



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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PIERRE BOULEZ LEADS TWO WEEKS OF PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTING SCHOENBERG AND MAHLER

**Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire* presented on CSO and
Beyond the Score concerts February 24–28**

**Actor John Lithgow narrates Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale*
February 25 and 28, directed by Annabel Arden**

Boulez leads Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* March 1–3

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CHICAGO — Helen Regenstein Conductor Emeritus **Pierre Boulez** returns to Symphony Center for a two-week residency highlighting works by Schoenberg, Stravinsky and Mahler that particularly focus on theatricality in music.

Boulez begins his residency with a presentation of Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire* as part of the CSO's award-winning *Beyond the Score* series on [Friday, February 24 at 1:30 p.m.](#) and [Sunday, February 26 at 3 p.m.](#) The work will be staged on the first half of the program with four actors mirroring the instrumentalists, with projected surfaces evoking the streets and cafés of 1912 Vienna and Berlin, where the piece was originally intended to be performed. This presentation aims to completely immerse concertgoers in the drama and emotions of Schoenberg's groundbreaking work, conceived by *Beyond the Score* Creative Director **Gerard McBurney** with lighting by veteran stage designer **Peter Mumford** and featuring Chicago-based actor **Kevin Gudahl** as Schoenberg.

On [Saturday, February 25 at 8 p.m.](#) and [Tuesday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m.](#), Boulez leads a program of two works for smaller ensemble, both staged as pieces of musical theater. On the first half, *Pierrot lunaire* is reprised with projections and translations as conceived by McBurney. In both the *Beyond the Score* and CSO subscription concerts, the ensemble is soprano **Kiera Duffy**—making her CSO debut—pianist **Pierre-Laurent Aimard**, and CSO members **Robert Chen** (concertmaster), **Mathieu Dufour** (principal flute), **J. Lawrie Bloom** (clarinet) and **John Sharp** (principal cello).

On the second half of that program, **John Lithgow**—winner of multiple Emmy and Tony awards—narrates *The Soldier's Tale*, Stravinsky's musical retelling of the story of a soldier who sells his violin to the devil. Directed by acclaimed British actress and director **Annabel Arden** with lighting by Mumford, Lithgow is joined by actors **Kevin Gudahl** and **Adam van Wagener** for an innovative staging of this work that combines music, theater and light.

The second week of Boulez's residency concludes with a performance of Mahler's symphonic song-cycle *Das Lied von der Erde* featuring mezzo-soprano **Michelle DeYoung** and tenor **Stuart Skelton** in his CSO subscription concert debut. In performances on [Thursday, March 1 at 8 p.m.](#), [Friday, March 2 at 1:30 p.m.](#) and [Saturday, March 3 at 8 p.m.](#), pianist **Pierre-Laurent Aimard** stays for a second week with Boulez and the CSO, performing Schoenberg's Piano Concerto.

Appointed the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Helen Regenstein Conductor Emeritus in 2006, **PIERRE BOULEZ** is a composer, conductor, tireless advocate for new music and one of the most important musical and intellectual figures of our time. Boulez was named principal guest conductor of the CSO in March 1995, only the third person in the Orchestra's history to hold that title. An eloquent and passionate advocate of the music of the 20th and 21st centuries, Boulez has become one of Chicago's most popular conductors in his annual residencies with the Orchestra. Born in France in 1925, Boulez studied mathematics and later pursued studies in piano, composition and choral conducting at the Paris Conservatory. He was principal guest conductor and musical advisor of the Cleveland Orchestra from 1969 until 1972. In 1971, he became chief conductor of the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and that same year, he succeeded Leonard Bernstein as music director of the New York Philharmonic, a position he held until 1977.

