



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

220 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60604-2559

News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 22, 2011

Press Contacts:

[Rachel Roe](#)

**RICCARDO MUTI LEADS
CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ON FIRST
OVERSEAS TOUR AS MUSIC DIRECTOR,
AUGUST 22–SEPTEMBER 7, 2011**

**CSO's 28th European Tour Includes Performances in Salzburg,
Lucerne, Luxembourg, Paris, Dresden and Vienna**

Follow the Orchestra Online at cso.org/Europe2011

Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the CSO

CHICAGO — From August 22 to September 7, 2011, Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) take their first European tour together since Maestro Muti became the Orchestra's music director in September 2010. Tour performances are scheduled in Salzburg, Austria at the Salzburg Festival; Lucerne, Switzerland at the Lucerne Festival; Luxembourg at the Philharmonie; Paris at the Salle Pleyel; Dresden at the Semperoper, as part of the Dresden Music Festival; and Vienna at the world-renowned Musikverein.

CSO fans at home and around the world can follow the Orchestra's tour online via a special tour website that features photos and video clips of the musicians' activities on the road. Visit cso.org/Europe2011, or follow the CSO Facebook page or Twitter feed to get up-to-date information about where they are and what they are doing, as well as media coverage of the tour.

Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the CSO. The Salzburg and Lucerne performances are supported by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation through *USArtists International* in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

RICCARDO MUTI
Music Director

WILLIAM A. OSBORN
Chairman

DEBORAH F. RUTTER
President

YO-YO MA
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

“Embarking on a tour with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is always exciting, but this one—our first overseas tour with our new Music Director Riccardo Muti—is very special,” said Deborah F. Rutter, president of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association. “Serving as our great city’s cultural ambassadors in such prestigious cultural capitals of the world—Salzburg, Lucerne, Paris, Vienna, Luxembourg and Dresden—is a cornerstone of Maestro Muti’s vision for the CSO. Being able to share the unparalleled music making by Maestro Muti and the Orchestra beyond the walls of our Symphony Center home is a privilege, but is not a small undertaking. This tour would not be possible without the support of our global sponsor, Bank of America, who has been an extraordinary partner to us and to whom we are deeply grateful.”

“We are proud to be the Global Sponsor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and to be supporting Maestro Muti’s first overseas tour as the CSO’s music director to some of Europe’s most prestigious venues,” said Rena de Sisto, Global Arts and Culture Executive for Bank of America. “For over a decade, Bank of America has been a corporate partner of the CSO in the U.S. and now, as Global Sponsor, is embarking on the most significant sponsorship in CSO history, providing unprecedented support for the orchestra’s events both at home and abroad. This European tour will give audiences across several countries the opportunity to share in a unique and significant cultural experience, and is a perfect example of how arts, music and culture can help to reach across borders to our clients, our employees and to the many local communities where we operate. By supporting this tour, as well as the arts more widely, Bank of America strives to promote greater cultural understanding worldwide in the firm belief that this will lead to improved economic opportunities.”

The first concerts of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s tour take place at the **Salzburg** Festival, on [Friday, August 26](#) and [Saturday, August 27](#). Maestro Muti leads the CSO in its first appearances at the festival since 1994 in a program of Bernard Rands’ *Danza Petrificada*, a work commissioned by the CSO and premiered during the 2010/11 season which pays tribute to the music and rhythms of Mexico. This program also includes Strauss’ tone poem, *Death and Transfiguration*, and Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 5. The second concert features Hindemith’s Symphony in E-flat and Prokofiev’s Suite from *Romeo and Juliet*.

The Orchestra then travels to **Lucerne** for two performances at the Kultur & Kongresszentrum as part of the prestigious Lucerne Festival. On [Sunday, August 28](#), the Orchestra performs the Rands, Strauss and Shostakovich program. The concert on [Monday, August 29](#) features Hindemith’s Symphony in E-flat Major and Strauss’ *Aus Italien*, the composer’s musical tribute to the beauty of Italy. The CSO last appeared at the Lucerne Festival in 2009.

The CSO makes two debut appearances on this tour; the first is in **Luxembourg** at the Philharmonie with two performances on [Tuesday, August 30](#) and [Wednesday, August 31](#). Maestro Muti leads the Hindemith and Prokofiev’s Suite from *Romeo and Juliet* the first night and the Rands, Strauss and Shostakovich program on the second.

The Orchestra then travels to **Paris** for a one-night-only performance at the Salle Pleyel. On [Friday, September 2](#), Maestro Muti and the Orchestra perform the program of music by Rands, Strauss and Shostakovich. The CSO last appeared at the Salle Pleyel in 2009.

Dresden, Germany marks the CSO's second debut on this European tour. Dresden's opera house, the Semperoper, is the venue for a one-night-only performance by Maestro Muti and the Orchestra on [Saturday, September 3](#), as part of the Dresden Music Festival. The program features music by Hindemith and Prokofiev.

