the Houston Symphony Orchestra under Sergiu Comissiona and Christoph Eschenbach until 1991. He then came to St. Louis, where he was permanently named Concertmaster of the St. Louis Symphony in September 1995, without audition, and with the endorsement of then Music Directors Leonard Slatkin and Hans Vonk.

As co-founder and artistic director of the Innsbrook Institute, Halen coordinates a weeklong festival in June with exciting musical performances and an enclave for aspiring artists. In August, he acts as artistic director of the Missouri River Festival of the Arts in Boonville, Missouri. His numerous accolades include the 2002 St. Louis Arts and Entertainment Award for Excellence, and honorary doctorates from Central Missouri State University and from the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Halen plays a 1753 Giovanni Battista Guadagnini violin, made in Milan.

Tickets are \$30 orchestra/\$25 balcony/\$15 student, and are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon's website at [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org), or in person at The Fox Theatre Box Office, 534 N. Grand Blvd. For more information, call The Sheldon at 314-533-9900 or visit [TheSheldon.org](http://TheSheldon.org).

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*Sheldon Classics are underwritten in part by Wilfred and Ann Lee Konneker  
Commissioned work made possible by the Sinsquefield Charitable Foundation and the Missouri New Music Initiative  
Welcomed by RAF-STL  
Support provided by the Regional Arts Commission, Arts & Education Council,  
Missouri Arts Council and National Endowment for the Arts*