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**ANOUSHKA SHANKAR MAKES HER SHELDON DEBUT,
CLOSES THE WHITAKER WORLD MUSIC CONCERTS SERIES**

ST. LOUIS – The Sheldon presents **Anoushka Shankar** on the “Whitaker World Music Concerts” series, in the perfect acoustics of the Sheldon Concert Hall on Thursday, March 14 at 8 p.m. Thanks to a generous grant from the Whitaker Foundation, The Sheldon is pleased to bring the best music from around the globe directly to its stage. This season’s three concert series seeks to introduce audiences to the music and culture of the world community.

Sitar player and composer Anoushka Shankar is a singular figure in the Indian classical and progressive world music scenes. Her dynamic and spiritual musicality has garnered several prestigious accolades, including six Grammy Award nominations, recognition as the youngest and first female recipient of a British House of Commons Shield, credit as an Asian Hero by *TIME Magazine*, and a Songlines Best Artist Award. Most recently, she became one of the first five female composers to have been added to the UK A-level music syllabus. Through her bold and collaborative approach as a composer, Shankar has encouraged cross-cultural dialogue while demonstrating the versatility of the sitar across musical genres. As a result, she has created a vital body of work with a prominent roster of artists including Sting, M.I.A, Herbie Hancock, Pepe Habichuela, Karsh Kale, Rodrigo y Gabriela and Joshua Bell.

Deeply rooted in the Indian Classical music tradition, Shankar studied exclusively from the age of 9 under her father and guru, Ravi Shankar. She made her professional debut as a classical sitarist at the age of 13, and by the age of 20 had made three classical recordings and received her first Grammy nomination, thereby becoming the first Indian female and youngest-ever nominee in the World Music category. In 2005, she released her self-produced breakthrough album *Rise*, which earned her a second Grammy nomination that led to Shankar to perform as the first Indian artist at the Grammy Awards.

Single tickets are \$45 orchestra 1/\$40 orchestra 2/\$35 balcony 1/\$30 balcony 2/\$15 student. Tickets are on sale now through MetroTix at 314-534-1111, through The Sheldon’s website at 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.

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