ACCLAIMED RUSSIAN PIANIST EVGENY KISSIN RETURNS TO SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS PIANO SERIES

Program Includes Works by Beethoven and Rachmaninov

Sunday, May 13, at 3 p.m.

CHICAGO—Acclaimed Russian pianist Evgeny Kissin returns to the Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Piano series on Sunday, May 13, at 3 p.m. Kissin presents a program that includes a selection of preludes by Rachmaninov and Beethoven’s iconic *Hammerklavier* sonata.

The program opens with Beethoven’s Piano Sonata No. 29 in B-flat Major, Op. 106, one of the composer’s most familiar works for the piano. Known commonly as *Hammerklavier*, this famously demanding work is often associated with its expansive and ethereal third movement and its dramatic finale. To complete the program, Kissin performs selected Rachmaninov preludes from Op. 23 and Op. 32. Together with the Prelude in C-sharp minor, Op. 23 and Op. 32 constitute Rachmaninov’s suite of preludes and fugues for piano in all 24 major and minor keys, while demonstrating the composer’s mastery in writing for the instrument through harmonic, tonal and lyrical virtuosity.

Evgeny Kissin is widely considered one of the most gifted pianists of his generation. Since making his concerto debut at age 10, Kissin has maintained a high-profile career as a soloist, performing under many of the world’s great conductors including Daniel Barenboim, Lorin Maazel and Riccardo Muti. His celebrated career has earned him such honors as the Shostakovich Award, which is one of Russia’s highest musical honors, the Crystal Prize of the Osaka Symphony Hall for Best Performance of the Year, Musician of the Year Prize from the Chigiana Academy of Music, special guest at the 1992 Grammy Awards ceremony, and Musical America’s youngest Instrumentalist of the Year. Kissin is also a two-time Grammy Award...
winner, the first in 2006 for Best Instrumental Soloist and the second in 2010 for his recording of Prokofiev’s Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 3 with the Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy. In 2017, Kissin released a two-disc set of Beethoven sonatas on Deutsche Grammophon, his first recording project in more than a decade.

Tickets for all Symphony Center Presents Piano series concerts can be purchased by phone at 800-223-7114 or 312-294-3000, online at cso.org or at the Symphony Center box office: 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 prices are subject to change.

The appearance of Evgeny Kissin is generously supported by the JS Charitable Trust.

### Symphony Center Presents Piano

**Sunday, May 13, 2018, 3:00 p.m.**

**Evgeny Kissin, piano**

**BEETHOVEN** Sonata No. 29 in B-flat Major, Op. 106

*(Hammerklavier)*

**RACHMANINOV** Seven Preludes from Op. 23

- No. 1 in F-sharp minor
- No. 2 in B-flat major
- No. 3 in D minor
- No. 4 in D major
- No. 5 in G minor
- No. 6 in E-flat major
- No. 7 in C minor

**RACHMANINOV** Selected Preludes from Op. 32

- No. 10 in B minor
- No. 12 in G sharp minor
- No. 13 in D-flat major

**Tickets:** $55-180

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**Featured Artist for This Performance:** Evgeny Kissin

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