CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

RICCARDO MUTI
ZELL MUSIC DIRECTOR

SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS
I have always believed that the arts embody our civilization’s highest ideals and have the power to change society. The Chicago Symphony Orchestra is a leading example of this, for while it is made of the world’s most talented and experienced musicians—each individually skilled in his or her instrument—we achieve the greatest impact working together as one: as an orchestra or, in other words, as a community. Our purpose is to create the utmost form of artistic expression and in so doing, to serve as an example of what we can achieve as a collective when guided by our principles. Your presence is vital to supporting that process as well as building a vibrant future for this great cultural institution. With that in mind, I invite you to deepen your relationship with music and with the CSO during the 2017/18 season.

Riccardo Muti

WELCOME

STIRRING PERFORMANCES.
THE SOUL-RENEWING POWER OF MUSIC.

NIGHT AFTER NIGHT.

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The Magnificent Sound of Riccardo Muti and the CSO

THE BRILLIANCE OF THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA UNDER THE BATON OF RICCARDO MUTI WILL BE ON FULL DISPLAY DURING THE MAestro’S 2017/18 RESIDENCIES

Witness the majesty of timeless classical works as Riccardo Muti leads the world-renowned Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and acclaimed guest artists.

Program highlights include:

September 22
Symphony Ball: Mozart Turkish Concerto & Tchaikovsky The Sleeping Beauty
Anne-Sophie Mutter violin

September 23 & 26
Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto & Schumann Symphony No. 2
Anne-Sophie Mutter violin
Saturday C, Tuesday A

September 28–October 1
Bruckner Symphony No. 4 (Romantic)
Thursday A & E, Friday A, Sunday A

November 16–21
Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 & R. Strauss Suite from Le bourgeois gentilhomme
Kirill Gerstein piano
Thursday B & H, Friday B, Saturday A & E, Tuesday B

February 1–3
Britten Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes & Higdon Low Brass Concerto
Thursday B & H, Friday A, Saturday A & E, Tuesday B

March 15–17
Haydn Symphony No. 89 & Mozart Sinfonia concertante
Robert Chen violin
Paul Neubauer viola CSO DEBUT
Thursday C & E, Saturday B & G, CSO at Wheaton

March 22–24
Schubert Mass in E-flat Major
Thursday B & E, Friday C, Saturday C

April 12–17
Dvořák New World Symphony & Copland Lincoln Portrait
Thursday A & G, Friday B, Saturday A & F, Tuesday B

April 19–21
Tchaikovsky Swan Lake & Debussy Nocturnes
Sarah Bullen mezzo-soprano
Women of the Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe chorus director
Thursday C & G, Friday B, Saturday D

June 14–16
Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 2 & Prokofiev Symphony No. 3
Yo-Yo Ma cello
Thursday C & G, Friday C, Saturday B & H

June 21–24
Rossini Stabat mater
Krasimir Stoyanov soprano
Ekaterina Guzhenova mezzo-soprano
Dmitry Korchak tenor CSO DEBUT
Eric Owens bass-baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe chorus director
Thursday A & E, Friday B, Saturday A & F, Sunday A

“Working in perfect synchrony, Muti and the CSO conjure the most luscious sound, punctuated by quicksilver emotional shifts and a technical polish that invariably generates heat.”

—Chicago Sun-Times

Photos top to bottom: Anne-Sophie Mutter, Kirill Gerstein, Robert Chen, Krassimira Stoyanova
The celebrated Chicago Symphony Chorus, marking its 60th anniversary in 2017/18, joins Riccardo Muti, the CSO and international soloists for a moving performance of Schubert’s exquisite final Mass, written at the end of the young composer’s life.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti conductor
Amanda Forsythe soprano
Elizabeth DeShong mezzo-soprano cso debut
Paul Appleby tenor cso debut
Nicholas Phan tenor
Nahuel di Pierro bass cso debut
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe chorus director

Weber Overture to Oberon
Raimi Three Lisel Mueller Settings
Schubert Mass in E-flat Major

Performed March 22–24
Thursday B & I, Friday C, Saturday C

“The performance of Schubert’s Mass by Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus will likely figure on best-of lists. Muti and his CSO forces put across the heaven-storming drama as much as the moments of consolation and spiritual introspection.”—Chicago Classical Review

Riccardo Muti presents an extraordinary celebration of music that embodies the American spirit. Copland’s inspirational Lincoln Portrait uses the words of Abraham Lincoln to punctuate the stories of both an individual life and a diverse nation. Dvořák’s New World Symphony, one of his most beloved works, was influenced by the sounds of American folk music.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti conductor

Walker Lyric for Strings
Copland Lincoln Portrait
Dvořák Symphony No. 9 (From the New World)

Performed April 12–17
Thursday A & G, Friday D, Saturday A & F, Tuesday B
Dazzling Stars

The world’s greatest concert soloists head to Symphony Center this season. Hear returning favorites and CSO debuts in captivating performances, including pianists Daniil Trifonov and Mitsuko Uchida; violinists Anne-Sophie Mutter and Leonidas Kavakos; cellists Alisa Weilerstein and Yo-Yo Ma; and singers Ekaterina Gubanova and Eric Owens, among many other esteemed artists.

