RICCARDO MUTI RETURNS FOR A THREE-WEEK CSO RESIDENCY IN NOVEMBER WITH CONCERTS AND ACTIVITIES IN CHICAGO AND TWO CONCERT PROGRAMS AT CARNEGIE HALL IN NEW YORK

Muti and the CSO Perform the World Premiere of Pulitzer Prize–winning Composer Bernard Rands’s DREAM for Orchestra on a Program with Liszt’s Mazeppa and Beethoven’s Violin Concerto featuring Leonidas Kavakos as soloist (November 1, 2, & 5)

Muti Leads CSO in a Program featuring Brahms’s Double Concerto with Associate Concertmaster Stephanie Jeong and Assistant Principal Cello Kenneth Olsen as Soloists (November 7, 9, &12)

Muti and the CSO Perform at Carnegie Hall with Renowned Mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato on November 15 and in an All-Prokofiev Program on November 16

NOVEMBER 1-16, 2019

CHICAGO—Music Director Riccardo Muti returns in November for a three-week CSO residency, the second of the 2019/20 season, the Orchestra’s 129th season and Mutti’s 10th as music director. The residency includes two subscription programs in Chicago, as well as two concert programs at Carnegie Hall in New York. Muti conducts the world premiere of Pulitzer Prize–winning composer Bernard Rands’s DREAM for Orchestra on a subscription program that also includes Liszt’s sixth symphonic poem Mazeppa and Beethoven’s Violin Concerto featuring
violinist Leonidas Kavakos as soloist on **Friday, November 1, at 1:30 p.m.**, **Saturday, November 2, at 8:00 p.m.**, and **Tuesday, November 5, at 7:30 p.m.** Muti then conducts a program that features Associate Concertmaster Stephanie Jeong and Assistant Principal Cello Kenneth Olsen as soloists in Brahms’s Double Concerto, on **Thursday, November 7, at 8:00 p.m.**, **Saturday, November 9, at 8:00 p.m.**, and **Tuesday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m.** The November residency concludes in New York, where Muti conducts the CSO at Carnegie Hall in a program featuring works by Bizet and Respighi, as well as Berlioz’s *The Death of Cleopatra* with mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato as soloist on **Friday, November 15, at 8:00 p.m.**, and in an all-Prokofiev program on **Saturday, November 16, at 8:00 p.m.**

In addition to concert performances, Muti participates in the Fourth CSO Sir Georg Solti Conducting Competition on November 3. Muti and an esteemed selection committee will choose a new Solti Conducting Apprentice, who will succeed the most recent Solti Apprentice Erina Yashima. Other activities include an invited CSO open rehearsal for donors on November 7, and the annual “Fall in Love with Music” luncheon and benefit event presented by the League of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) on Friday, November 8 at 11:30 a.m. at the Union League Club. This year’s event features a conversation with Music Director Riccardo Muti and the CSO’s Program Annotator and Scholar in Residence Phillip Huscher, along with a musical performance featuring the CSO’s Associate Concertmaster Stephanie Jeong and Assistant Principal Cello Kenneth Olsen. Reservation information for this special fundraiser is available [here](#).

In the first subscription program of the November residency (**November 1, 2, & 5**), Muti leads the CSO in a program that includes the world premiere of a CSO-commissioned work by Bernard Rands. The composer’s *DREAM* for Orchestra musically depicts not a specific dream, but the general characteristics of them. As Rands explains, the piece highlights the juxtapositions dreams can present “unfolding in unreal time and often linked by a single, dominating element.” In the case of *DREAM*, the piece revolves around a singular extended melody, which Rands composed 35 years ago on a flight from London to Sydney and returned to for his new orchestral work. This melody anchors the listener along the composer’s journey through an array of explorations of harmony, rhythm and timbre.

With a decades-long career and a catalog of more than a 100 published works, Bernard Rands has established himself as a prominent figure in contemporary music. His pieces have been commissioned and performed by world-renowned orchestras including New York Philharmonic, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, the Internationale Bach Akademie and Chicago Symphony Orchestra. He received the Pulitzer Prize for his work *Canti del Sole* in 1984. Rands also is a dedicated and passionate teacher, and has been invited as a guest composer at many international festivals including Aspen and Tanglewood. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra has previously premiered several compositions by Rands, including *apókryphos* in 2003 and *Danza Petrificada* in 2011 with Riccardo Muti. Muti’s association with Rands extends to their work together at the Philadelphia Orchestra where Rands served as Composer-in-Residence from 1989 to 1995.
The program also includes Liszt’s *Mazeppa*, Symphonic Poem No. 6, a thrilling musical depiction of the legend of Lithuanian nobleman, which inspired poems by Lord Byron and Victor Hugo. These mark the CSO’s first performances of *Mazeppa* since 1947. Beethoven’s Violin Concerto with Leonidas Kavakos as soloist opens this program, and is part of the CSO’s season-long exploration and celebration of the music of Ludwig van Beethoven in conjunction with the 250th anniversary of his birth in 2020. More information is available at [cso.org/beethoven250](http://cso.org/beethoven250).

