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MARIACHI VARGAS DE TECALITLÁN PERFORMS CLASSIC WORKS AND NEW TAKES ON TRADITIONAL MEXICAN SONGS FOR SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS SPECIAL CONCERT

World-Renowned Mariachi Ensemble Brings Mexico’s Classic Sound

Saturday, February 15, at 7:30 p.m.

CHICAGO—Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán performs a collection of classic folkloric works and innovative takes on traditional music for their 12th appearance at Symphony Center on Saturday, February 15, at 7:30 p.m. The world-renowned mariachi group has thrived for six generations and become one of the most internationally celebrated ensembles in Mexican music history, spurring national pride for what is now recognized as Mexico’s classic sound.

Based in Mexico City, Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán is considered the most influential ensemble in the development of mariachi music and the leading authority for the art form. The group’s irresistible energy and musical mastery are displayed in its moving renditions of repertoire ranging from traditional Mexican songs, as well as classic and new works. Performing in dazzling traditional costumes, the 14 musicians of Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán are currently under the musical direction of Carlos Martínez and include vocalists, as well as instrumentalists who perform on violins, trumpets, harps and several types of guitars, including the guitar-like vihuela and guitarrón.

Since their founding in 1898, Mariachi Vargas has produced more than 200 recordings. Most recently they released Concierto Sinfónico di Aniversario, their first studio album with a full orchestra. The group’s music also can be heard in a number of films including Transformers (2007), Man on Fire (2004) and the animated family feature Turbo (2013). Widely recognized for
their interpretations of classic songs such as “Amor Se Dice Cantando” and “El Cascabel,” Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán continues to record and tour internationally.

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 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, February 15, at 7:30 p.m. Special Concert Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán

Tickets: $35-$100

Featured Artists for this Performance:
Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán

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 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 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.