CHICAGO—Renowned pianist Evgeny Kissin returns to Symphony Center on Sunday, May 12, at 3 p.m., for a solo recital on the Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Piano series. Kissin returns after his recent SCP Chamber Music concert with violinist Itzhak Perlman on May 1. His upcoming performance features a program of works by Chopin, Schumann, Debussy and Scriabin.

The program opens with a selection of nocturnes by Chopin, who wrote 21 in total between 1827 and 1846. The nocturnes feature expressive melodies and present a tranquil and often melancholy mood. Following is Schumann’s Piano Sonata No. 3 in F minor, with its restless first movement featuring an ominous descending motive in the left hand. A similar motive appears in the Trio of the second movement Scherzo, as well as in the slow movement of variations on a theme by accomplished composer and Schumann’s wife, Clara Wieck, and in the energetic finale. The second half of the program opens with selections from Debussy’s Books I and II of Preludes, which explore varying moods and imagery suggested by the titles placed at the end of each work. The final piece on the program is Scriabin’s Piano Sonata No. 4 in F-sharp minor, a two-movement work consisting of an unstable, ethereal Andante and a passionate Prestissimo volando.

Pianist Evgeny Kissin is in demand internationally for his extraordinary virtuosity and meaningful interpretations. He has appeared with many great conductors including Claudio Abbado, Daniel Barenboim, Riccardo Muti, Christoph Dohnányi, Lorin Maazel and others. He collaborates with leading orchestras across the globe including the Boston, Chicago and Royal Concertgebouw
Orchestras, as well as the Berlin and New York Philharmonic Orchestras. Kissin has earned several awards and tributes throughout his career including the Crystal Prize of the Osaka Symphony, the Musician of the Year Prize from the Chigiana Academy of Music, the Triumph Award in the Russian Republic, the Edison Klassiek in The Netherlands, and the Diapason d’Or and the Grand Prix of La Nouvelle Academie du Disque in France. In 1995 he became Musical America’s youngest Instrumentalist of the Year and in 2002 was named Echo Klassik Soloist of the Year. He was a special guest at the 1992 Grammy Awards ceremony and received Grammy Awards in 2006 for his recording of works by Scriabin, Medtner and Stravinsky and in 2010 for his recording of Prokofiev’s Piano Concertos Nos. 2 and 3 with the Philharmonia Orchestra, conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy.

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, May 12, at 3:00 p.m.**

**Evgeny Kissin**, piano

CHOPIN Selected Nocturnes
SCHUMANN Piano Sonata No. 3 in F Minor, Op. 14
DEBUSSY Selections from Preludes, Book I and II
SCRIABIN Piano Sonata No. 4 in F-sharp Major, Op. 30

Tickets: $55-$209

**Featured Artist for this Performance:**

Evgeny Kissin, piano

**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 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](http://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](http://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.