Program highlights include:

- September 23 & 26: Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with Anne-Sophie Mutter
- November 2–5: Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1 with Sir András Schiff
- November 30–December 3: Mendelssohn Violin Concerto with Gil Shaham
- December 7–12: Barber Cello Concerto with Alisa Weilerstein
- December 14–19: Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 2 with Daniil Trifonov
- December 21–23: Beethoven Violin Concerto with Nikolaj Znaider
- February 22–27: Chopin Piano Concerto No. 2 with David Fray
- March 3–11: Shostakovich Violin Concerto No. 1 with Leonidas Kavakos
- April 5–10: Ravel Piano Concerto for the Left Hand with Jean-Yves Thibaudet

May 24–26: Bartók Piano Concerto No. 3 with Mitsuko Uchida

June 7–9: Vivaldi, Bach & Haydn with CSO debuts by Giovanni Antonini, conductor and flautino Avi Avital

June 14–16: Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 2 with Yo-Yo Ma

June 21–24: Rossini Stabat mater with Krassimira Stoyanova, soprano, Ekaterina Gubanova, mezzo-soprano, Dmitry Korchak, tenor, Eric Owens, bass-baritone, Chicago Symphony Chorus, Duain Wolfe, chorus director
Symphonic Masterworks

The music of Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Mahler and more

The Randy L. and Melvin R. Berlin Family Fund for the Canon provides support for artistic excellence in the programming of core classical orchestral repertoire, recognizing and demonstrating the impact of great masters on the legacy of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA BRINGS ITS MATCHLESS VIRTUOSITY AND POWER TO MASTERPIECES THAT HAVE ENCHANTED GENERATIONS

September 22
Symphony Ball:
Tchaikovsky The Sleeping Beauty
Riccardo Muti conductor

October 26 & 27
Rachmaninov Symphonic Dances
James Gaffigan conductor

November 2–5
Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 1
Sir András Schiff conductor and piano

November 9–11
Schubert Symphony No. 9 (Great)
Christoph von Dohnányi conductor

December 7–12
Dvořák Symphony No. 5
Jiří Bělohlávek conductor – CSO debut

December 14–19
Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5
Jaap van Zweden conductor

January 25–30
Mahler Symphony No. 5
Manfred Honeck conductor

March 1–3
Beethoven Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)
Herbert Blomstedt conductor

March 15–17
Haydn Symphony No. 89 & Mozart Sinfonia concertante
Riccardo Muti conductor

April 5–10
Ravel Daphnis and Chloe
Charles Dutoit conductor

April 19–21
Tchaikovsky Swan Lake
Riccardo Muti conductor

May 3–5
Tchaikovsky Manfred Symphony
Semyon Bychkov conductor

May 11–15
Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3 (Organ)
Emmanuel Krivine conductor

May 17–22
Mahler Symphony No. 9
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor

May 31–June 3
Beethoven Symphony No. 4
Marek Janowski conductor

June 14–16
Prokofiev Symphony No. 3
Riccardo Muti conductor
CHOOSE YOUR CONCERT SERIES  BROWSE PAGES 12 TO 33 FOR ALL CSO MAIN SERIES PACKAGES

THURSDAY A  10 concerts at 8:00  |  5-concert series: Thu F or Thu G

SEP 28  NOV 2  DEC 7  JAN 25  FEB 22  MAR 8  MAR 29  APR 12  MAY 31  JUN 21

September 28 F  Muti Conducts Bruckner 4  Riccardo Muti conductor
ROSSINI Overture to William Tell
OGONER New Work
WORLD PREMIERE, CSO COMMISSION
BRUCKNER Symphony No. 4 (Romantic)


November 2 G  Schiff, Bach & Beethoven
Sri András Schiff conductor and piano
MOZART Serenades for Winds in C Minor
BARTÓK Divertimento for String Orchestra
DANCE Keyboard Concerto
BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 1


December 7 F  Dvořák S & Barber Cello Concerto
JILL BĚLOHLÁVEK conductor CSO DEBUT
Alisa Weilerstein, cello
SHEETMANN Selections from The Barbered Bride
BARBER Cello Concerto
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 5


January 25 G  Honeck Conducts Mahler 5
Manfred Honeck conductor
TILL FOLLNER piano
MOZART Piano Concerto No. 25
MAHLER Symphony No. 5


February 22 F  Chopin & Mendelssohn
Christoph Eschenbach conductor
David Fray piano
WEBER Overture to Der Freischütz
CHOPIN Piano Concerto No. 2
MENDELSJOHN Overture to A Midsummer Night’s Dream
MENDELSSOHN Symphony No. 4 (Italian)


March 8 G  Kavakos Performs Shostakovich
Charles Dutilh conductor
Leonidas Kavakos violin
MUSSORGSKY, ORCH. RINSKY-KORSAKOV Preludes to Khovanshchina
SHOSTAKOVICH Violin Concerto No. 1
KODÁX Suite from Háry János
NEBUSS Loi mer
Charles Dutilh conducts a colorful program ranging from the warm-hearted wit of Kodály’s Háry János to Debussy’s portrait of the sea. Leonidas Kavakos, an artist of superb virtuosity, returns as featured soloist in Shostakovich’s haunting First Violin Concerto. “Shostakovich’s Violin Concerto brought out the best in Kavakos… an intriguing mixture of fierce energy and fierce self-restraint.” (Pennsylvania Times).


March 29 F  Nagano Conducts Bernstein, Wagner & Schumann
Kent Nagano conductor
Gilles Vonsattel piano CSO DEBUT
WAGNER Siegfried Idyll
BERSINHTEIN Symphony No. 2 (The Age of Anxiety)
SCHUMANN Symphony No. 1 (Spring)


April 12 G  Muti, Dvořák New World Symphony & Copland Lincoln Portrait
Riccardo Muti conductor
WALKER Lyric for Strings
COPLAND Lincoln Portrait
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9 (From the New World)
Riccardo Muti presents an extraordinary celebration of music that embodies the American spirit. Copland’s inspirational Lincoln Portrait uses the words of Abraham Lincoln to punctuate the stories of both an individual life and a diverse nation. Dvořák’s New World Symphony, one of his most beloved works, was influenced by the sounds of American folk music.