Leonidas Kavakos first rose to critical acclaim at the age of 21 after winning three major violin competitions: the Sibelius (1985), Paganini, and Naumburg competitions (1988). Since then, he has performed with some of the most prestigious orchestras, including the Vienna Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, and Danish National Symphony. Kavakos was awarded Gramophone Artist of the Year 2014, and is the 2017 winner of the Léonie Sonning Music Prize, Denmark’s highest and most prestigious musical honor. Kavakos marks his third solo appearance with the CSO in these performances.

In his second subscription program (November 7, 9, & 12) Muti and the CSO perform a varied program which includes Wagner’s Overture to *The Flying Dutchman*, Schumann’s Symphony No. 3 (*Rhenish*) and Brahms’s Double Concerto featuring Associate Concertmaster Stephanie Jeong joins Assistant Principal Cello Kenneth Olsen as soloists. The Brahms Double Concerto marks one of the composer’s final explorations of orchestral writing before he turned his attention to the more intimate world of art song and chamber music. With its rich harmonies and exquisite lyricism, the Double Concerto also provides a platform for the violin and cello to interact in virtuosic solo and duo passages throughout the work.

Stephanie Jeong was appointed Associate Concertmaster of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2011 by music director Riccardo Muti. Prior to joining the CSO, she was a member of the New York Philharmonic from 2010 to 2011. She is a top-prize winner and recipient of the Best Paganini Concerto Prize of the 2008 Paganini Violin Competition in Italy. Her previous solo appearances include the CSO’s performance of Bach’s *Double* Violin Concerto with Pinchas Zuckerman in its 2015/2016 season. She has also been a featured solo performer many times on the CSO’s contemporary music series, MusicNOW.

Kenneth Olsen joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as Assistant Principal Cello in 2005, appointed by music director Daniel Barenboim. He is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and a winner of the school’s prestigious concerto competition. His other awards include first prize in the Nakamichi Cello Competition at the Aspen Music Festival and second prize at the 2002 Holland-America Music Society Competition.

Jeong and Olsen previously performed as soloists together with the CSO under Muti for Beethoven’s *Triple* Concerto during the 2014/15 season.
To conclude the November residency, Muti and the CSO travel to New York for two concert programs at Carnegie Hall. The first program on **Friday, November 15, at 8:00 p.m.**, features three musical works with connections to Rome including Bizet’s *Roma*, followed by Berlioz’s *The Death of Cleopatra*, a work for mezzo-soprano soloist and orchestra dramatically depicting the final moments of the doomed Egyptian queen Cleopatra—sung in these performances by American mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato. Respighi’s *The Pines of Rome*, one of three symphonic poems written by the Italian composer about different aspects of the Eternal City, completes the program. The CSO’s November 15 program with Muti and DiDonato will be broadcast and streamed live on radio station WQXR (105.9FM/ wqxr.org), and simulcast in Chicago by *WFMT 98.7FM*.

Multi-Grammy award-winner Joyce DiDonato has received acclaim as both an operatic performer and an advocate for the arts. Highly praised for her Rossini, Mozart, and Handel roles, she performs regularly with the world’s leading opera houses, including The Metropolitan Opera, the Royal Opera House, the Vienna State Opera, and Teatro Real Madrid. In addition to her successes on the operatic stage, DiDonato is in high demand on the concert and recital circuit, completing residencies at Carnegie Hall, as well as making two previous concert appearances with Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

The second program on **Saturday, November 16, at 8:00 p.m** features Muti and the CSO and an all-Prokofiev program that includes a Suite from *Romeo and Juliet*—music featured in a 2014 CSO Resound recording—and the composer’s Symphony No. 3, a work that includes episodes of dark intensity and delicate textures. Material from the composer’s earlier opera, *The Fiery Angel*, permeates the symphony and hints at the opera’s story of a woman’s obsession with inexplicable visions of an angel who she believes has come down to earth. Muti and the Orchestra open their January 2020 European Tour with the all-Prokofiev program in a January 9 performance at the Kölner Philharmonie in Cologne, Germany. More information about the European tour available at *cso.org/europeantour*.

