



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

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News

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**SIX-TIME GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING IRISH BAND THE CHIEFTAINS
RETURN FOR SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS SPECIAL CONCERT**

**Paddy Moloney Leads The Chieftains in Modern Renditions of
Traditional Irish Folk Music and Original Songs**

Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m.

CHICAGO—To kick off Chicago's St. Patrick's Day celebrations, legendary Irish band The Chieftains return for a Symphony Center Presents Special Concert on [Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m.](#) In their first performance at Symphony Center since 2013, The Chieftains, led by founder Paddy Moloney, present a program of modern renditions of traditional Irish folk music and original songs.

The six-time Grammy Award-winning band has been delighting fans since their formation in Dublin in 1962. Although their early following was purely a folk audience, the range and variation of their music quickly captured a broader public, making them the best-known Irish band in the world today. Founding member and tin whistle player Paddy Moloney leads the group, which includes Matt Molloy, flute; Kevin Conneff, bodhran/vocals; Jon Pilatzke, fiddle/dance; Triona Marshall, harp/keyboards; Alyth McCormack, percussion/vocals; Tara Breen, fiddle/saxophone; Cara Butler, dance; and Nathan Pilatzke, dance.

Now in their 57th year together, The Chieftains are widely credited with reinventing traditional Irish folk music on a contemporary and international scale. They have been honored in their own country by being officially named Ireland's Musical Ambassadors, and their performances have been linked with seminal historic events such as being the first Western musicians to perform on the Great Wall of China, participating in Roger Water's "The Wall" performance in Berlin in 1990, and being the first ensemble to perform a concert in the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. They also have performed at major occasions in Ireland, such as Pope John

RICCARDO MUTI
Zell Music Director

HELEN ZELL
Chair, Board of Trustees

JEFF ALEXANDER
President

YO-YO MA
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

Paul II's visit to Ireland in 1979 and Queen Elizabeth II's visit in 2011. In 2012, marking their 50th anniversary, The Chieftains were awarded the inaugural National Concert Hall Lifetime Achievement Award by The American Ireland Fund. Over the years, they have collaborated and performed with symphony orchestras, as well as some of the biggest names in rock and pop music including Sting, Van Morrison, Joni Mitchell, the Rolling Stones and many others.

Tickets for all Symphony Center Presents Special 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
Special Concert**

[Saturday, March 2, at 8:00 p.m.](#)

The Chieftains with Paddy Moloney and Special Guests

Paddy Maloney, uilleann pipes/tin whistle

Matt Molloy, flute

Kevin Conneff, bodhran/vocals

Jon Pilatzke, fiddle/dance

Triona Marshall, harp/keyboards

Alyth McCormack, percussion/vocals

Tara Breen, fiddle/saxophone

Cara Butler, dance

Nathan Pilatzke, dance

Tickets: \$30-\$80

Featured Artist for this Performance:

[The Chieftains](#)

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.