



NSO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA TO OPEN SEASON WITH 'A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES III'

*Orchestra to perform thrilling movie classics & world premiere
On 9 October at Emirates Palace Hotel Auditorium*

Abu Dhabi, UAE. 28 Sept 2015 –Swirling strings, dramatic drums and blaring brass will open NSO's 2015-16 season with a flourish when it brings back the much-loved A Night at the Movies for the third year running on Friday 9 October at the Emirates Palace Hotel Auditorium, Abu Dhabi.

The 60-piece NSO Symphony Orchestra will perform popular film music and orchestral classics, such as *Gladiator*, *The Pink Panther*, *Star Wars* and Disney's *Fantasia*, featuring excerpts from *Peer Gynt*, *Danse Macabre* and *Pines of Rome*.

Led by Musical Director Andrew Berryman, the NSO Symphony Orchestra will also perform the world premiere of a suite from the new sci-fi film *The Drift*, especially written in concert form for the NSO by the film score's award-winning composer [James Griffiths](#) who will be attending the performance.

A Night at the Movies III is sponsored by [Universal Hospital](#) as Presenting Sponsor, and [Gulf Capital](#) as Platinum Sponsor.

Janet Hassouneh, NSO Founder and Executive Director, said: "A Night at the Movies has become a firm fixture on the UAE's calendar of musical events due to its popularity among music lovers across the emirates who appreciate hearing wonderful movie and orchestral classics, played to perfection by NSO's masterly musicians.

"I would like to express my appreciation for the support of our Presenting Sponsor, Universal Hospital, and our Platinum Sponsor, Gulf Capital, without whom we could not perform."

The NSO Symphony Orchestra is part of the [NSO](#), which forges artistic links internationally to entertain, inspire, educate and promote music making across the UAE.

Dr Shabeer Nellikode, MD & CEO of Universal Hospital, said: "Universal Hospital is pleased to partner with the NSO Symphony Orchestra and proud to announce its partnership as 'Presenting Sponsor' for the upcoming events. We are extremely excited to endorse its vision of positioning UAE as a centre of excellence among the world's music and the role it can play in healthcare."

Dr Karim El Solh, Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Capital, said: "Gulf Capital is delighted to be supporting Abu Dhabi's home grown National Symphony Orchestra (NSO). We have been supporting young Emirati talent through our social responsibility programmes that span art, culture, education and training. Our partnership agreement with the NSO falls within this strategy and we are proud to be supporting and partnering with the NSO Symphony Orchestra."

A Night at the Movies III will be performed at a matinee at 4.30pm and a Gala Evening at 8pm on Friday 9 October at the Emirates Palace Hotel Auditorium.

Tickets for the matinee: Platinum Dhs200; Gold Dhs150; Silver Dhs100; Balcony Dhs50. Tickets for the Gala: Platinum Dhs300; Gold Dhs200; Silver Dhs125; Balcony Dhs75. All are available at: [Timeouttickets.com](https://www.timeouttickets.com); [ticketmaster.ae](https://www.ticketmaster.ae); Spinneys Khalidiya, www.nsouae.org; and at the concert box office.

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About NSO 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.

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. NSO UAE was formed to reciprocate the government's hospitality.

About Universal Hospital www.universalhospitals.com

Since its inception in 2013, Universal Hospital has established a name for itself as a multi-specialty health care facility where technology and comfort provide a seamless culture of improved care. The tertiary care facility in Abu Dhabi is rapidly paving the way for better service to the ailing with care and compassion. It is equipped with a pharmacy, 24-hour emergency and ambulance services, a fully equipped Laboratory and Radiology Department with a 128 slice CT scan, a 1.5 Tesla MRI, a Dual Plane Cath Lab, a Digital Fluoroscopy, a Digital Mammography with Stereotactic Biopsy, a Dialysis Unit, and advanced delivery suites, among other services.

The hospital information system has been designed keeping in mind the need to evolve and adapt according to the dynamic requirements of a digital health care enterprise. Records are digitalized for faster and smoother benchmarking in different areas. In addition to the sophisticated infrastructure, Universal Hospital has a highly qualified medical and nursing team, committed to quality service and patient safety. Each department boasts physicians who have ample experience in their respective area of expertise. Universal Hospital is set to take the next leap in health care standards and expand its complete care package with a view to reaching out to the ailing across communities. A new tower has

been added to the Abu Dhabi facility, and the hospital is also spreading its wings across Dubai (Gulf Medical Center), Sharjah (Lifeline Clinic) and Baniyas (Universal Hospital Clinics LLC). The clinics provide personalized care services by qualified doctors ranging from general practitioners to visiting specialists.

About Gulf Capital www.gulfcapital.com

Gulf Capital is a leading alternative asset manager focused on the Middle East region, investing across several asset classes including Private Equity, Credit and Mezzanine and Real Estate. The Company currently manages over \$3.5 billion of assets across 7 funds and investment vehicles. Gulf Capital's mission is to grow capital and build value with world-class expertise and best practices to generate sustainable superior performance for all stakeholders. Gulf Capital invests its own capital alongside its fund investors' capital in all of the funds it launches. In Private Equity, Gulf Capital is focused on acquiring strategic stakes in highly profitable and rapidly growing companies within a select number of fast-growing industries in the GCC and Egypt and through deep operational and financial improvements, on accelerating and enhancing their profitability and size.

Gulf Capital was awarded the "Best Private Equity Firm in the Middle East" Award by Banker Middle East Magazine in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 and the "Best Private Equity Firm" in the Middle East and North Africa by Private Equity International.

The Firm is actively involved in real estate development through Gulf Related, its joint venture with the Related Companies, the leading private real estate developer in the United States. Gulf Related is focused on pursuing marquee large-scale mixed-use and residential real estate development opportunities in the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Gulf Capital also launched a Credit and Mezzanine Business, Gulf Credit Partners, to meet the financing needs of fast-growing companies and to provide acquisition finance across the Middle East. With its private equity, real estate and credit initiatives, Gulf Capital is today one of the largest and most diversified alternative investment managers in the Middle East.

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