His difference of opinion about state intervention in the arts in France, as espoused by André Malraux, led Boulez into voluntary exile for several years. He returned in triumph in 1974, when the government decided to build a music research center at the Pompidou Centre and invited Boulez to be its creator and director. From the Institut de Recherche et de Coordination Acoustique/Musique (IRCAM) sprang the creation of a major and permanent instrumental group, the Ensemble Intercontemporain, which Boulez has conducted in France as well as on extended tours abroad. In 1991, Boulez resigned as conductor of the Ensemble Intercontemporain, while continuing as its president. Boulez is also co-founder of Cité de la Musique, a music center in Paris created in 1995. His many awards and honors include honorary doctorates from Leeds, Cambridge, Basel and Oxford universities, among others; Commander of the British Empire; and Knight of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany. His vast discography includes prizewinning recordings of *Parsifal* from Bayreuth and Berg's *Lulu* (world-premiere recording). He has won 26 Grammy Awards since 1967; eight of those were with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Boulez's most recent recording with the CSO is an all-Stravinsky album including *Pulcinella*, *Four Études* and the *Symphony in Three Movements*, released in January 2010 on the CSO Resound label.

American soprano **KIERA DUFFY** is recognized for both her gleaming high soprano and insightful musicianship in repertoire that encompasses Handel, Bach and Mozart to the modern sounds of Berg, Glass and Zorn. Highlights of this season include her debuts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in Schoenberg's *Pierrot lunaire* under Pierre Boulez and the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center in Handel's *Messiah*, as well as joining the roster of the Metropolitan Opera in their new original baroque fantasy *The Enchanted Island*. Duffy's first commercial recording, *Richard Strauss: The Complete Songs, Volume 5* with pianist Roger Vignoles, was released on Hyperion Records in October 2011, following her very successful Wigmore Hall debut in 2010. She has appeared with many of the major orchestras around the world that include the New York Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, American Symphony Orchestra, Boston Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony and National Symphony Orchestra under the batons of conductors such as Lorin Maazel, Pierre Boulez, James Levine, Michael Tilson Thomas, Roberto Abbado, Alan Gilbert, Kristjan Järvi, Andreas Delfs and Leon Botstein. Duffy was a finalist in the 2007 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions and is featured in the film *The Audition* which is available on DVD by Decca. She holds a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from Westminster Choir College.

PIERRE-LAURENT AIMARD enjoys an internationally celebrated career that transcends traditional boundaries. Performing throughout the world with the most significant orchestras and conductors, Aimard has also been invited to create, direct and perform in groundbreaking residencies: recent venues include Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Wiener Konzerthaus, Berliner Philharmonie, Opéra de Paris, Lucerne Festival, Mozarteum Salzburg, Cité de la Musique and Southbank Centre. Aimard holds professorships at the Hochschule Köln and Conservatoire de Paris and has taught at the College de France, Paris. He was the recipient of the Royal Philharmonic Society's Instrumentalist Award in spring 2005 and was named Instrumentalist of the Year by *Musical America* in 2007. He was presented with Germany's Schallplattenkritik Honorary Prize in December 2009. Born in Lyon in 1957, he studied at the Paris Conservatoire with Yvonne Loriod and in London with Maria Curcio. Early career landmarks included winning first prize in the 1973 Messiaen Competition and being appointed at the age of 19 by Pierre Boulez to become the Ensemble Intercontemporain's first solo pianist. For more than 15 years, Aimard

collaborated closely with György Ligeti, recording his complete works for piano. He now records exclusively for Deutsche Grammophon.

JOHN LITHGOW is an actor with a broad range of interests and talents in every area of the entertainment industry. At heart, Lithgow is a theatre actor. In 1973, he won a Tony Award three weeks after his Broadway debut, in David Storey's *The Changing Room*. Since then, he has appeared on Broadway 18 more times, earning another Tony, three more Tony nominations, four Drama Desk Awards and induction into the Theatre Hall of Fame. Most recently, Lithgow has presented his critically acclaimed one man show, *John Lithgow: STORIES BY HEART* at Lincoln Center London's National Theatre and at the Music Center in Los Angeles in winter 2011. Lithgow has appeared in over 30 films. He was nominated for Oscars in back-to-back years, for *The World According to Garp* and *Terms of Endearment*. For his work on television, Lithgow has won five Emmy awards, including three for his role on *3rd Rock from the Sun*. Most recently he starred in the critically acclaimed Showtime series *Dexter* for which he won Emmy and Golden Globe awards. Since 1998, he has written seven *New York Times* best-selling children's picture books, including *The Remarkable Farkle McBride*, *Marsupial Sue*, *Micawber* and *I'm a Manatee* and his most recent *I Got Two Dogs*. He has created two *Lithgow Palooza* activity books for parents and children along with *Lithgow Palooza Readers* for use in elementary schools. All of this work has won him two Parents' Choice Silver Honor Awards and four Grammy Award nominations. He has released three kids' albums, *Singin' in the Bathtub*, *Farkle & Friends* and the Grammy-nominated *The Sunny Side of the Street*, released by Razor & Tie Records.