May 31 G  Janowski Conducts Wagner & Beethoven 4
Mark Janowski conductor
WEBER Overture to Die Entführung
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 4
WAGNER Overture and Venusberg Music from Tannhäuser
WAGNER Prelude to Act 3 of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg
WAGNER Prelude to Act 1 of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg


June 21 F  Muti Conducts Rossini Stabat mater
See description on facing page.


Muti Conducts Rossini
Stabat mater

“Rossini’s Stabat mater is a longstanding specialty of Muti’s. It moves in several directions at once: the arias are as operatic as can be, yet the two unaccompanied choruses are sublimely devotional. The music is unquestionably dramatic: not the extraverted drama of a costumed operatic pageant, but of a prayerful supplicant’s interior passion.”—The New York Times

Riccardo Muti leads the CSO, the Chicago Symphony Chorus and internationally celebrated singers in Rossini’s dramatic and thrilling Stabat mater. Lovers of opera and choral works alike will not want to miss this remarkable program that also features Mozart’s Kyrie in D Minor and the haunting Choral Suite on the life of Joseph Haydn by Cherubini, whom Beethoven considered the greatest of his contemporaries.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti conductor
Krasimira Stoyanova soprano
Ekaterina Gubanova mezzo-soprano
Dmitry Korchak tenor CSO DEBUT
Eric Owens bass-baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Dustin Wolf Chorus Director

Mozart: Kyrie in D Minor
Cherubini: Chant sur la mort de Joseph Haydn
Rossini: Stabat mater

Performed June 21–24
THURSDAY A & F, FRIDAY D, SATURDAY A & F, SUNDAY A & F

PHOTOS LEFT TO RIGHT:
TILL FOLLNER, CHRISTOPH ESCHENBACH, RICCARDO MUTI, KENT MAGNUS

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CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS

OCT 26  |  NOV 16  |  NOV 30  |  DEC 14  |  FEB 1  |  MAR 22  |  APR 5  |  APR 26  |  MAY 17  |  JUN 7

THURSDAY B  10 concerts at 8:00  |  5-concert series: Thu H or Thu I

October 26  |  Rachmaninov Symphonic Dances & Bernstein
James Gaffigan conductor
James Ehnes violin
Bernstein: Symphonic Suite from On the Waterfront
Barrer: Violin Concerto
Rachmaninov: Symphonic Dances

November 16  |  Muti, Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 & Gerstein
Riccardo Muti conductor
Kirill Gerstein piano
Puccini: La bohème
Wagner: Tristan und Isolde
Tchaikovsky: Pathétique

February 21  |  Muti, Britten & Higdon Low Brass Concerto
Riccardo Muti conductor
Britten: Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes
Higdon: Low Brass Concerto

March 22  |  Muti Conducts Shubert Mass in E-flat Major
Riccardo Muti conductor
Marie-Ève Drapeau soprano
Christian Badeck tenor
Eleonora de Vito mezzo-soprano
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Dmitri Tishchenko conductor

April 26  |  John Williams Returns
John Williams conductor
Legendary composer John Williams returns to the podium at Orchestra Hall to conduct the incomparable CSO in his most beloved and unforgettable works. Don’t miss this thrilling event featuring music from some of the greatest films in cinema history.

May 17  |  Salonen Conducts Mahler 9
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor
Mahler: Symphony No. 9
June 7  |  Mandolin Masterpieces
with Avi Avital
Giovanni Antonini
conductor and flautino
Avi Avital mandolin
Boccherini: Symphony No. 6 (La casa del diavolo)
Vivaldi: Mandolin Concerto in C Major, RV 425
Bach: Mandolin Concerto in D Minor, BWV 1002
Vivaldi: Flautino Concerto in C Major, RV 443
Haydn: Symphony No. 103 (Drumroll)

October 5  |  Sacred Masterworks by Poulenc & Gounod
Salonen & Uchida
Ottorino Respighi: Fountains of Rome
Poulenc: Gloria
Gounod: St. Cecilia Mass

November 9  |  Dohnányi Conducts Schubert 9
Christoph von Dohnányi conductor
Arabella Steinbacher violin
Bach, Weber, Prokofiev, Gershwin: violin concertos

December 21  |  Shostakovich 5 & Beethoven Violin Concerto
Arabella Steinbacher
Nikolai Demidenko violin
Muti Conducts Tchaikovsky & Beethoven Violin Concerto
Shostakovich: Symphony No. 5
Beethoven: Violin Concerto

January 18  |  Bernstein West Side Story
Rafael Payare conductor
Keith Carhe deCause saxophone
Bernstein: Symphonic Dances from West Side Story
Muti: Violin Concerto

March 1  |  Beethoven Eroica Symphony
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor
Mahler & Poulenc: Symphonies
Riccardo Muti & Mozart: Symphonies

May 3  |  Eriko Mandolin Masterpieces
Chris Thile
Mitsuko Uchida
Sergiu Celibidache

May 14  |  Brahms Violin Concerto
With Avi Avital
Mendiola Shakespearian Violin Concerto
Sibelius: Symphony No. 5

May 21  |  Brahms Violin Concerto
Arabella Steinbacher
Riccardo Muti conductor
Brahms: Symphony No. 3

April 14  |  Dutil conducts Allobrogian Dances
Christophe von Dohnányi
Romantically Speaking:
Mahler: Symphony No. 1

May 25  |  Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 2
Petrucea: Concerto for Orchestra
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto

May 15  |  Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1
Riccardo Muti conductor
Brahms: Symphony No. 3

May 29  |  Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1
Riccardo Muti conductor
Brahms: Symphony No. 1

May 30  |  Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1
Riccardo Muti conductor
Brahms: Symphony No. 1

June 6  |  Brahms: Piano Concerto No. 1
Riccardo Muti conductor
Brahms: Symphony No. 1

June 14  |  Muti & Yo-Yo Ma
Riccardo Muti conductor
Yo-Yo Ma cello

Photos left to right: James Gaffigan, Jean Stéphane, Giovanni Antonini, Riccardo Muti
BERNSTEIN at 100

The CSO honors the 100th anniversary of the birth of the musical luminary Leonard Bernstein, whose incredible contributions as a composer, conductor and educator shaped the cultural life of the 20th century and beyond. Bernstein notably drew inspiration from elements of popular American music, such as blue notes and jazz harmonies, to create infectious melodies and compositions that pulse with energy. Celebrate Bernstein’s lasting influence as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra performs three of his most iconic works.

