



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO ANNOUNCES PROGRAM DETAILS FOR 2018/19 CENTENNIAL SEASON PERFORMANCES

**CSO Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti to Lead the Civic and CSO Side-by-Side
in Millennium Park Season Opener on September 20**

**Guest Conductors Include Michael Christie, Cliff Colnot, Jay Friedman,
Edward Gardner, Nicholas Kraemer, Ken-David Masur, Esa-Pekka Salonen,
Bramwell Tovey, Erina Yashima and Nikolaj Znaider**

**100th Season of the Civic Orchestra Celebrations to Include
Civic Alumni Weekend and Centennial Celebration Concert on April 1**

**Civic to Perform 11 World Premieres Including a Co-Commission with the
Britt Festival, Nine New Works by Current and Former Students of the
Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago,
and a New Piece Co-Created by Musicians of the Civic with Mocrep,
a Chicago-Based Performance Collective**

**Michael Christie to Lead the Civic and Full Company of Singers of
The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago
in Season Finale Concert at Symphony Center on June 5**

CHICAGO—The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's prestigious training ensemble for emerging professional musicians and the only one of its kind affiliated with a major American orchestra, announces details for its **2018/19 season performances.**

RICCARDO MUTI
Zell Music Director

HELEN ZELL
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER
President

YO-YO MA
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

Founded in the 1919/20 season by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's second music director, Frederick Stock, the Civic Orchestra celebrates its 100th season in 2018/19. Over the course of the season, Civic performs concerts with Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti, Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice Erina Yashima, four guest conductors who are also leading the Chicago Symphony Orchestra—Edward Gardner, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Bramwell Tovey and Nikolaj Znaider—and CSO Principal Trombone and Civic Orchestra alumnus Jay Friedman.

In addition to the Civic's nine performances in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center, the orchestra performs in a side-by-side concert with the CSO led by Muti in Millennium Park on Thursday, September 20, as well as two concerts at the historic South Shore Cultural Center (7059 S. South Shore Drive), where the orchestra performs for its 12th straight season—on Sunday, October 21, and Sunday, March 10. The season also includes the fifth annual Bach Marathon, which brings the *Brandenburg* Concertos of J.S. Bach to audiences in neighborhood venues throughout the day and in a culminating concert led by conductor and guest harpsichordist Nicholas Kraemer on Wednesday, November 14, at Fourth Presbyterian Church (126 E. Chestnut, Chicago).

Programming highlights of the centennial season include the world-premiere performances of 11 new works, including a co-commission. The Civic Orchestra and the Britt Festival Orchestra (Teddy Abrams, conductor) have co-commissioned a new concerto for percussion and orchestra by Christopher Cerrone, which receives its world premiere by Civic with Third Coast Percussion as soloists under the direction of Ken-David Masur on Sunday, May 12, 2019. In collaboration with the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago, nine new works for full orchestra by current and former students from the university receive their world premieres under the baton of former Civic Orchestra Principal Conductor Cliff Colnot on Tuesday, February 5, 2019. For the season finale concert on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, the Civic partners with The Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at the Lyric Opera of Chicago to present a concert featuring their full company of singers.

As part of its centennial celebration, the Civic Orchestra hosts an alumni weekend from Friday, March 29, through Monday, April 1, 2019, with activities including performances in Chicagoland community venues and alumni engagement events. The weekend culminates with a centennial celebration concert at Symphony Center on Monday, April 1, 2019, conducted by Esa-Pekka Salonen and featuring Yo-Yo Ma as soloist performing Dvořák's Cello Concerto with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.

Civic at Symphony Center

Program information for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago's 2018/19 season at Symphony Center is listed below.

- The Civic Orchestra Brass performs an arrangement of Wagner's *The Ring* by Tim Higgins (Principal Trombone, San Francisco Symphony) for brass, percussion and organ

on [Monday, October 1, at 8:00 p.m.](#) CSO Principal Trombone **Jay Friedman**, who also is an active conductor and former member of the Civic Orchestra, leads the ensemble in this performance.