ANNABEL ARDEN's distinguished career encompasses opera, theater and broadcasting as well as acting, and devising new work. On leaving Cambridge University she cofounded Theatre de Complicité. As an actress, deviser and director Arden has been associated with many of its most celebrated and award-winning productions from *The Visit* (1988) to *The Winter's Tale* (1991) and *Mnemonic* (1999). Further study followed in Paris with Philippe Gaulier, Monika Pagneux and Jacques Lecoq. She made her opera directing début with *The Magic Flute* for Opera North, and subsequently directed *The Return of Ulysses*, *La Traviata* and *The Cunning Little Vixen*, which toured to Barcelona in 2001. Her production of Beethoven's *Leonore* with John Eliot Gardiner toured in Europe and New York. She has also directed operas in Luzern, Florence and Turin. Work in Britain includes *The Rake's Progress* for English National Opera and three productions for Glyndebourne Festival and on tour, most recently *L'elisir d'amore*. As a theater director, her work has included directing Diana Quick in *Picasso's Women* the National Theatre London and *The Art of War* for the Sydney Theatre Company in 2007. She will direct a new production of *La bohème* for Welsh National Opera in 2012.

PETER MUMFORD trained as a stage designer at the Central School of Art in London, studying under Ralph Koltai, in the late 1960s. In 1969, during his last year at art school, he became a founding member of the mixed media experimental theater group Moving Being (director Geoff Moore), with whom he worked as designer and lighting and projection designer on all productions until 1978, moving to Cardiff with the company in 1972. After that he continued to work with Moving Being on a project basis while beginning a wider-based freelance career. In the late 1970s, he became a part-time member of the faculty of the London Contemporary School of Dance at The Place. When the company Second Stride was formed in the early 1980s, Mumford was a founding collaborator as lighting designer. Also in the '80s, he designed the lighting for a huge number of dance works for companies such as London Contemporary Dance Theatre, Rambert, Second Stride and Siobhan Davies Co. In 1987, he co-founded Dancelines Productions, a film/TV production company committed to creating and producing dance for television. He produced and directed many programs/films for Dancelines for both Channel Four and BBC2 up until the mid-1990. During that period the work won many awards including an Emmy nomination for the directing the TV adaptation of Mathew Bourne's *Swan Lake*. Mumford's work is now predominantly in the area of lighting design, but still designs sets on certain projects and most recently was director of photography for Francesca Zambello's film of *The Little Prince*.

STUART SKELTON is acknowledged as one of the finest heldentenors of his generation, being critically acclaimed for his outstanding musicianship, tonal beauty and intensely dramatic portrayals. Skelton has appeared in many of the world's most celebrated opera houses including the Metropolitan Opera, English National Opera, Paris Opera, Dresden Semperoper and the Vienna State Opera. His roles include the title roles in *Lohengrin*, *Rienzi*, *Parsifal*, *Dmitrij* and *Peter Grimes* as well as Florestan in *Fidelio*, Laca in *Jenufa* and Erik in *Der Fliegende Holländer*. He continues to be in demand on concert stages around the world, appearing with such orchestras as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Berlin Philharmonic and London Symphony Orchestra. He has also appeared at the Edinburgh and Lucerne Festivals, and in the BBC Proms. His recording of Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony was released on the Symphony's own label and a recording of the same work, with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra under Vladimir Ashkenazy, was released late

in 2010. He has been honored with the Sir Robert Helpmann Award in 2005 and 2010. Also in 2010, he received a Green Room Award and was nominated for an Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Opera.

