



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION

220 South Michigan Avenue  
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# News

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## **GEORGE HINCHLIFFE'S UKULELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN MAKES SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS SPECIAL CONCERT DEBUT**

### **Ukulele Ensemble Engages Audiences with Playing, Singing and Witty Banter in Program of Music that Shifts Across Styles and Genres**

**Wednesday, March 20, at 8 p.m.**

CHICAGO—On [Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 8 p.m.](#), George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain comes to Orchestra Hall for a debut concert of musical variety, from classical to rock, pop, folk songs and more in a Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Special Concert.

The whimsical, ingenious Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain aims to surprise and change audiences' perceptions of the ukulele through virtuosic yet playfully engaging performances. The Ukulele Orchestra comprises up to 11 members who come from a variety of musical backgrounds, yet all sing and play on different sized ukuleles. Their program draws selections from their most recent studio album, *By Request: Songs from the Setlist*, which features fan favorites from across numerous genres. The ensemble effortlessly shifts between rock songs, British sea shanties, jazz standards and film music, bringing a sense of wit and stylistic freshness to all their interpretations. The Ukulele Orchestra's playing, singing and witty banter have led to success in their home country and throughout the world for more than three decades.

Founded in 1985 by George Hinchliffe and Kitty Lux, the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain has become not only a national institution but also a worldwide phenomenon. Among their many international concerts and festival appearances, they have appeared at Carnegie Hall, the Sydney Opera House in Australia, and for a BBC Promenade Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London. The orchestra has also performed at festivals including Glastonbury, The Big Chill, WOMAD and The Electric Picnic. They have collaborated musically with artists such as

**RICCARDO MUTI**  
Zell Music Director

**HELEN ZELL**  
Chair, Board of Trustees

**JEFF ALEXANDER**  
President

**YO-YO MA**  
Judson and Joyce Green Creative Consultant

Madness, Robbie Williams, Rainer Hersch and a full symphony orchestra performing at the Royal Festival Hall in London, as well as with the British Film Institute in providing music for silent films. The Ukulele Orchestra has recorded and released records, CDs and DVDs on its own independent label and with CBS, Sony and more.

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](http://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**

Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 8:00 p.m.  
**George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain**

Tickets: \$30-\$80

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**Featured Artists for this Performance:**

[George Hinchliffe's Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain](http://www.cso.org)

**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 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](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.