MUSIC DIRECTOR GIANCARLO GUERRERO LEADS THE NFM WROCŁAW PHILHARMONIC AT SYMPHONY CENTER

Program Includes Works by Lutosławski and Brahms

Polish Pianist Piotr Anderszewski is Featured Soloist in Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3

Saturday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m.

CHICAGO—The Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Orchestras series continues on Saturday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m., with the Wrocław Philharmonic at the National Forum of Music in Poland led by Music Director Giancarlo Guerrero. The orchestra performs Brahms’ Symphony No. 1 and Lutosławski’s Symphonic Variations, as well as Bartók’s Piano Concerto featuring acclaimed Polish pianist Piotr Anderszewski as soloist.

The program opens with Lutosławski’s dynamic Symphonic Variations. The Polish composer’s work, written in 1939, consists of a simple, folk-like theme that is carried throughout nine variations that are presented in a continuous manner and feature an array of orchestral colors. Anderszewski then joins the orchestra for Bartók’s Piano Concerto No. 3. Composed in 1945 during the final months of his life, Bartok wrote this serene and lyrical piano concerto for his wife. The program concludes with Brahms’ iconic first symphony. The symphony, which took more than two decades to complete, builds on the compositional legacy of Beethoven in its scope and romantic expression.

The NFM Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra, under the leadership of Giancarlo Guerrero since 2017, has become an international champion of Polish music since its founding in 1945. The
orchestra, which formerly was known as the Witold Lutosławski Philharmonic from 1994-2015, has quickly established a reputation for exceptional performances and stunning versatility. The orchestra’s home venue is the National Forum of Music in Wrocław, which was established in 2014 after the merger of the International Festival Wratislavia Cantans and the Witold Lutosławski Philharmonic in Wrocław. The NFM Wrocław Philharmonic regularly performs works commissioned by the National Forum of Music and has a growing international presence with its commitment to presenting classical and romantic masterworks, as well as 20th and 21st-century symphonic repertoire and music by contemporary Polish composers. The orchestra’s numerous, award-winning albums include *Witold Lutosławski: Opera omnia*, a recording of the complete works of the 20th-century composer. In addition to their acclaimed performances of classical works, the orchestra regularly collaborates with avant-garde and jazz artists.

Six-time Grammy Award-winner Giancarlo Guerrero has received widespread praise for his interpretations of contemporary works and staples of the classical repertoire. His role as Music Director of the NFM Wrocław Philharmonic is accompanied by his roles as Music Director of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and Principal Guest Conductor of the Gulbenkian Orchestra in Lisbon, Portugal. His relationships with premier orchestras across the world have led to appearances with the London Philharmonic, Netherlands Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra and Los Angeles Philharmonic. Following his conducting training at Baylor University and Northwestern University, Guerrero launched a career dedicated to showcasing new works and expanding music education opportunities, particularly for students from underrepresented communities.

Since his public debut in 1990, Piotr Anderszewski has established himself as one of the pre-eminent performers of classical piano repertoire. His awards include the 2001 Royal Philharmonic Prize for Best Instrumentalist, 2002 Gilmore Artist Award and the 2006 Gramophone Award for his recording of Karol Szymanowski’s works for solo piano. Anderszewski has performed with some of the most esteemed orchestras in the world including the Berlin Philharmonic, Berlin Staatskapelle, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra and the Philharmonia Orchestra of London. As a concert pianist, he has also performed in some of the most historic concert houses in the world, including the Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Wiener Konzerthaus, Carnegie Hall and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées.

Tickets for all Symphony Center Presents Orchestras series 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
Saturday, January 25, at 7:30 p.m.
NFM Wrocław Philharmonic Orchestra
Giancarlo Guerrero, conductor
Piotr Anderszewski, piano

LUTOSŁAWSKI
Symphonic Variations

BARTÓK
Piano Concerto No. 3

BRAHMS
Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Op. 68

Tickets: $32-$158

Featured Conductor and Artists for this Performance:
NFM Wrocław Philharmonic
Giancarlo Guerrero, conductor
Piotr Anderszewski, piano

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 ensembles 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 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.