



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION  
RICCARDO MUTI Music Director

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# News

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## **CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO AND RYAN OPERA CENTER PERFORM SHAKESPEARE-INSPIRED PROGRAM LED BY SIR ANDREW DAVIS**

**Program Includes Works by Berlioz, Vaughan Williams, Verdi,  
William Walton and Ambroise Thomas**

**Monday, June 6, at 8 p.m.**

CHICAGO—The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the pre-professional training orchestra of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, presents a special collaborative program with The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center, Lyric Opera of Chicago's artist-development program, on [Monday, June 6, at 8 p.m.](#) led by Lyric Opera of Chicago music director and principal conductor Sir Andrew Davis. The concert concludes the Civic's 2015/16 series of concerts at Symphony Center with a program that takes its cue from the many celebrations recognizing the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare. Vocal and operatic works by Berlioz, Vaughan Williams, Verdi, Walton and Ambroise Thomas are included. The concert represents the third time that the two cultural institutions have collaborated to perform together at Symphony Center, including their first collaboration in 2012 which was also conducted by Sir Andrew Davis.

The program surveys selections from Shakespeare-inspired vocal and operatic works including excerpts from Berlioz's opera *Beatrice and Benedict* and the composer's unconventional third symphony *Romeo and Juliet*; operatic excerpts from William Walton's *Troilus and Cressida*, Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Sir John in Love* and French composer Ambroise Thomas' *Hamlet*, as well as Thomas' Overture to his opera *Raymond, ou Le Secret de la reine*. The concert concludes with Act I, Scene 2 of Verdi's opera *Falstaff*, featuring nine singers from the Ryan Opera Center.

The 2016/17 members of The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago featured on the June 6 program include Alec Carlson, tenor; Lauren Decker, contralto; Jesse Donner, tenor; Jonathan Johnson, tenor; Mingjie Lei, tenor; Lindsay Metzger, mezzo-soprano; Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi, soprano; Diana Newman, soprano; Emmett O'Hanlon, baritone;

RICCARDO MUTI  
Zell Music Director

HELEN ZELL  
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER  
President

YO-YO MA  
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

Takaoki Onishi, baritone; Annie Rosen, mezzo-soprano; Bradley Smoak, bass-baritone; and Ann Toomey, soprano.

Sir Andrew Davis has served as music director and principal conductor of Lyric Opera of Chicago since 2000, and became chief conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in 2013. Davis appears frequently with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, The Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Concertgebouw, and he has conducted virtually every other prominent orchestra world-wide. Davis' wide collection of recordings documents his outstanding command of the core symphonic and operatic repertoire, as well as his advocacy for twentieth-century works. A Commander of the British Empire and Knight Bachelor, Davis was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from Knox College in 2012. In October 2015, Davis made a special appearance during the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's 125<sup>th</sup> season, leading the Orchestra and pianist Evgeny Kissin in a one-night-only concert.

This shared program featuring the Civic Orchestra and singers from the Ryan Opera Center—the training ensembles of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Lyric Opera respectively—offers a unique opportunity to see the next generation of stars from the orchestral and operatic worlds together on stage.

The June 6 Civic Orchestra and Ryan Opera Center concert at Symphony Center is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required. More information is available at [cso.org](http://cso.org) or by calling 312.294.3000.

Civic Orchestra performances are sponsored in part by a generous grant from the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

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**Civic Orchestra of Chicago**

Monday, June 6, 2016, 8 p.m.

**Civic Orchestra of Chicago  
Members of The Patrick G. and Shirley W.  
Ryan Opera Center 2016/17 Ensemble**

**Sir Andrew Davis**, conductor  
**Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi**, soprano  
**Diana Newman**, soprano  
**Ann Toomey**, soprano  
**Lindsay Metzger**, mezzo-soprano  
**Annie Rosen**, mezzo-soprano  
**Lauren Decker**, contralto  
**Alec Carlson**, tenor  
**Jesse Donner**, tenor  
**Jonathan Johnson**, tenor  
**Mingjie Lei**, tenor  
**Emmett O'Hanlon**, baritone  
**Takaoki Onishi**, baritone  
**Bradley Smoak**, bass-baritone

BERLIOZ

Selections from *Beatrice and Benedict*

	Overture "Vous soupirez, madame...Nuit plausible et sereine" "Comment le d�dain pourrait-il mourir?"
THOMAS	Overture to <i>Raymond, ou Le Secret de la reine</i>
THOMAS	"Monseigneur...Doute de la lumi�re" from <i>Hamlet</i>
THOMAS	"A vos jeux, mes amis" from <i>Hamlet</i>
BERLIOZ	Love Scene from <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , Op. 17
WALTON	"New life, New love!...Now hold me close" from <i>Troilus and Cressida</i>
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS	"This is my father's choice" from <i>Sir John in Love</i>
VERDI	Act 1, scene ii, from <i>Falstaff</i>

NOTE: While tickets are free, there is a nonrefundable \$2 service fee per ticket. There is a maximum of six tickets allowed per concert, per household. Reservations can be made online at [cso.org](http://cso.org), in person at the CSO box office at 220 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL or via phone at 312-294-3000.

