



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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MUSIC DIRECTOR RICCARDO MUTI SELECTS MISSY MAZZOLI AS NEW MEAD COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE

CHICAGO—The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) is pleased to announce that Missy Mazzoli has been selected as its new Mead Composer-in-Residence. Appointed to the position by Music Director Riccardo Muti, Mazzoli begins a two-year term July 1, 2018 continuing through June 30, 2020.

Acclaimed American composer Missy Mazzoli is the recipient of a 2015 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Award, four ASCAP Young Composer Awards and a Fulbright Grant. She previously held positions as Composer in Residence with Opera Philadelphia and Gotham Chamber Opera. She attended the Yale School of Music, the Royal Conservatory of the Hague and Boston University, where her teachers have included David Lang, Louis Andriessen and Aaron Jay Kernis.

Mazzoli has received commissions for world premieres of new orchestral works from the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Minnesota Orchestra and the Detroit Symphony. Her works for orchestra have also been performed at the 2017 BBC Proms and by the Sydney Symphony, Basel Sinfonietta, Minnesota Orchestra and at the Cabrillo Festival. In addition, Mazzoli's opera *Proving Up* received its world premiere with Washington National Opera in 2018, and her opera *Breaking the Waves* received its world premiere with Opera Philadelphia in 2016. This production of *Breaking the Waves* was recognized with the inaugural "Best New Opera" award by the Music Critics Association of North America (MCANA). In 2016, with composer Ellen Reid and in partnership with Kaufman Music Center, Mazzoli founded Luna Lab, a mentorship program for young female composers. As a performer, Mazzoli is active as a pianist and electronic musician, performing with Victoire, a band she founded in 2008 dedicated to performing her compositions. Mazzoli's music is published exclusively by G. Schirmer, Inc.

In recent years, Mazzoli's wide-ranging projects have been an integral part of Chicago's new music scene on several occasions. Highlights include 2016 performances of Mazzoli's

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acclaimed first opera, *Song from the Uproar*, by Chicago Fringe Opera, and a 2010 Millennium Park concert featuring Mazzoli and her band Victoire. In 2015, Mazzoli and Victoire performed and recorded her third album, *Vespers for a new Dark Age*, with Glenn Kotche, percussionist and member of the Chicago-based band Wilco. Most recently, the Chicago Composers Orchestra performed Mazzoli's *These Worlds in Us* at St. James Cathedral in May 2018.

As Mead Composer-in-Residence, Mazzoli will curate the CSOA's four-concert contemporary music series, MusicNOW. In addition, she will provide artistic guidance for contemporary music commissions and programming, special events and collaborations with other artistic partners. Mazzoli will also receive a commission to write a new work for the CSO to be premiered in the 2019/20 season along with a commission for a new work to be premiered on the MusicNOW series. She will also collaborate with the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the CSO's premier training ensemble of pre-professional musicians.

Programming details for the MusicNOW 2018/19 season— four Mondays at 7 p.m. at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance: October 22, November 19, April 8, 2019 and May 20, 2019—will be announced at a later date.

Sir Georg Solti appointed John Corigliano as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's first Composer-in-Residence in 1987, and he was succeeded by Shulamit Ran from 1990 until 1997. Augusta Read Thomas was appointed by Daniel Barenboim in 1997, and in 2002, the position was endowed by CSOA Trustee Cynthia Sargent and Governing Member Sally Mead Hands. Thomas continued her tenure as Mead Composer-in-Residence until 2006, and Osvaldo Golijov and Mark-Anthony Turnage held the position from 2006 until 2010. Riccardo Muti appointed Mason Bates and Anna Clyne in 2010, and they held the positions until 2015, when Muti appointed Samuel Adams and Elizabeth Ogonek, who both completed their tenures as Mead Composers-in-Residence at the conclusion of the 2017/18 season.

The Mead Composer-in-Residence position is endowed by Cindy Sargent and the Sally Mead Hands Foundation.

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The Chicago Symphony Orchestra: www.cso.org and www.csosoundsandstories.org
Founded by Theodore Thomas 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 Erina Yashima is the CSO's Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice.

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 60 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 . 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 eight releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at 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.