October 26 & 27
Symphonic Suite from On the Waterfront
James Gaffigan conductor

January 18 & 20
Symphonic Dances from West Side Story
Rafael Pavarotti conductor

March 25 & 31
Symphony No. 2 (The Age of Anxiety)
Kent Nagano conductor
Gilles Vonsattel piano CSO debut

FRIDAY A
8 concerts at 1:30

SEP 29 OCT 27 DEC 22 FEB 2 FEB 23
APR 6 MAY 25 JUN 8

Season Highlight

September 29
Muti Conducts Bruckner 4
Riccardo Muti conductor

October 27
Rachmaninov Symphonic Dances & Bernstein
James Gaffigan conductor

December 22
Shostakovich 5 & Beethoven Violin Concerto
Nikolaj Znaider conductor and violin

February 2
Muti, Britten & Higdon Low Brass Concerto
Riccardo Muti conductor

February 23
Chopin & Mendelssohn
Christoph Eschenbach conductor

April 6
Dutoit Conducts Ravel Daphnis and Chloe
Charles Dutoit conductor

May 25
Salonen & Uchida
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor

June 8
Mandolin Masterpieces with Avi Avital
Giovanni Antonini conductor and flautino

March 25 & 31
Symphony No. 2 (The Age of Anxiety)
Kent Nagano conductor
Gilles Vonsattel piano CSO debut

PHOTOS TOP TO BOTTOM: Riccardo Muti, David Frye, Clémentine Margaine, James Ehnes
October 6
Sacred Masterworks by
Poulenc & Gounod
Alain Altinoglu conductor
Sandrine Piau soprano
CSD DEBUT
Michael Schade tenor
Andrew Foster-Williams baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe chorus director

November 17
Muti, Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 & Gerstein
Riccardo Muti conductor
Karl-Heinz Steffens piano
Puccini Prelude sinfonico
R. Strauss Suite from
Le bourgeois gentilhomme
BRANNS Piano Concerto No. 1

December 15
Trifonov, Rachmaninov & Tchaikovsky
Jaap van Zweden conductor
Daniil Trifonov piano
WAGNER Prelude to Act I of Lohengrin
RACHMANINOV Piano Concerto No. 2
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No. 5
The sensational Daniil Trifonov’s performance of Rachmaninov’s First Piano Concerto with the CSO in 2015 received a roaring reception for both its “commanding thunder” and “melting lyricism” (Chicago Tribune). Trifonov returns to take on the towering Second Concerto with the CSO under the baton of Jaap van Zweden. Tchaikovsky’s Fifth Symphony, with its striking moments of lyrical poignancy, brings the program to a magnificent close.

March 9
Kavakos Performs Shostakovich
Charles Dutoit conductor
Leonidas Kavakos violin
HUSSIGSKY, Dohn. BINSKY-KORSAKOV
Prelude to Khovanskiikhvo
SHOSTAKOVICH Violin Concerto No. 1
KODÁK suite from Háry Jónás
DEBUSSY La mer

March 30
Nagano Conducts Bernstein, Wagner & Schumann
Kent Nagano conductor
Giless Vonsattel piano
BERTHEM Symphony No. 3 (The Age of Anxiety)
SCHUMANN Piano No. 1 (Spring)

April 20
Muti Conducts Tchaikovsky & Debussy
Riccardo Muti conductor
Sarah Bullen (soprano)
TCHAIKOVSKY Francesca da Rimini
TCHAIKOVSKY Suite from Swan Lake
DEBUSSY Sacred and Profane Dances
DEBUSSY Nocturnes
Muti caps a season-long celebration of the 125th anniversary of Tchaikovsky’s death with two of his most celebrated and tragically romantic works: the symphonic poem Francesca da Rimini and his treasured ballet Swan Lake. In a rare treat, Muti pairs these works with two by French composer Claude Debussy, another master of vivid orchestral colors: the ethereal Nocturnes featuring women of the Chicago Symphony Chorus, and Sacred and Profane Dances with CSO Principal Harp Sarah Bullen as soloist.

May 18
Salonen Conducts Mahler 9
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor
MAHLER Symphony No. 9

June 1
Janowski Conducts Wagner & Beethoven 4
Marin Janowski conductor
WEBER Overture to Euryanthe
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 4
WAGNER Overture and Venusberg Music from Tannhäuser
WAGNER Prelude to Act 3 of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg
WAGNER Prelude to Act 1 of Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg

"Music is indeed the most beautiful of all Heaven’s gifts to humanity wandering in the darkness. Alone it calms, enlightens and stills our souls.” —Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

The CSO honors the life, legacy and timeless music of one of the world’s greatest and most beloved composers on the 125th anniversary of his death. Join us in celebration as Riccardo Muti and other venerable conductors lead the CSO in some of Tchaikovsky’s most enchanting and poignant compositions.

