



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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CIVIC ORCHESTRA OF CHICAGO MARKS 100TH SEASON WITH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION BENEFIT CONCERT FEATURING YO-YO MA AND ESA-PEKKA SALONEN

Program Includes Dvořák's Cello Concerto and Salonen's *Pollux*

**Premium Concert and Dinner Packages Available Now,
Free Tickets for Concert Only Available on March 1, 2019**

Monday, April 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

CHICAGO—The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's prestigious training ensemble for emerging professional musicians, announces details for its Centennial Celebration Benefit Concert on [Monday, April 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.](#) Internationally acclaimed conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen leads the Civic Orchestra in a program that includes Salonen's 2018 orchestral work *Pollux*, as well as Dvořák's Cello Concerto featuring the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant Yo-Yo Ma as soloist. Packages for the Civic Centennial Celebration benefit that include premium seating for the concert and a post-concert dinner are available now. Like all Civic Orchestra concerts, free tickets will be available for this performance beginning March 1, 2019. In addition to the individual benefit event packages, sponsorship opportunities are also available now.

The program includes Esa-Pekka Salonen's *Pollux*, which received its premiere earlier this year by the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Based on a grunge rhythm Salonen heard in the background at a restaurant in Paris, the work is at times mysterious and impressionistic, bolstered by thick chords and shimmering tones in the upper registers. Following is Dvořák's beloved Cello Concerto performed by Yo-Yo Ma. Composed in New York, this concerto includes some of Dvořák's most memorable melodies and was his last major orchestral work.

Esa-Pekka Salonen's restless innovation drives him constantly to reposition classical music in the 21st century. Recently he was named Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony, and he is currently Principal Conductor and Artistic Advisor for London's Philharmonia Orchestra and Conductor Laureate for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, where he was Music Director from 1992 until 2009. This season is his final of three seasons as the Marie-Josée Kravis Composer-in-Residence at the New York Philharmonic and his second of five as Artist in Association at the Finnish National Opera and Ballet. Additionally, Salonen is Artistic Director and cofounder of the annual Baltic Sea Festival, now in its 16th year, which invites celebrated artists to promote unity and ecological awareness among the countries around the Baltic Sea. As a composer, Salonen is one of the most distinctive musical voices of the 21st century. In 2017, the CSO gave the world premiere of Salonen's Cello Concerto, with Yo-Yo Ma as soloist. Salonen has received numerous prizes for his musicianship, including the 1993 Siena Prize by the Accademia Chigiana, the Litteris et Artibus medal, by the King of Sweden in 1996, and the rank of Officier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 1998.

Since 2010, Yo-Yo Ma has served as the CSO's Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant, a role he was appointed to by Music Director Riccardo Muti. Now in his ninth season as Creative Consultant, Ma has been a frequent and active participant in the life of many Chicago neighborhoods through his regular performances and visits with young students and community groups across the city. In addition, his innovative leadership and mentorship of the musicians of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago have led to interactive and accessible music programming, most notably an annual, free Bach Marathon that features performances of all six Bach Brandenburg concertos by Civic Orchestra musicians with participation by Ma, as well as a rigorous education and community engagement fellowship program for select Civic members.

The Civic Centennial Celebration Benefit Concert is presented by the Negaunee Music Institute (NMI) at the CSO, the League of the CSOA and Women's Board of the CSOA. The event is chaired by CSOA Life Trustee and NMI board member Penny Van Horn and her husband John and CSOA Life Trustee William Adams and his wife Elisabeth Adams, a member and past president of the Women's Board of the CSOA. Other committee members include NMI Board Chair and former Civic Orchestra musician Liisa Thomas and CSOA Trustee and NMI Board Vice Chair Lori Julian, as well as League of the CSOA President Mimi Duginger and League Vice President for Fundraising Cheryl Istvan, and Elizabeth A. Parker, President of the Women's Board of the CSOA. Proceeds from this event will strengthen the many educational and outreach programs supported each season by the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.

Special benefit event packages that include prime seating for the concert followed by dinner are available starting at \$195 per person. Sponsorship opportunities, ranging from \$250 to \$25,000 are also available. For more information and tickets, please visit cso.org/civic100 or contact Kim Duffy at 312-294-3162.

The free, concert-only tickets for the Civic Centennial Celebration concert will be available to the public on March 1, 2019, and can be reserved 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. Tickets are subject to a \$5 per ticket service fee. Maximum six tickets per household.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

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.

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Civic Orchestra of Chicago

Monday, April 1, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

Esa-Pekka Salonen, conductor

Yo-Yo Ma, cello

Program to include:

SALONEN *Pollux*

DVOŘÁK Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Tickets: Dinner and premium concert seat package
\$195-\$350 per person

Concert-only tickets: Free, but required.
Available beginning March 1, 2019

Featured Artists for this Performance:

[Esa-Pekka Salonen, conductor](#)

[Yo-Yo Ma, cello](#)

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 21st 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.