The CSO’s concert programs at Carnegie Hall are enhanced by several community engagement and education activities supported by the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO. The activities include November 15 master classes in the Resnick Education Wing at Carnegie Hall with Acting Principal Viola Li-Kuo Chang and Assistant Principal Cello Kenneth Olsen, and a performance for patients at Bellevue Hospital by a CSO chamber ensemble (Cornelius Chiu and So Young Bae, violins; Youming Chen, viola; Dan Katz, cello and Dan Armstrong, double bass).

Following his September residency to open the CSO’s 2019/20 season and his 10th as the Orchestra’s music director, Muti returned to Italy and was honored at a special ceremony at the University of Genoa on October 5 that coincided with the beginning of the academic year. At the ceremony, held in the city’s historic Palazzo Ducale, Muti received an honorary degree in international sciences, going on to deliver remarks and then leading students from Genoa’s Niccolò Paganini Conservatory in the second movement of Beethoven’s Symphony No. 3 (*Eroica*), the “Funeral March.” On October 12, “Lezioni di musica” (Music Lessons), a new 10-
CD set featuring the musical partnership of Riccardo Muti and the Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra, was released. The ensemble was created by Muti in 2004 in his native Italy to foster the training of young musicians. The new set of recordings, produced through a special collaboration between the Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera and Riccardo Muti Music, features selections including Catalani’s Contemplazione, Martucci’s Notturno, opera interludes and intermezzi from Cavalleria Rusticana, Pagliacci, Manon Lescaut and Fedora, as well as Mozart’s Bassoon Concerto in B flat major and several works by Verdi. Later in October, Muti returned to the podium of the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra in Munich on October 17 and 18 to lead a program of works by Schubert including his Symphony No. 7 (Unfinished) and Mass No. 6 in E flat major.

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.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

The CSO’s music director position is endowed in perpetuity by a generous gift from the Zell Family Foundation.

Bank of America is the Maestro Residency Presenting Sponsor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

The performances on November 1, 2, and 5 are made possible by the generous support of the Edward F. Schmidt Family Commissioning Fund.

The performances on November 15 and 16 are partially endowed by The Eloise W. Martin Endowed Fund in support of Chicago Symphony Orchestra appearances at Carnegie Hall.

The CSO is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Friday, November 1, at 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 2, at 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 5, at 7:30 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Leonidas Kavakos, violin

BEETHOVEN Violin Concerto
RANDS DREAM for Orchestra
LISZT Mazeppa, Symphonic Poem No. 6

Tickets: $38-$254

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, November 7, at 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 9, at 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Stephanie Jeong, violin
Kenneth Olsen, cello

WAGNER Overture to The Flying Dutchman
BRAHMS Double Concerto
SCHUMANN Symphony No. 3 (Rhenish)

Tickets: $36-$225

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
at Carnegie Hall
Carnegie Hall
881 7th Ave
New York, NY 10019

Friday, November 15, at 8:00 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Joyce DiDonato, mezzo-soprano

BIZET Roma
BERLIOZ The Death of Cleopatra, Lyric Scene for Mezzo-Soprano and Orchestra
RESPIGHI The Pines of Rome

Tickets available at carnegiehall.org

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
at Carnegie Hall
Carnegie Hall
881 7th Ave
New York, NY 10019

Saturday, November 16, at 8:00 p.m.
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

PROKOFIEV Suite from Romeo and Juliet
PROKOFIEV Symphony No. 3
Riccardo Muti

Riccardo Muti, born in Naples, Italy, is one of the preeminent conductors of our day. In 2010, when he became the tenth music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO), he already had more than forty years of experience at the helm of the Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, Philharmonia Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, and Teatro alla Scala. He is a guest conductor for orchestras and opera houses all over the world: the Berlin Philharmonic, the Vienna Philharmonic, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Vienna State Opera, the Royal Opera House, the Metropolitan Opera, and many others.

Muti studied piano under Vincenzo Vitale at the Conservatory of San Pietro a Majella in his hometown of Naples, graduating with distinction. He subsequently received a diploma in composition and conducting from the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory in Milan, also graduating with distinction. His principal teachers were Bruno Bettinelli and Antonino Votto, principal assistant to Arturo Toscanini at La Scala. After he won the Guido Cantelli Conducting Competition—by unanimous vote of the jury—in Milan in 1967, Muti’s career developed quickly. In 1968, he became principal conductor of Florence’s Maggio Musicale, a position that he held until 1980. In 2017, Muti led the Orchestra of the Maggio Musicale in performances that were part of the historic G-7 Culture Summit which explored the use of culture as an instrument of dialogue among different peoples and nations.