September 22
Symphony Ball
Suite from The Sleeping Beauty
Riccardo Muti conductor

September 23 & 26
Violin Concerto
Riccardo Muti conductor
Anne-Sophie Mutter violin

December 14-19
Symphony No. 5
Jaap van Zweden conductor

April 19-21
Francesca da Rimini & Suite from Swan Lake
Riccardo Muti conductor

May 3-6
Mandolf Symphony
Senya Bychkov conductor

TAKE THE CSO SHUTTLE TO FRIDAY MATINEE CONCERTS. LEARN MORE AT 312-294-3000 OR CSO.ORG/FRIDAYSHTUTTLE.
November 3
Schiff, Bach & Beethoven
Sir András Schiff conductor and piano
MOZART Serenade for Winds in C Minor
BARTOK Divertimento for String Orchestra
BACH Keyboard Concerto No. 5 in F Minor
BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No. 1
World-renowned pianist Sir András Schiff returns to perform and conduct a program of spirited and expressive works, including Beethoven’s playful First Piano Concerto and Bach’s popular Keyboard Concerto No. 5. “Schiff made the music feel alive and of the moment…with shining tone and uncompromising, otherworldly intensity.” [Los Angeles Times].

December 1
Shaham Performs
Mendelssohn Violin Concerto
John Storgårds conductor EEG DEBUT
GIL Shaham violin
GRIEG Suite No. 1 from Peer Gynt
MENDLSOHN Violin Concerto
SIBELIUS Symphony No. 1

March 23
Muti Conducts
Schubert Mass in E-flat Major
Riccardo Muti conductor
Amanda Forsythe soprano
Elizabeth DeShong mezzo-soprano
Paul Appleby tenor
Nicolai Ghiaurov baritone
Nahuel di Pierro bass
CHICAGO SYMPHONY CHORUS

May 11
Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony
Emmanuel Krivine conductor
Isabelle Faust violin
BRAHMS Tragic Overture
SCHUMANN Violin Concerto
SAINT-SAËNS Symphony No. 3 (Organ)

June 15
Muti & Yo-Yo Ma
Riccardo Muti conductor
Yo-Yo Ma violin
SHOSTAKOVICH Festive Overture
SHOSTAKOVICH Cello Concerto No. 2
PROKOFIEV Symphony No. 3
When Riccardo Muti and Yo-Yo Ma join forces, it is “musimaking at the highest level” [Chicago Tribune]. The incomparable cellist, renowned for his technical command, parity of tone and generosity of spirit [Chicago Sun-Times], collaborates with Muti and the CSO in Shostakovich’s introspective and dark-nued Second Concerto. This program of music by 20th-century Russian masters also features Shostakovich’s buoyant Festive Overture and Prokofiev’s thrilling Third Symphony, a work of dramatic climaxes, rich melodies and vivid orchestral color.

December 8
Dvořák 5 & Barber Cello Concerto
Jiří Bělohlávek conductor
Alisa Weilerstein cello
Smetana Selections from The Bartered Bride
BARBER Cello Concerto
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 5
Renowned Czech conductor Jiří Bělohlávek makes his CSO podium debut with Dvořák’s Fifth Symphony. “Jiří Bělohlávek has this music in his bones. His Dvořák 5 is a pastoral delight” [The Arts Desk]. The extraordinary Alisa Weilerstein returns to perform one of her favorite works, Barber’s Cello Concerto, which she describes as “a very emotional piece…with fireworks and aching lyricism.”

March 2
Beethoven Eroica Symphony
Herbert Blomstedt conductor
MOZART Symphony No. 39
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)

April 13
Muti, Dvořák New World Symphony & Copland Lincoln Portrait
Riccardo Muti conductor
WALKER Lyric for Strings
COPLAND Lincoln Portrait
DVOŘÁK Symphony No. 9 (From the New World)
Riccardo Muti presents an extraordinary celebration of music that embodies the American spirit. Copland’s inspirational Lincoln Portrait uses the words of Abraham Lincoln to punctuate the stories of both an individual life and a diverse nation. Dvořák’s New World Symphony, one of his most beloved works, was influenced by the sounds of American folk music.

May 4
Bychkov Conducts Tchaikovsky
Samy Yehuda Bychkov conductor
Katia & Marielle Labèque piano
Marielle Labèque piano

FRIDAY D
5 concerts at 8:00
DECEMBER

FRIDAY C
5 concerts at 8:00
NOVEMBER

PHOTOS TOP TO BOTTOM:
SIR ANDRÁS SCHIFF, EMMANUEL KRIVINE, YO-YO MA, ISABELLE FAUST

PHOTOS TOP TO BOTTOM:
RICCARDO MUTI, HERBERT BLUMSTEDT, ALAN WEILERSTEIN, CHICAGO SYMPHONY CHORUS
HONECK CONDUCTS MALHER 5

The late triumph and opening of Mahler’s Fifth Symphony signals a new chapter in the composer’s music—an instrumental symphonic style filled with inward-looking dramatic introspect. Mahler’s Ninth Symphony, his final completed work before his tragic death at the age of 50, reflects his personal turmoil and spiritual uncertainty as he faced his own mortality. The result is a fearless introspective symphony containing some of the most devastatingly beautiful music he ever composed. Manfred Honeck and Esa-Pekka Salonen return to lead the CSO, one of the world’s great Mahler orchestras, in profound works by one of history’s greatest symphonists.