- On [Tuesday, October 23, at 8:00 p.m.](#), the CSO's Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice **Erina Yashima** makes her third appearance conducting the Civic in *All These Lighted Things*, a series of three dances by former CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Elizabeth Ogonek that was commissioned and premiered by the CSO under the direction of Riccardo Muti in 2017, in addition to Mahler's Symphony No. 6, notable for three orchestrated hammer blows paralleling significant personal losses in the composer's life. The program will also be performed at the South Shore Cultural Center on [Sunday, October 21, at 3:00 p.m.](#)
- Following his CSO subscription series debut, Chief Conductor of the Bergen Philharmonic **Edward Gardner** makes his Civic podium debut on [Wednesday, December 12, at 8:00 p.m.](#) The program begins with Janáček's *Sinfonietta*, a colorful work with brass fanfares that was written in 1926 and dedicated to the Czechoslovak Army. Following is Lutosławski's Fourth Symphony, which opens with a dark, slow first movement and seamlessly flows into a quicker, dazzling, faster second movement. The program closes with Ravel's Suite No. 2 from *Daphnis and Chloe*, which was performed by the CSO in 1928 under the baton of the composer.
- **Bramwell Tovey**, music director of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, leads the Civic in a concert of works by Vaughan Williams, Elgar and Tchaikovsky on [Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis* is based on a 16th-century theme by English composer Thomas Tallis, part of a collection of nine chant tunes. Fellow Englishman Edward Elgar composed his concert overture *In the South (Alassio)* after a trip to Italy, a work that received its U.S. premiere with the CSO in 1904. Closing the program is Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4, a programmatic work written in classical symphonic form that the composer described as a characterization of the nature of fate.
- On [Tuesday, February 5, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.](#), former Civic Principal Conductor **Cliff Colnot** leads the orchestra in world premieres of nine pieces composed for full orchestra by current and former students of the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition at the University of Chicago—Rodrigo Bussad, Pierce Gradone, Alison Yun-Fei Jiang, Jack Hughes, Maria Kaoutzani, Joungbum Lee, David Clay Mettens, Ted Moore and Will Myers.
- On [Monday, April 1, 2019, 6:30 p.m.](#), current members and alumni of the Civic join internationally acclaimed conductor **Esa-Pekka Salonen** and the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant **Yo-Yo Ma** for a centennial celebration and benefit concert at Symphony Center. Salonen conducts his orchestral work *Pollux*, composed

earlier in 2018, and Ma performs Dvořák's Cello Concerto in B Minor. Additional ticket information will be announced at a later date.

- In his Civic podium debut, **Nikolaj Znaider**, principal guest conductor of the Mariinsky Orchestra, leads the Civic in a program of Prokofiev and Beethoven on [Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Before the ballet's premiere, Prokofiev conducted the U.S. premiere of Suite No. 1 from *Romeo and Juliet* at Symphony Center on his final Chicago trip, in January 1937. Beethoven's Seventh Symphony also carries dance-like motives, ending with a joyous finale.
- Assistant Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra **Ken-David Masur** returns to conduct the world premiere of a percussion concerto by Christopher Cerrone featuring members of **Third Coast Percussion**, as well as Richard Strauss' *An Alpine Symphony* on [Sunday, May 12, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Co-commissioned by the Civic and the Oregon-based Britt Festival Orchestra (Teddy Abrahms, conductor) for his new work, Cerrone has collaborated with the Grammy Award-winning Third Coast Percussion, whose members include Civic alumni Robert Dillon and David Skidmore. The second half of the program features *An Alpine Symphony*, a work that reflects Strauss' affinity for nature through heightened wind and brass forces that depict a journey across an Alpine mountain.
- The Civic's 2018/19 season closes with a program featuring **vocalists of the Patrick G. and Shirley W. Ryan Opera Center at The Lyric Opera of Chicago** and led by conductor **Michael Christie** on [Wednesday, June 5, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Full program details will be announced at a later date.

Prior to all Civic Orchestra concerts at Symphony Center, audience members can learn about that evening's program in free preconcert talks. Talks begin 90 minutes prior to the performance in Grainger Ballroom.

In the weeks following each Symphony Center concert, excerpts from the program are broadcast on WFMT 98.7 FM's "Music in Chicago." See wfmt.com for a current schedule.

Civic in Communities Across Chicago

Program information for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago's 2018/19 season performances outside of Symphony Center is listed below.

- CSO Zell Music Director **Riccardo Muti** leads the Civic Orchestra and the CSO in a Concert for Chicago on [Thursday, September 20, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.](#), in Millennium Park. The program includes Rossini's Overture to *William Tell*, Verdi's *The Four Seasons* from *I vespri siciliani* and Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*.

- On [Sunday, October 21, at 3:00 p.m.](#), the Civic Orchestra makes its 12th appearance at the **South Shore Cultural Center** (7059 S. South Shore Drive, Chicago), in Chicago's historic South Shore neighborhood. CSO Sir Georg Solti Conducting Apprentice **Erina Yashima** leads the Civic in former Mead Composer-in-Residence Elizabeth Ogonek's *All These Lighted Things*, as well as selected movements from Mahler's Symphony No. 6.
- The Civic Orchestra of Chicago celebrates the return of the annual **Bach Marathon** as they perform the *Brandenburg* Concertos of J.S. Bach in neighborhood venues throughout the city and in a culminating concert at Fourth Presbyterian Church (126 E. Chestnut, Chicago) on [Wednesday, November 14, at 7:00 p.m.](#), with conductor and guest harpsichordist **Nicholas Kraemer**. Launched in 2014 as one of several "artistic challenges" issued to the Civic Orchestra musicians by the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma, the event has become an annual tradition.
- CSO Principal Trombone **Jay Friedman**, who is an alumnus of the Civic Orchestra (1958-62), conducts the Civic in a concert on [Sunday, March 10, at 3:00 p.m.](#), at the South Shore Cultural Center (7059 S. South Shore Drive). The concert features Sibelius' Four Legends from the *Kalevala*, Op. 22, as well as selections from Wagner operas including the Prelude to Act I of *Lohengrin*, Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan and Isolde*, and Prelude to *Parsifal*.