Herbert von Karajan invited him to conduct at the Salzburg Festival in Austria in 1971, and Muti has maintained a close relationship with the summer festival and with its great orchestra, the Vienna Philharmonic, for more than forty-five years. When he conducted the philharmonic’s 150th anniversary concert in 1992, he was presented with the Golden Ring, a special sign of esteem and affection, and in 2001, his outstanding artistic contributions to the orchestra were further recognized with the Otto Nicolai Gold Medal. He is also a recipient of a silver medal from the Salzburg Mozarteum for his contribution to the music of W.A. Mozart. He is an honorary member of Vienna’s Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde (Society of the Friends of Music), the Vienna Hofmusikkapelle, the Vienna Philharmonic, and the Vienna State Opera. In 2015, he founded the Riccardo Muti Italian Opera Academy in Ravenna, Italy, to train young conductors, répétiteurs, and singers in the Italian opera repertoire.

Muti succeeded Otto Klemperer as chief conductor and music director of London’s Philharmonia Orchestra in 1973, holding that position until 1982. From 1980 to 1992, he was music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and in 1986, he became music director of Milan’s Teatro alla Scala. During his nineteen-year tenure, in addition to directing major projects such as the Mozart–Da Ponte trilogy and Wagner Ring cycle, Muti conducted operatic and symphonic repertoire ranging from the baroque to the contemporary, also leading hundreds of concerts with the Filarmonica della Scala and touring the world with both the opera company and the orchestra. His tenure as music director, the longest of any in La Scala’s history, culminated in the triumphant reopening of the restored opera house with Antonio Salieri’s Europa riconosciuta, originally commissioned for La Scala’s inaugural performance in 1778.

Throughout his career, Muti has dedicated much time and effort to training young musicians. In 2004, he founded the Orchestra Giovanile Luigi Cherubini (Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra), based in his native Italy. He regularly tours with the ensemble to prestigious concert halls and opera houses all over the world.

Since 1997, as part of Le vie dell’Amicizia (The paths of friendship), a project of the Ravenna Festival in Italy, Muti has annually conducted large-scale concerts in war-torn and poverty-stricken areas around the world, using music to bring hope, unity, and attention to present day social, cultural, and humanitarian issues.

Muti has received innumerable international honors. He is a Cavaliere di Gran Croce of the Italian Republic, Officer of the French Legion of Honor, and a recipient of the German Verdienstkreuz. Queen Elizabeth II bestowed on him the title of honorary Knight Commander of the British Empire, Russian
President Vladimir Putin awarded him the Order of Friendship, and Pope Benedict XVI made him a Knight of the Grand Cross First Class of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great—the highest papal honor. Muti also has received Israel’s Wolf Prize for the arts, Sweden’s prestigious Birgit Nilsson Prize, Spain’s Prince of Asturias Award for the Arts, and the gold medal from Italy’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs for his promotion of Italian culture abroad. In March 2017, the Italian government recognized Muti with its prestigious Presidente della Repubblica award, presented to Muti for his exceptional contribution to Italian culture in the field of music. He has received more than twenty honorary degrees from universities around the world.

Considered one of the greatest interpreters of Verdi in our time, Muti wrote a book on the composer, *Verdi, l’italiano*, published in Italian, German, and Japanese. His first book, *Riccardo Muti: An Autobiography: First the Music, Then the Words*, also has been published in several languages, as well as *Infinity Between the Notes: My Journey Into Music*, published May 2019 and available in Italian.

Riccardo Muti’s vast catalog of recordings, numbering in the hundreds, ranges from the traditional symphonic and operatic repertoires to contemporary works. His debut recording with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus of Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem*, released in 2010 by CSO Resound, won two Grammy awards. His second recording with the CSO and Chorus, Verdi’s *Otello*, released in 2013 by CSO Resound, won the 2014 International Opera Award for the Best Complete Opera.

During his time with the CSO, Muti has won over audiences in greater Chicago and across the globe through his music making as well as his demonstrated commitment to sharing classical music. His annual free concerts for the city of Chicago attract tens of thousands of people. He regularly invites subscribers, students, seniors, and people of low incomes to attend, at no charge, his CSO rehearsals. Muti’s commitment to artistic excellence and to creating a strong bond between an orchestra and its communities continues to bring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra to ever higher levels of achievement and renown.

*riccardomutimusic.com*

**Other Featured Artists for this Performance:**
Leonidas Kavakos, violin
Stephanie Jeong, violin
Kenneth Olsen, cello
Joyce DiDonato, mezzo-soprano

*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 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.