Mahler Symphony No. 5
Manfred Honeck conductor
Performed January 25–30
Performed March 23–27

Mahler Symphony No. 9
Esa-Pekka Salonen conductor
Performed May 17–22

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

“There could be no more impressive demonstration of modern orchestral virtuosity at its committed best than the pairing of Mahler and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.” —Chicago Tribune
SYMPHONY BALL

SEASON HIGHLIGHT
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
RICCARDO MUTI conductor
ANNE-SOPHIE MUTTER violin

ROSSINI
Overture to William Tell

MOZART
Violin Concerto No. 5 (Turkish)

TCHAIKOVSKY
Suite from The Sleeping Beauty

The Women’s Board of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association proudly presents a prestigious gala evening of music and celebration to open the 2017/18 season. Enjoy a festive preconcert reception, followed by Riccardo Muti leading the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in beloved masterpieces, including Rossini’s William Tell Overture and Tchaikovsky’s The Sleeping Beauty. Anne-Sophie Mutter, “the undisputed queen of violin-playing” (The Times, London), performs Mozart’s fiery Turkish Concerto.

6:00 Preconcert Reception
7:00 Concert

Gala package guests will enjoy postconcert dinner and dancing.

HOW TO RENEW GUIDE
2017/18 SEASON

CONTENTS INCLUDE
2 Subscriber Rewards
3 Renewal Instructions
4 Payment Plans
5 Parking
6 Prices & Seat Maps
When Riccardo Muti and Yo-Yo Ma join forces, it is “music-making at the highest level.” —Chicago Tribune

The incomparable Yo-Yo Ma, renowned for his “technical command, purity of tone and generosity of spirit” (Chicago Sun-Times), collaborates with Muti and the CSO for Shostakovich’s retrospective and dark-hued Second Concerto. This program of music by 20th-century Russian masters also features Shostakovich’s buoyant Festive Overture and Prokofiev’s thrilling Third Symphony, a work of dramatic climaxes, rich melodies and vivid orchestral color.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti conductor
Yo-Yo Ma cello
Shostakovich Festive Overture
Shostakovich Cello Concerto No. 2
Prokofiev Symphony No. 3

Performed June 14–16
Thursday C & E, Friday C, Saturday B & H
**SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

THE CSO’S OWN

The 2017/18 season shines a spotlight on the unparalleled talents of the CSO’s own performers and composers. Programs include three world premieres conducted by Riccardo Muti.

**September 28–October 1**

Ogoueck World Premiere

Riccardo Muti conducts a new work by CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Elizabeth Ogoueck, whose recent premiere performed by the London Symphony Orchestra was described as “colorful and vivid…confident and individual, consistently tantalizing to the ear” (ClassicSource).

**January 18 & 20**

Mozart Bassoon Concerto

Rafael Payare leads the CSO in Mozart’s lively masterpiece that will showcase CSO Principal Bassoon Keith Buncke in his CSO solo debut.

**February 1–3**

Higdon World Premiere:

Low Brass Concerto

cso commission

Composer-in-Residence Jennifer Higdon, whose world premiere performed by the London Symphony Orchestra was described as “colorful and vivid…confident and individual, consistently tantalizing to the ear” (ClassicSource), conducts a work for mezzo-soprano and orchestra by CSO Violist Robert Chen in his CSO solo debut.

**March 15–17**

Muti, Chen & Mozart

Riccardo Muti conducts a program of Haydn and Mozart, featuring CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen in Mozart’s celebrated Sinfonia concertante.

**March 22–24**

Raimi World Premiere:

Three Lisel Mueller Settings

cso commission

Riccardo Muti conducts a new work for mezzo-soprano and orchestra by CSO Violist and prolific composer Max Raimi.

**April 19–21**

Debussy Sacred and Profane Dances

Riccardo Muti conducts a program of Debussy’s sacred and profane works, plus other works by Debussy and Tchaikovsky.
Saturday, November 11
Dohnányi Conducts Schubert
Christoph von Dohnányi, conductor
Arabella Steinbacher, violin
Bach, Orch. Webern Riccardo Muti, beethoven choruses director
Tchaikovsky: Francesca da Rimini
Tchaikovsky: Suite from Sexto ziko
Debussy: Sacred and Profane Dances
Debussy: Nocturnes

Mati caps a season-long celebration of Tchaikovsky’s death with two of his most celebrated and tragically romantic works: Francesca da Rimini’s daughter, celebrated as “the ethereal” (The New York Times), a more polished technique and a beautifully varied palette of timbres.”

The New York Times

December 16
Trifonov, Rachmaninov & Tchaikovsky
Jaap van Zweden, conductor
Danie Trifonov, piano
Wagner: Prelude to Act I of Lohengrin
Rachmaninov: Piano Concerto No. 2
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5

January 20
Bernstein West Side Story
Rafael Payá, conductor
Keith Buncke, harp
Bernstein: Symphonic Dances
from West Side Story
Mozart: Bassoon Concerto
Bartók: Concerto for Orchestra
Rafael Paya’s debut with the CSO in 2015 was called “the best classical concert of the Ravinia season” (Chicago Tribune). He makes his subscription series debut leading the CSO in Bernstein’s much loved Symphonic Dances from West Side Story and Bartók’s popular Concerto for Orchestra. CSO Principal Bassoon Keith Buncke showcases his artistry and extraordinary agility in Mozart’s lively masterpiece.

April 21
Muti Conducts Tchaikovsky & Debussy
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Sarah Pullen, harp
Women of the Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duoin Wolfe, chorus director
Tchaikovsky: Francesca da Rimini
Tchaikovsky: Suite from Sexto ziko
Debussy: Sacred and Profane Dances
Debussy: Nocturnes

Muti caps a season-long celebration of Tchaikovsky’s death with two of his most celebrated and tragically romantic works: Francesca da Rimini’s daughter, celebrated as “the ethereal” (The New York Times), a more polished technique and a beautifully varied palette of timbres.”