Civic Chamber Music

Each season members of the Civic Orchestra present chamber music concerts both in Buntrock Hall at Symphony Center and in Chicago-area venues. Information about additional Civic Chamber Music performances will be posted to cso.org as it becomes available.

- On [Friday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m.](#), in Buntrock Hall, the Civic Orchestra Fellows present their first chamber music performance of the 2018/19 season. The program opens with Ewazen's Pastoral for Trumpet, Bass Trombone and Piano followed by Britten's Phantasy for Oboe and String Trio in F Minor. The program concludes with Schubert's Octet in F Major.
- On [Thursday, April 18, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.](#), in Buntrock Hall, musicians of the Civic Orchestra present a concert with Mocrep, a Chicago-based performance collective. The program includes the world premiere of a new work that will be co-created by Mocrep and Civic musicians during a residency in April 2019. Mocrep membership includes three Civic Orchestra alumni: Amanda Bailey, violin; Alex Ellsworth, cello; and Zachary Good, clarinet.

Civic Fellows

Fifteen members of the Civic Orchestra have been appointed as Civic Fellows for the 2018/19 season and will participate in additional professional development activities throughout the year.

The Fellowship program, which launched in fall 2013 with eight fellows, immerses the musicians in rigorous training that develops the participants' skills and experiences in chamber music, teaching, community engagement and program planning. Fellow reflections on past events and information about upcoming events can be found on civicfellows.org.

CSO Crain-Maling Foundation Young Artist Competition

Founded in 1919, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Youth Auditions have featured extraordinary young soloists from across Illinois. Now known as the CSO Crain-Maling Foundation Young Artist Competition, this concerto competition identifies one outstanding young performer to be featured in a CSO School Concert during the following season. This year's competition is open to woodwinds, brass, percussion and harp, and the four finalists will play one movement of a concerto onstage in Orchestra Hall, accompanied by the Civic Orchestra, in the final, public round. **Andrew Grams** conducts the orchestra for this year's finals on Saturday, February 23, 2019, at 2 p.m.

Supporters

The CSO's music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation.

The 2018/19 Civic Orchestra of Chicago season is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation.

The Centennial Campaign for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago and Chicago Symphony Orchestra Concerts for Young People is supported with a generous lead gift from the Julian Family Foundation. Major support for the Civic Orchestra of Chicago is also provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, Alphawood Foundation, Pauls Foundation, Robert and Joanne Crown Income Charitable Fund, The Negaunee Foundation, Barbara and Barre Seid Foundation, and an Anonymous Donor.

The CSO's Concert for Chicago is generously sponsored by the Kenneth C. Griffin Charitable Fund.

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago's side-by-side performance with the CSO in the Concert for Chicago is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, in celebration of the Civic Orchestra's 2018/19 centennial season.

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago's Centennial Celebration Concert is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation, honoring the Civic Orchestra's 2018/19 centennial season.

Program & Ticket Details

Civic Orchestra of Chicago performances at Symphony Center and in neighborhood venues are free, but tickets are required. Seating is general admission, and there is a nonrefundable \$5 per ticket service fee for all performances that take place at Symphony Center. There is a maximum of six tickets allowed per concert, per household.

Ticket reservations for Civic Orchestra of Chicago performances can be made online at cso.org, by phone at 312-294-3000 or in person at the CSO box office at 220 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60604.

All Civic Chamber Music Series performances are free, and no tickets are required. For more information about the Civic Chamber Music Series concerts, please visit cso.org/civic or call 312-294-3410.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

For more information about the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, visit cso.org/civic.

Civic Orchestra of Chicago 2018/19 Performance Schedule and Program Listings available [here](#).

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Civic Orchestra of Chicago (cso.org/civic)

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 emerging professional musicians unique access to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) through immersive training with the musicians of the CSO and some of today's most sought-after conductors, including world-renowned CSO Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti. With additional guidance from 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 free to the public. In addition to the critically acclaimed live concerts at Symphony Center, excerpts from Civic Orchestra performances at Symphony Center can be heard locally on WFMT's (98.7 FM) "Music in Chicago."

Civic musicians also expand their creative, professional, and artistic skill and reach diverse audiences through performances at Chicago Public Schools, "artistic challenges" led by Yo-Yo Ma, and a series of 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.

To further expand its musician training, the Civic Orchestra launched the Civic Fellowship program in the 2013–14 season. Now engaging fourteen members of the Civic Orchestra, Fellows participate in a rigorous curriculum above and beyond their orchestral activities that is designed to build and to diversify their creative and professional skills.

The Civic Orchestra's long history of presenting full orchestra performances free to the public 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, the New Regal Theater, Benito Juarez Community Academy, Senn High School, Schurz High School, Northside College Preparatory High School and Kenwood Academy.

The Civic Orchestra is a signature program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The Institute offers a wide range of education and community programs that engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages, incomes, and backgrounds each year, in Chicago and around the world. For more information on the Institute and its programs, please visit cso.org/institute.

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 pre-eminent conductor Riccardo Muti has served as its 10th music director. Yo-Yo Ma is the Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, Missy Mazzoli is Mead Composer-in-Residence and Erina Yashima is the 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. 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.