## Featured Conductor and Ensembles

[Sir Andrew Davis](#), conductor

### About The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at Lyric Opera of Chicago

The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center was established in 1974 as the professional artist-development program for Lyric Opera of Chicago. Since its inception, the Ryan Opera Center has been recognized as one of the premier programs of its kind in the world. That standing is maintained by providing the finest up-and-coming singers and pianists with unparalleled training and experience. The program is administered by Dan Novak, Director; Craig Terry, Music Director; Julia Faulkner, Director of Vocal Studies, and Ren e Fleming, Advisor.

Selected from some 400 singers who audition annually, the Ryan Opera Center Ensemble members are in residence for nearly twelve months. Over the course of the year they receive advanced instruction in numerous aspects of operatic performance, including voice lessons and coachings, language and acting training, and master classes with some of opera's most renowned artists.

During Lyric Opera's mainstage season, Ryan Opera Center members perform and understudy a significant number of principal and supporting roles. This presents an extraordinary opportunity to work with the world's greatest opera singers, conductors, directors, orchestra, and chorus. They also gain valuable performing experience by participating in recitals and concerts at many Chicago-area venues. The Ryan Opera Center Ensemble was recently expanded to include a pianist, who likewise receives advanced training and performance opportunities throughout the year.

A testament to the Ryan Opera Center's caliber and success is the roster of distinguished alumni who perform regularly on the stages of leading international opera houses. It includes Ren  Barbra, Harolyn Blackwell, Nicole Cabell, Elizabeth DeShong, Mark S. Doss, Christopher Feigum, Elizabeth Futral, Roger Honeywell, Joseph Kaiser, Maria Kanyova, Quinn Kelsey, Gregory Kunde, Dina Kuznetsova, Emily Magee, Amanda Majeski, Susanna Phillips, Matthew Polenzani, Christian Van Horn, Amber Wagner, and Erin Wall.

### **About the Civic Orchestra of Chicago**

Since 1919, young artists have sought membership in the Civic Orchestra of Chicago to develop their talents and to further prepare for careers as professional musicians. Founded by Frederick Stock, second music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Civic Orchestra is the only training orchestra of its kind affiliated with a major American orchestra.

The Civic Orchestra offers promising young professional musicians unique access to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra through hands-on training experiences with the musicians of the CSO and some of today's most sought-after conductors, including world-renowned CSO Music Director Riccardo Muti. Under the guidance of principal conductor Cliff Colnot and CSO Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, Civic Orchestra musicians develop as exceptional orchestral players and engaged artists, cultivating their ability to succeed in the rapidly evolving world of music in the twenty-first century.

The importance of the Civic Orchestra's role in greater Chicago is underscored by its commitment to present concerts of the highest quality at no charge to the public. In addition to the critically acclaimed live concerts at Symphony Center, Civic Orchestra performances can be heard locally on WFMT (98.7 FM) and by nearly three million listeners in nationally syndicated radio broadcasts on 160 broadcast outlets in 30 states. These are made possible through a generous gift from the Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation. Since 1997, the Civic Orchestra has provided its members opportunities to develop as teachers, advocates, and ambassadors for using the power of music to contribute to our culture, our communities, and the lives of others. The Civic musicians expand their creative, professional, and artistic boundaries through educational performances at Chicago Public Schools and a series of innovative chamber concerts at various locations throughout the city including Chicago Park District field houses, the National Museum of Mexican Art and Zhou B Art Center.

The Civic Orchestra's long history of presenting full orchestra performances without charge includes concerts at the South Shore Cultural Center (in partnership with the South Shore Advisory Council), the Apostolic Church of God, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School and the New Regal Theater.

The Civic Orchestra is a signature program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The Negaunee Institute offers a wide range of youth, community, and education programs that engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages, incomes and backgrounds. Through the programs of the Institute as well as projects at schools and community venues that are initiated by CSO musicians and a free annual concert with Riccardo Muti and the CSO, the CSO champions the extraordinary power of music to create connections and build community.

### **The Chicago Symphony Orchestra: [www.cso.org](http://www.cso.org) and [www.csosoundsandstories.org](http://www.csosoundsandstories.org)**

Founded in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the greatest orchestras in the world. Since 2010, the preeminent conductor Riccardo Muti has served as its 10th music director. Yo-Yo Ma is the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, and Samuel Adams and Elizabeth Ogonek are its Mead Composers-in-Residence.

From baroque through contemporary music, the CSO commands a vast repertoire. Its renowned musicians annually perform more than 150 concerts, most at Symphony Center in Chicago and, each summer, at the suburban Ravinia Festival. They regularly tour nationally and internationally. Since 1892, the CSO has made 59 international tours, performing in 29 countries on five continents.

People around the globe listen to weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings on the WFMT radio network and online at [cso.org/radio](http://cso.org/radio). Recordings by the CSO have earned 62 Grammy Awards, including two in 2011 for Muti's recording with the CSO and Chorus of Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* (Muti's first of four releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at [www.cso.org/resound](http://www.cso.org/resound).

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus (Duain Wolfe, Director and Conductor) and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, a training ensemble for emerging professionals. Through its prestigious Symphony Center Presents series, the CSOA presents guest artists and ensembles from a variety of genres—classical, jazz, world, and contemporary.

The Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO offers community and education programs that annually engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages and backgrounds. Through the Institute and other activities, including a free annual concert led by Muti, the CSO is committed to using the power of music to create connections and build community.

The CSO is supported by thousands of patrons, volunteers and institutional and individual donors. Bank of America is the Global Sponsor of the CSO. The CSO's music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation. The Negaunee Foundation provides generous support in perpetuity for the work of the Negaunee Music Institute.