



## NSO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WELCOMES THE COMING SOCIAL SEASONS WITH STUNNING CONCERTS

***UAE Concerts to Feature Emirati Vocalist Ahmed Alhosani, a Sinatra Tribute and an Android Conductor!***

Abu Dhabi, UAE. 10 October 2021 – [The NSO Symphony Orchestra](#) is sure to thrill audiences across the UAE in the coming social seasons with a concert by one of the UAE's top vocalists, Ahmed Alhosani, a Sinatra tribute and even an Expo concert conducted by an Android!

NSO Founder & Executive Director, Mrs. Janet Hassouneh, said: "The NSO musicians have been longing to play again and now, with restrictions lifted, we have an abundance of concerts that will delight our loyal following of music lovers.

"However, with the diversity of our concert offering this autumn, we hope we attract even more people to enjoy our performances as we have something for most musical tastes!"

**The Sounds of the UAE and Cultural Foundation Classics 2021** on Friday 22 October at the Cultural Foundation Auditorium in Abu Dhabi, will feature emerging Emirati Vocalist Ahmed Alhosani. Conducted by NSO Music Director, Andrew Berryman, the 38-piece NSO Chamber Orchestra (UAE) & Chorus will accompany the classically trained Baritone.



Ahmed Alhosani will take the audience through well-loved Arabic classics, combined with contemporary Western songs, for a 'fusion' programme of international hits, as well as compositions from the region he has enhanced with his own lyrics in Arabic. Concertgoers will enjoy *Ya Hobi Eli Ghab* and *Bani Elaiz* with lyrics by Ahmed Alhosani, in addition to *Can't Help Falling in Love* and the classic *My Way*.

The NSO Symphony Orchestra will be on the Expo 2020 Main Stage on 11 December for Japan Day, performing **Shibuya Keiichiro's new Android Opera, Hope, conducted by an artificially intelligent (AI) Android!**

The orchestra had previously performed Keiichiro's opera 'Scary Beauty' for the Sharjah Arts Foundation's 'Sharjapan2' event in January 2020, exploring the relationship between terror and beauty and humanity's fear of being made redundant in the future. Our Android will continue to surprise on the Expo 2020 Main Stage in December!

The NSO Big Band is promising a night of pizzazz and high-impact sound for the stunning musical extravaganza '**Sinatra's Back in Town!**' on 14 January 2022 at the Etihad Arena on Yas Island.



Flying in especially for this tribute to Frank Sinatra's enduring musical legacy is New York-based Marc G. Dalio as 'Frank', supported by the UAE's very own Naz Holland as 'Nancy'.

[Marc G. Dalio](#) is a vocalist, musician, director and educator from New Jersey, USA. As a stage performer, his award-winning performances have seen him on stages across the USA and Europe. Some of his stage credits include: Broadway/Broadway National Tours of: Disney's Beauty & the Beast (Gaston and Beast) Best of Denver Award, National Broadway Theatre Award, Metrolina Theatre Award, and Les Miserables (Marius). In addition, he has performed in the regional and international productions of Miss Saigon (Chris), Chess (Anatoly), and West Side Story (Tony). He has performed as a soloist with the Vermont Philharmonic, the Encore Orchestra of New Jersey and the Philadelphia Orchestra.



Holding multiple degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education, Marc completed his undergraduate studies with honours at Rowan University in New Jersey, and his graduate work at Boston University. Alongside his on-stage career, Marc works as the Co-ordinator of Musical Theatre Studies and College of Arts and Sciences Executive Director for the Center for Music, Dance and Theatre at New Jersey City University.

Naz Holland was born in Cape Town, South Africa and achieved national recognition when reaching the top 10 in Coca Cola Popstars, which led to the formation of the highly successful group; Afro-Z. Following the release of its acclaimed debut album, Naz appeared at Nelson Mandela's 46664 concert, on SABC2's Christmas Concert with the Drakensberg Boys Choir and as support for Ja Rule's nationwide tour.



Upon release from her commitment to EMI Records, Naz embarked on a solo career as a session recording artist. She appeared with the Johannesburg Big Band and lent her voice to a number of household brands in the studio. Since relocating to the UAE in 2014, Naz has fronted the country's premier party band; Naz Holland and the Souled Out Band. The group has performed nationwide at the largest events in the public and corporate calendar including the main stage at the Abu Dhabi F1 Grand Prix, National Day at Yas Marina Circuit and the Dubai Tour.

The NSO Big Band will feature 20 of the UAE's top musicians, led by the incomparable Music Director and Conductor, Andrew Berryman, who will entertain the audience with fascinating snippets as he brings music lovers through the highlights of Sinatra's repertoire, including *Fly Me to the Moon*, *La Mer*, *Something Stupid*, and of course, *My Way* and *New York, New York!*

**Photo Captions:** Marc C. Dalio; Naz Holland; The NSO Big Band; Ahmed Alhosani

**Contact:** Frances Barton, [frances@nsouae.org](mailto:frances@nsouae.org); Mobile: 050 650 3900

#### **About NSO [www.nsouae.org](http://www.nsouae.org)**

NSO comprises the NSO Symphony Orchestra, the NSO Chamber Orchestra, the NSO Symphonic Pops Orchestra, the NSO Opera & Chorus and the NSO Music Agency. More than 100 musicians of some 20 nationalities, who live in six of the seven emirates, make up the various formations of NSO and are professional musicians and musical educators who have performed regularly for their own national orchestras.

NSO performs numerous major symphonic and operatic works, as well as a more popular classical and music theatre repertoire. Every concert endeavours to feature musical contributions from the UAE, whether a composer, solo singer or musician, such as a pianist or *Oud* player. NSO presents concerts throughout the year for the general public and is regularly called upon to perform for private, corporate and government events.

NSO also outsources, through its NSO Music Agency, smaller groups such as the NSO Symphonic Brass, the NSO Big Band, the NSO String Quartet, the NSO Jazz Ensemble, the NSO Three Tenors and the NSO Three Sopranos. NSO is the official supplier for Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi's 'Arts for Health' programme, providing musicians for inspiring live music performances for patients and their families.

Entrepreneur and former Opera Singer Janet Hassouneh founded NSO in 2011 to meet the region's cultural aspirations. Originally from the USA, where she obtained her master's in musical performance, she has worked in the music business in the UAE for the past 30 years, performing, teaching and organising music theatre and opera concerts featuring international guest artists from New York and London. Numerous performances were staged for charitable causes, under the auspices of the UAE authorities.

**About twofour54 [www.twofour54.com](http://www.twofour54.com)**

Twofour54, home to Abu Dhabi's media and entertainment industry, aims to cultivate Abu Dhabi's media free zone and provide products and services to attract local, regional and international media businesses to the emirate. Tasked with enabling a new generation of creative leaders and building Abu Dhabi as the Middle East's leading hub for content creation, twofour54 provides world-class production facilities, talent development initiatives and training, and business support services for media companies.

Since establishment, twofour54 is home to more than 450 Arabic and international media and entertainment companies including Sky News Arabia, Image Nation, Ubisoft, CNN, Fox, Flash Entertainment, M&C Saatchi, and Flat6Labs, in addition to a pool of 600 bilingual talented freelancers.

Twofour54 is operated under the ownership of Media Zone Authority–Abu Dhabi, a government entity.

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