The CSO's 2011 European tour concludes with performances at **Vienna's** legendary concert hall, the Musikverein, on [Monday, September 5](#), featuring the Rands, Strauss and Shostakovich, and [Tuesday, September 6](#), with the Hindemith and Prokofiev program. The CSO last appeared at the Musikverein in 2009.

Born in Naples, Italy, **RICCARDO MUTI** first came to the attention of critics and public in 1967, when he won the Guido Cantelli Competition for conductors in Milan. In 1971, Muti was invited by Herbert von Karajan to conduct at the Salzburg Festival; his association with the Vienna Philharmonic and the festival continues today. Muti has served as principal conductor of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, chief conductor of the Philharmonia Orchestra, music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra and music director of the Teatro alla Scala. In 2006, he was appointed artistic director of Salzburg's Pentecost Festival.

Over the course of his extraordinary career, Riccardo Muti has conducted the most prominent orchestras in the world, from the Berlin Philharmonic to the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic to the Orchestre National de France. Maestro Muti made his debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at the Ravinia Festival in July 1973. His appointment as the CSO's tenth music director was announced in May 2008, and in September 2010, he assumed the post for a five-year contract. Maestro Muti and the CSO's first recording together—Verdi's *Messa da Requiem*—on the CSO Resound label was awarded two Grammy awards, marking Muti's first such honor. In March 2011, Riccardo Muti was selected as the second-ever winner of the Birgit Nilsson Prize, awarded by the Birgit Nilsson Foundation every two or three years to a singer or conductor who has had a significant impact in the classical field. In July 2011, he was named an honorary member of the Vienna Philharmonic.

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 36 overseas tours: 27 to Europe, six to the Far East, as well as one each to Russia, Australia and South America. This tour marks the 28th trip to Europe, and 37th overseas tour overall. Bank of America is the global sponsor of the CSO. For more information about the CSO, visit cso.org.

As one of the world's largest financial institutions and a major supporter of arts and culture, **BANK OF AMERICA** has a vested interest and plays a meaningful role in the international dialogue on cultural understanding. As a global company, Bank of America demonstrates its commitment to the arts by supporting such efforts as after-school arts programs, grants to help expand libraries, programs to conserve artistic heritage as well as a campaign to encourage museum attendance. Bank of America offers customers free access to more than 150 of the nation's finest cultural institutions through its acclaimed *Museums on Us*® program, while *Art in our Communities*® shares exhibits from the company's corporate collection with communities across the globe through local museum partners. The Bank of America Charitable Foundation also provides philanthropic support to museums, theaters and other arts-related nonprofits to expand their services and offerings to schools and communities. Bank of America partners with more than 6,000 arts institutions worldwide.

Tour Itinerary

Grosses Festspielhaus
Salzburg, Austria

Friday, August 26, 2011, 8:30 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

RANDS *Danza Petrificada* [CSO Commission]
STRAUSS *Death and Transfiguration*, Op. 24
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*, Op. 47

Saturday, August 27, 2011, 8 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

HINDEMITH *Symphony in E-flat*
PROKOFIEV *Suite from Romeo and Juliet*

Kultur & Kongresszentrum
Lucerne, Switzerland

Sunday, August 28, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

RANDS *Danza Petrificada* [CSO Commission]
STRAUSS *Death and Transfiguration*, Op. 24
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*, Op. 47

Monday, August 29, 2011, 7:30 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

HINDEMITH *Symphony in E-flat*
STRAUSS *Aus Italien*, Op. 16

Philharmonie Luxembourg
Luxembourg

Tuesday, August 30, 2011, 8 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

HINDEMITH *Symphony in E-flat*
PROKOFIEV *Suite from Romeo and Juliet*

Wednesday, August 31, 2011, 8 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

RANDS *Danza Petrificada* [CSO Commission]
STRAUSS *Death and Transfiguration*, Op. 24
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*, Op. 47

**Salle Pleyel
Paris, France**

Friday, September 2, 2011, 8 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

RANDS *Danza Petrificada* [CSO Commission]
STRAUSS *Death and Transfiguration*, Op. 24
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*, Op. 47

**Semperoper
Dresden, Germany**

Saturday, September 3, 2011, 9 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

HINDEMITH *Symphony in E-flat*
PROKOFIEV *Suite from Romeo and Juliet*

**Grosser Musikvereinssaal
Vienna, Austria**

Monday, September 5, 2011, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

RANDS *Danza Petrificada* [CSO Commission]
STRAUSS *Death and Transfiguration*, Op. 24
SHOSTAKOVICH *Symphony No. 5 in D Minor*, Op. 47

Tuesday, September 6, 2011, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

HINDEMITH *Symphony in E-flat*
PROKOFIEV *Suite from Romeo and Juliet*

###