



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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# News

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## CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA NAMES NEW ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTER AND PRINCIPAL CLARINET

CHICAGO – Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra announce the appointments of two new musicians to the CSO roster: violinist Stephanie Jeong has been named associate concertmaster and clarinetist Stephen Williamson has been named principal clarinet. These two appointments mark Maestro Muti's first since becoming the CSO's music director in 2010; he also appointed the CSO's second oboe in 2009 when serving as music director designate.

**Stephanie Jeong** joins the CSO in September 2011 at the start of the 2011/12 season. She grew up in Chicago, where she studied with Betty Haag Kuhnke at the Betty Haag Academy of Performing Arts. In 1997, at the age of 9, Jeong became one of the youngest students ever accepted to The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where she studied with Aaron Rosand. She received her bachelor's degree from Curtis and recently completed her master's degree at The Juilliard School as a student of Cho-Liang Lin and Ronald Copes. The top prize winner and recipient of the Best Paganini Concerto Prize of the 2008 Paganini Violin Competition in Italy, Jeong made her solo debut at age 12 with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as winner of its Feinburg Competition, and with The Philadelphia Orchestra as winner of its Albert M. Greenfield Competition. She has been a member of the New York Philharmonic since 2010.

**Stephen Williamson** joins the CSO this month on the Orchestra's European tour. He has served as principal clarinet of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra since 2003, and has performed with many of New York's most illustrious ensembles. He also serves as principal clarinetist with Seiji Ozawa's Saito Kinen Festival Orchestra, and is on the faculty of Columbia University and the Mannes College of Music in New York City, as well as at the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra in Japan. Williamson was the Grand Prize Winner of the 1994 Boosey & Hawkes/ Buffet Crampon First Annual North American Clarinet Competition. Other past awards include the Concert Artists Guild Competition and the Coleman International Chamber Music Competition. Williamson received his Bachelor's Degree and Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music, and a Master's Degree from The Juilliard School. As a Fulbright Scholar, he furthered his studies at the Hochschule der Künste in Berlin, Germany where he collaborated with various members of the Berlin Philharmonic.

RICCARDO MUTI  
Music Director

WILLIAM A. OSBORN  
Chairman

DEBORAH F. RUTTER  
President

YO-YO MA  
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

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](http://cso.org).

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