



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PERFORMS GERSHWIN'S ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING SCORE FOR FILM PRESENTATIONS OF *AN AMERICAN IN PARIS*

Conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos Makes His CSO Debut Leading the Orchestra in Live-to-Picture Performances of the Film's Classic Score

March 22 and 24, 2019

CHICAGO—Conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos leads the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) in a presentation of Vincente Minnelli's 1951 classic movie musical *An American in Paris* featuring the CSO performing the Academy Award-winning score featuring music by George Gershwin on [Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.](#), as part the CSO at the Movies series. The program is repeated as a CSO Special concert on [Sunday, March 24, at 3 p.m.](#) These concerts mark Kitsopoulos' debut concerts with the CSO.

The whimsical sounds and evocative title of Gershwin's 1928 orchestral suite *An American in Paris* served as the inspiration of the film's premise. The plot centers on a struggling American painter, Jerry Mulligan (Gene Kelly), who is caught between the charms of young Parisienne Lise (Leslie Caron) and the allure of Milo Roberts (Nina Foch), who takes an interest in more than just Jerry's artistic talent. The film's story is interwoven with some of Gershwin's most beloved songs, including "I Got Rhythm," "S Wonderful," and "Love Is Here to Stay," and famously features an extended ballet sequence to the film's eponymous work, which concludes the film. *An American in Paris* was nominated for eight Academy Awards and won six, including one for the film's music, which was overseen by music directors Saul Chaplin and Johnny Green.

Conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos is music director of the Festival of the Arts Boca and appears regularly with orchestras across the country. An experienced conductor of works for the stage, Kitsopoulos has conducted productions of *The Magic Flute*, *Falstaff* and *Don Giovanni*,

RICCARDO MUTI
Zell Music Director

HELEN ZELL
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER
President

YO-YO MA
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

as well as productions of classic Broadway musicals such as *South Pacific*, *Oklahoma* and *The Music Man*. Kitsopoulos has appeared with some of North America's leading orchestras including the San Francisco Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Dallas Symphony, New York Philharmonic, and Vancouver Symphony.

Tickets for all CSOA-presented events 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 CSO at the Movies series is generously sponsored by Megan and Steven Shebik.

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
CSO at the Movies**

Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor

GERSHWIN *An American in Paris*

Tickets: \$64-\$171

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Special Concert**

Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor

GERSHWIN *An American in Paris*

Tickets: \$45-\$155

Featured Artist for this Performance:

[Constantine Kitsopoulos, conductor](http://Constantine.Kitsopoulos.com)

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 61 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.