CONDUCTOR KIRILL KARABITS MAKES SUBSCRIPTION DEBUT IN PROGRAM OF WORKS BY PROKOFIEV, MENDELSSOHN, AND LUTOSLAWSKI

Pianist Sunwook Kim Makes CSO Debut in Mendelssohn’s Piano concerto No. 1

October 10-12

CHICAGO—Ukrainian conductor Kirill Karabits, Chief Conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the German National Theater and Staatskapelle Weimar, makes his CSO subscription debut in concerts on Thursday, October 10, at 8:00 p.m.; Friday, October 11 at 1:30 p.m., and Saturday, October 12, at 8:00 p.m. Karabits leads a program of works by Prokofiev, Lutoslawski, and Mendelssohn, including Mendelssohn’s Piano Concerto No. 1 and Capriccio brillant with soloist Sunwook Kim in his CSO debut.

The program opens with Prokofiev’s Overture on Hebrew Themes, the composer’s first composition to be rooted in folk music. Taking inspiration from folk and Jewish melodies, the atmospheric music features colorful components including a distinctive clarinet solo that recurs throughout the piece. The program continues with two Mendelssohn works featuring solo piano—the Piano Concerto No. 1 and Capriccio brillant. Written and premiered only a year apart (1831 and 1832 respectively), and featuring the composer himself as soloist at each premiere, each work displays Mendelssohn’s gift for tender lyricism and dazzling virtuosity, as well as dynamic orchestral writing. Lutosławski’s Concerto for Orchestra completes the program. Recognized as one of the 20th century’s modern masters, Lutosławski premiered the work in his native Poland in 1954. Written during a compositional period influenced by traditional Polish folk
music, the opening movement, Intrada, includes a motif based on a folk melody from Poland’s Mazovia region. The concerto continues with a movement marked Capriccio, Notturno and Arioso that evokes “night music” as solo wind players softly murmur in a quiet musical exchange before moving into a powerful finale marked Passacaglia, Toccata and Chorale.

Pianist Sunwook Kim first gained international attention following his first-place finish in the 2006 Leeds International Piano Competition. Kim was the first Asian musician and the youngest contestant to win the competition in 40 years. Since then, Kim’s career has been marked by acclaimed performances with distinguished orchestras around the world, including the London Symphony Orchestra, Berlin Radio Symphony, NDR Symphony Orchestra of Hamburg and the London Philharmonic. Kim has received additional honors from a number of ensembles including a season-long residency with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in the 2015/16 season.

Ukrainian conductor Kirill Karabits marks his 11th season as Chief Conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in 2019/20. He is also Music Director of the German National Theater and the Staatskapelle Weimar, and has served as Artistic Director of Poland’s I, CULTURE Orchestra since 2014. Karabits has also worked with many of the leading ensembles of Europe, Asia, and North America including the Philharmonic Orchestra of Strasbourg, Philharmonic Radio France, Budapest Festival Orchestra, and BBC Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Cleveland, Philadelphia and San Francisco Symphony orchestras. In 2013, Karabits was named Conductor of the Year by the Royal Philharmonic Society. Karabits made his CSO debut at the Ravinia Festival in 2016.

The Thursday, October 10 concert is part of the CSO’s Classic Encounter series and includes a lively pre-concert scene complete with food and drinks. The October 10 event features a multimedia presentation and conversation with a CSO musician hosted by WXRT Radio and Radio Hall of Fame DJ Terri Hemmert. Single tickets for the Classic Encounter reception, priced at $25, can be added to any concert ticket order for the October 10 event. Eight or four-concert Classic Encounter series subscription ticket packages are available and include concert tickets and access to preconcert receptions. More information is available at cso.org/classic-encounter.

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.
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The appearance of Maestro Kirill Karabits is made possible by the Juli Plant Grainger Fund for Artistic Excellence.

The appearance of Sunwook Kim is made possible by the Grainger Fund for Excellence.

The performance of Lutosławski’s Concerto for Orchestra is supported in part by a generous grant from the Adam Mickiewicz institute in partnership with LOT Polish Airlines.

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra**  
**Thursday, October 10 at 8:00 p.m.**  
**Friday, October 11 at 1:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, October 12 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Chicago Symphony Orchestra**  
**Kirill Karabits, conductor**  
**Sunwook Kim, piano**

- **PROKOFIEV**  
  Overture on Hebrew Themes

- **MENDELSSOHN**  
  Piano Concerto No. 1

- **MENDELSSOHN**  
  Capriccio brillant

- **LUTOSŁAWSKI**  
  Concerto for Orchestra

**Tickets:**  
$32-$222

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**Featured Conductor and Artists for this Performance:**  
Kirill Karabits, conductor  
Sunwook Kim, 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. 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](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.