The New York Times

May 12
Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony
Emmanuel Krivine, conductor
Isabelle Faust, violin
Cso debut
Brahms: Tropic Overture
Schumann: Violin Concerto
Saint-Saëns: Symphony No. 3 (Organ)

SUNDAY

October 1
Muti Conducts Bruckner 4
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Rossini: Overture to William Tell
Gogol, New Work
Mozart: Symphony No. 4 (Romantic)
Bruckner: Symphony No. 4 (Romantic)

“Nobility, lyrical feeling and dramatic thrust are keys to Muti’s approach to the Bruckner symphonies. The sound he elicits from one of the world’s great Bruckner bands was lean and inscrutable” (Chicago Tribune). Riccardo Muti and the CSO continue a multi-season exploration of Bruckner’s symphonies with the sunny Romantic Symphony. Also on the program is the rousing William Tell Overture and a world premiere by Head Composer-in-Residence Elizabeth Ogonek, whose music has been praised as “lush and anticlimatically scored” (The Arts Desk).

November 5
Schiff, Bach & Beethoven
Sir András Schiff and piano
Mozart: Serenade for Winds in Minor
Bartók: Divertimento for String Orchestra
Sibelius: Violin Concerto No. 5 in F Minor
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 1

December 3
Shaham Performs Mendelssohn
Violin Concerto
John Storgårds, conductor
CSO debut
Gil Shaham, violin
Grieg: Suite No. 1 from Peer Gynt
Mendelssohn: Violin Concerto
Sibelius Symphony No. 1
Gil Shaham, one of today’s pre-eminent violinists and a virtuoso of deeply intense sincerity” (The New York Times), performs Mendelssohn’s enchanting and well-loved concerto. An acclaimed interpreter of Sibelius, Finnish conductor John Storgårds makes his CSO debut leading the composer’s first symphonic masterpiece.

June 24
Muti Conducts Rossini: Stabat mater
Riccardo Muti, conductor
Rossini: Stabat mater
Kráusírová: Stotana a světlo
Euryanthe
Krasimira Stoyanova, soprano
Euryanthe
Dmitry Khvorostovsky: CSO debut
Eric Owens, baritone
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe, chorus director
Mozart: Kyrie in D Minor
 Cherubini: Choral de mort de Joseph Haydn
Rossini: Stabat mater
A

September 26
Muti, Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto & Mutter
Riccardo Muti conductor
Anne-Sophie Mutter violin

Tchaikovsky: The Awakening of Jacob
TCHAIKOVSKY Violin Concerto

Schumann Symphony No. 2: "Myst and Mutter together is an electric collaboration” (Chicago Classical Review). The 2017/18 season opens with acclaimed violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter joining Riccardo Muti and the CSO for Tchaikovsky’s dazzling Violin Concerto. Krzysztof Penderecki’s atmospheric Symphony No. 2, best known from Stanley Kubrick’s The Shining, and Schuman’s rich and emotive Second Symphony, one of his noblest works, bookend this dramatic start to the season.

Sep 26
Riccardo Muti conducts
Jean-Yves Thibaudet piano
Chicago Symphony Chorus
Duain Wolfe chorus director

Debussy, orch. Ravel: Sarabande and Danse
Ravel: Piano Concerto for the Left Hand
Ravel: Daphnis and Chloe

Charles Dutoit returns to conduct a sensuous all-Ravel program that features a rare complete performance of one of Ravel’s most ravishing scores, the lush and romantically yearning Daphnis and Chloe, as well as his orchestration of Debussy’s elegant Sarabande and lively Danse. French pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, a virtuoso of "dazzling technique and passion" (The Straits Times), performs Ravel’s dark and powerful Concerto for the Left Hand.

May 15
Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony
Emmanuel Krivine conductor
Isabelle Faust violin
CSO début

Brahms: Tragic Overture
Schumann Violin Concerto

Saint-Saëns Symphony No. 3 (Organ) - Emmanuel Krivine leads the CSO in Brahms’ turbulent Tragic Overture and Schumann’s heart-wrenching Violin Concerto with Isabelle Faust, an artist who "disarms warmth and sweetness who can unveil hidden strains of lyricism” (The New York Times). Saint-Saëns shimmering Organ Symphony brings the concert to a majestic close.

May 22
Puccini: La Bohème

Jean-Yves Thibaudet


TUESDAY A 5 concerts at 7:30

SEP 26 DEC 19 JAN 30 APR 10 MAY 15

TUESDAY B 5 concerts at 7:30

NOV 21 DEC 12 FEB 27 APR 17 MAY 22

ENJOY ENGAGING ARTIST Q&AS AFTER EACH TUESDAY SERIES CONCERT

PHOTOS TOP TO BOTTOM: Riccardo Muti, Manfred Honeck, Jean-Yves Thibaudet
The Chicago Symphony Orchestra returns to Wheaton College’s beautiful Edman Memorial Chapel in 2017/18. Join us for three performances of glorious classical music led by esteemed conductors, including Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti.

November 10

Dohnányi Conducts Schubert 9

Christoph von Dohnányi conductor

Arabella Steinbacher violin

Bach, orch. Webern

Ricercar No. 2

from The Musical Offering

Berg

Violin Concerto

Schubert

Symphony No. 9 (Great)

3 Fridays at 7:30

Sacred Choral Works by Poulenc & Gounod

MUTI CONDUCTS SCHUBERT MASS IN E FLAT MAJOR

Performed March 22–24

See highlight on page 6

MUTI CONDUCTS DEBUSSY NOCTURNES

Performed April 19–21

See description on page 18

MUTI CONDUCTS ROSSINI STABAT MATER

Performed June 21–24

See highlight on page 13

DUTOIT CONDUCTS RAVEL DAPHNIS AND CHLOÉ

Performed April 5–10

See description on page 32

THE CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA SYMPOSIUM CENTER PRESENTS

THE CSO AT WHEATON COLLEGE

3 Fridays at 7:30

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra returns to Wheaton College’s beautiful Edman Memorial Chapel in 2017/18. Join us for three performances of glorious classical music led by esteemed conductors, including Zell Music Director Riccardo Muti.