MICHELLE DeYOUNG has already established herself as one of the most exciting artists of her generation. She has appeared with many of the world's leading orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestre de Paris, Berliner Staatskapelle, Sao Paulo Symphony and the Concertgebouworkest. She has also appeared in the prestigious festivals of Ravinia, Tanglewood, Aspen, Cincinnati, Saito Kinen, Edinburgh, Salzburg and Lucerne. DeYoung has also appeared with many of the finest opera houses of the world including the Metropolitan Opera, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Houston Grand Opera, the Seattle Opera, the Glimmerglass Opera, La Scala, the Bayreuth Festival, Berliner Staatsoper, the Opera National de Paris, the Théâtre du Châtelet and the Tokyo Opera. Her recording of *Kindertotenlieder* and Mahler's Symphony No. 3 with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony for SFS Media was awarded the 2003 Grammy Award for Best Classical Album. She has also been awarded the 2001 Grammy Awards for Best Classical Album and Best Opera Recording for *Les Troyens* with Sir Colin Davis and the London Symphony Orchestra. Her growing discography also includes a recording of Mahler Symphony No 3 with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Bernard Haitink on CSO Resound. Her first solo disc was released on the EMI label.

A musical force in Chicago and around the world, the **CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** has been consistently hailed as one of the finest international orchestras since its founding in 1891. In collaboration with renowned conductors and guest artists on the international music scene, the CSO performs well over 150 concerts each year at its home, Symphony Center, and in summer residency at the Ravinia Festival. With the launch of the Institute for Learning, Access and Training, the CSO engages more than 200,000 Chicago-area residents annually. Music lovers outside Chicago enjoy the sounds of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra not only through its Chicago Symphony Orchestra Radio Broadcast Series and best-selling recordings on its acclaimed in-house record label CSO Resound, but also through sold-out tour performances in the United States and around the globe. Since 1971, the CSO has undertaken 37 overseas tours: 28 to Europe, six to the Far East, as well as one each to Russia, Australia and South America. Bank of America is the global sponsor of the CSO. For more information about the CSO, visit cso.org.

Complete program details follow:

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Beyond the Score
An Exuberant Era: 1911/12

Friday, February 24, 2012, 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 26, 2012, 3 p.m.

Pierre Boulez, conductor

Kiera Duffy, soprano

Pierre-Laurent Aimard, piano

Robert Chen, violin and viola

Mathieu Dufour, flute and piccolo

J. Lawrie Bloom, clarinet and bass clarinet

John Sharp, cello

Gerard McBurney, creative director

Kevin Gudahl, actor

Peter Mumford, lighting designer

SCHOENBERG *Pierrot lunaire*

Tickets: \$24–\$130

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
An Exuberant Era: 1911/12

Saturday, February 25, 2012, 8 p.m.
Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 7:30 p.m.

Pierre Boulez, conductor
Kiera Duffy, soprano
Pierre-Laurent Aimard, piano
Robert Chen, violin and viola
Mathieu Dufour, flute and piccolo
J. Lawrie Bloom, clarinet and bass clarinet
John Sharp, cello
Stephen Williamson, clarinet
David McGill, bassoon
Christopher Martin, trumpet
Michael Mulcahy, trombone
Michael Hovnanian, bass
Cynthia Yeh, percussion
John Lithgow, narrator
Kevin Gudahl, *The Devil*
Adam von Wagoner, actor
Annabel Arden, director
Peter Mumford, lighting designer

SCHOENBERG *Pierrot lunaire*
STRAVINSKY *The Soldier's Tale*

Tickets: \$28–\$209

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
An Exuberant Era: 1911/12

Thursday, March 1, 2012, 8 p.m.
Friday, March 2, 2012, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 3, 2012, 8 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Pierre Boulez, conductor
Pierre-Laurent Aimard, piano
Michelle DeYoung, mezzo-soprano
Stuart Skelton, tenor

SCHOENBERG *Piano Concerto*
MAHLER *Das Lied von der Erde*

Tickets: \$25–\$205

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TICKETS for all 2011/12 Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Symphony Center Presents and Civic Orchestra of Chicago concerts can be purchased by calling CSO ticketing services at **312-294-3000** or **800-223-7114**, online at cso.org, or by visiting the Symphony Center box office at 220 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60604. Discounted student tickets for select concerts can be purchased, subject to availability, online in advance or at the box office on the day of the concert. For group rates, please call 312-294-3040. Artists, programs and ticket prices are subject to change.

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