



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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BEHZOD ABDURAIMOV MAKES HIS SYMPHONY CENTER DEBUT IN SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS PIANO SERIES SOLO RECITAL

Program Includes Works by Liszt and Prokofiev

Sunday, March 3, at 3 p.m.

CHICAGO—Uzbekistani pianist Behzod Abduraimov makes his Symphony Center debut on [Sunday, March, at 3 p.m.](#), for a recital on the Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Piano Series. Abduraimov's program explores themes of love and tragedy through works by Liszt and Prokofiev.

The program opens with Liszt's transcription of Isolde's Liebestod (Isolde's love-death) from Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde*. Its dark opening unfolds into lyrical melodies over a rippling accompaniment of sustained energy. After an impassioned climax, the music dissipates as Isolde joins Tristan in death. The program continues with Liszt's Piano Sonata in B Minor, a mammoth work of three movements played without breaks. From hammering left-hand motives to gentle melodic passages, its expressive range showcases the pianist's artistic and technical virtuosity. The final piece on the program, Prokofiev's Ten Pieces from *Romeo and Juliet*, is composed of selections from the original ballet arranged for piano by the composer. The suite includes playful dances and sweet melodies, and captures the star-crossed lovers' tragic romance.

Praised by *The New York Times* for his "fluid fingerwork, lots of dash and appealing impetuosity," Behzod Abduraimov's captivating artistry continues to earn international recognition. Abduraimov has worked with leading orchestras worldwide including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, NHK Symphony, Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra and others. He has collaborated with highly esteemed conductors including Valery Gergiev, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Manfred Honeck, Vasily Petrenko, James Gaffigan, Jakub Hrůša and Vladimir

RICCARDO MUTI
Zell Music Director

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Jurowski. His debut recital recording won both the Choc de Classica and the Diapason Découverte, and in 2014 he released his first concerto disc on Decca Classics featuring Prokofiev's Piano Concerto No.3 and Tchaikovsky's Concerto No.1 with the Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale della Rai under Juraj Valčuha. Upcoming European appearances include collaborations with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Münchner Philharmoniker, Czech Philharmonic, BBC Symphony and others. During the 2018/19 season, Abduraimov gives recitals in Barbican, London, and Amsterdam, and presents chamber recitals with cellist Truls Mørk throughout Europe and the United States.

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.

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**Symphony Center Presents
Piano**

Sunday, March 3, 2019, 3:00 p.m.

Behzod Abduraimov, piano

LISZT Isolde's Liebestod from Wagner's *Tristan and
Isolde*

LISZT Piano Sonata in B Minor

PROKOFIEV Ten Pieces from *Romeo and Juliet*, Op. 75

Tickets: \$34-\$221

Featured Artist for this Performance:

[Behzod Abduraimov, piano](#)

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.