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CONDUCTOR EDO DE WAART RETURNS TO LEAD CSO IN PROGRAM OF WORKS BY ADAMS, STRAVINSKY AND DVOŘÁK

MacArthur Fellow and Avery Fisher Prize Winner Leila Josefowicz is Soloist in Stravinsky’s Violin Concerto

December 19-22

CHICAGO—Conductor Edo de Waart, Music Director of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Laureate of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, returns to lead the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) in December subscription concerts at Symphony Center on Thursday, December 19, at 8:00 p.m., Friday, December 20, at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, December 21, at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday, December 22, at 3:00 p.m. The program includes The Chairman Dances by John Adams and Stravinsky’s Violin Concerto featuring MacArthur Fellow and 2018 Avery Fisher Prize winner Leila Josefowicz as soloist. Dvořák’s Carnival Overture and Symphony No. 8 complete the program.

The program opens with the first CSO subscription concert performances of Adams’s The Chairman Dances. Filled with pulsing percussion figures and foxtrot dance rhythms, the piece has a unique history of being a precursor to the American composer’s topical opera, Nixon in China. The program continues with Stravinsky’s Violin Concerto. Written in 1931, the four movements of the concerto refer to forms more familiar in Baroque music. The concerto begins with a Toccata filled with playful themes that pop up in an energetic exchange between soloist and ensemble, followed by the intense lyricism found in Aria I and II before closing with a Capriccio that sparkles with syncopated rhythms and virtuosity. The second half of the program
opens with Dvořák’s exhilarating Carnival concert overture and concludes with his Symphony No. 8. Written in the summer of 1889 at Dvořák’s country home in his native Bohemia, the pastoral qualities of his eighth symphony include expansive melodies and elements of traditional folk music throughout the work. The piece received its first performance by the Orchestra in 1893, at the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago with Dvořák himself conducting.

Music Director of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra and Music Director Laureate of Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Edo de Waart also holds the positions of Conductor Laureate of the Antwerp Symphony Orchestra and Netherlands Radio Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to his existing posts, he was previously Music Director of the San Francisco Symphony, Minnesota Orchestra, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and Sydney Symphony Orchestra, and Chief Conductor of De Nederlandse Opera. A renowned orchestral trainer, he has been involved with projects working with talented young players at the Juilliard and Colburn schools, and the Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara. Edo de Waart has received a number of awards for his musical achievements, including becoming a Knight in the Order of the Netherlands Lion and an Honorary Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia. He is also an Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

Winner of the 2018 Avery Fisher Prize, violinist Leila Josefowicz has performed with many of the world’s most prestigious orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Washington’s National Symphony Orchestra, and Boston and Finnish Radio symphony orchestras. Her passionate advocacy of contemporary music for the violin is reflected in her diverse programs and enthusiasm to perform new works. In 2008, she was awarded a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, joining prominent scientists, writers and musicians who have made unique contributions to contemporary life. Josefowicz has released several recordings, notably for Deutsche Grammophon, Philips/Universal and Warner Classics and was featured on Touch Press’ acclaimed iPad app, The Orchestra. Her most recent recording, featuring John Adams’s Scheherazade.2 with the St. Louis Symphony conducted by David Robertson, was released in 2016 and was nominated for a Grammy Award. Josefowicz was also the featured soloist with the CSO in acclaimed 2017 performances of Scheherazade.2 led by conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen.

Tickets for all CSOA-presented 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. CSO tickets for select program are also available through the city’s new Teen Arts Pass (TAP) program. More information available at https://teenartspass.urbangateways.org/.
Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

United Airlines is the official airline of the CSO.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, December 19, 2019, 8:00 p.m.
Friday, December 20, 2019, 1:30 p.m.
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Sunday, December 22, 2019, 3:00 p.m.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Edo de Waart, conductor
Leila Josefowicz, violin

ADAMS
The Chairman Dances
(Foxtrot for Orchestra)

STRAVINSKY
Violin Concerto

DVOŘÁK
Carnival Overture, Op. 92

DVOŘÁK
Symphony No. 8

Tickets: $41-$235

Featured Conductor and Artists for this Performance:
Edo de Waart, conductor
Leila Josefowicz, violin

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra: cso.org and 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. Missy Mazzoli is Mead Composer-in-Residence.

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.