French conductor Alain Altinoglu leads a program of richly scored works, including Poulenc’s joyful devotional Gloria. The power of Gounod’s Saint Cecilia Mass is best described by his contemporary, Saint-Saëns: “This simplicity, this grandeur, this serene light which rose before the musical world like a breaking dawn... at first one was dazzled, then charmed, then conquered.”

Sacred Choral Works by Poulenc & Gounod

Muti Conducts Schubert Mass in E Flat Major

Performed March 22–24

See highlight on page 6

Muti Conducts Debussy Nocturnes

Performed April 19–21

See description on page 18

Muti Conducts Rossini Stabat Mater

Performed June 21–24

See highlight on page 13

Dutoit Conducts Ravel Daphnis and Chloë

Performed April 5–10

See description on page 32

Hear this illustrious ensemble in these season highlights:

Sacred Choral Works by Poulenc & Gounod

Muti Conducts Schubert Mass in E Flat Major

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See highlight on page 6

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Unique interpretations from classical music masters

CHAMBER MUSIC

4-CONCERT SERIES

Witness small ensemble music making at the highest level as some of the most illustrious names in classical music take the stage at Orchestra Hall.

Friday, November 10, 8:00
Joshua Bell violin
Alessio Bax piano
Joshua Bell is internationally renowned as “one of the most imaginative, technically gifted and altogether extraordinary violinists of our time” (The Washington Post). Experience an evening of breathtaking artistry as Bell returns to Symphony Center.

Sunday, February 25, 3:00
Leonidas Kavakos violin
Yo-Yo Ma cello
Emanuel Ax piano
Brahms Piano Trio No. 1
Brahms Piano Trio No. 2
Brahms Piano Trio No. 3
Three of the world’s greatest classical musicians join forces for an intimate performance exploring the piano trios of Johannes Brahms—works that span the composer’s life from youthful ardor to mature wisdom. “(Ax, Kavakos and Ma) seemed to relish every second on stage together. The crowd relished every single note. A thunderous applause filled the hall” (The Houston Chronicle).

Sunday, March 18, 3:00
Itzhak Perlman violin
Martha Argerich piano
Program to include:
Bach Violin Sonata No. 4 in C Minor, BWV 1007
Franck Violin Sonata
“Perlman’s rich lyricism and Argerich’s famed spontaneity make a heady combination” (The Financial Times). Reinging violin virtuoso Itzhak Perlman returns to Symphony Center and reunites with another living legend, pianist Martha Argerich. Don’t miss this remarkable collaboration, a rare meeting of two brilliant musical minds.

Sunday, April 15, 3:00
Evgeny Kissin and the Emerson String Quartet
Mozart Piano Quartet in G Minor, K. 478
Faure Piano Quartet No. 1
Svensk Piano Quintet No. 2
A pianist of phenomenal eloquence and technique, Evgeny Kissin makes a rare SCP Chamber Music series appearance alongside the superb Emerson String Quartet. Join us for an afternoon of exceptional virtuosity as these classical marvels collaborate.

THE APPEARANCE OF EVGENY KISSIN IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY JS CHARITABLE TRUST

2-CONCERT PACKAGE

The Symphony Center Presents Orchestra series brings exceptional ensembles from around the world to Orchestra Hall. Join us for the revered Marininsky Orchestra of St. Petersburg and Valery Gergiev performing Russian powerhouses and Finnish conductor Osmo Vanska leading his acclaimed Minnesota Orchestra in treasured masterpieces.

Wednesday, November 8, 8:00
Marininsky Orchestra
Valery Gergiev conductor
Denis Matsuev piano
Prokofiev Symphony No. 9
R. Strauss Ein Heldenleben
“Put Russian conductor Valery Gergiev on a podium and the usual result is musical fireworks. Pair him with his hometown orchestra, St. Petersburg’s venerable Mariinsky Orchestra, and the chemistry becomes combustible, especially when the sensational Moscow-born pianist Denis Matsuev is a guest” (Chicago Classical Review). All three return to Symphony Center to take on Prokofiev’s formidable Second Piano Concerto, plus a performance of Shostakovich’s wry Ninth Symphony.

Sunday, January 28, 3:00
Minnesota Orchestra
Osmo Vanska conductor
Inon Barnatan piano
Sibelius En Saga
Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto No. 1
Beethoven Symphony No. 7
One of America’s top symphonic ensembles, the Minnesota Orchestra has a long history of acclaimed performances around the world. Finnish conductor Osmo Vanska and his celebrated ensemble—both superb Sibelius interpreters—head to Orchestra Hall for the composer’s profound symphonic poem En Saga, along with Tchaikovsky’s majestic First Piano Concerto with Israeli pianist Inon Barnatan and Beethoven’s Symphony No. 7. “That plush, super-charged Minnesota sound is back with a new edge of tenacity” (The Guardian).

ADD THIS CONCERT to your series and save with subscriber-preferred prices!

Saturday, October 28, 8:00
China NCPA Orchestra
Lü Ji conductor
Wu Man pipa
Program to include:
Harrison Pipa Concerto
Bruckner Symphony No. 4
Prized for its “joyful confidence and youthful strength” (Musica America), the China NCPA Orchestra performs an eclectic program of symphonic works. American composer Lou Harrison’s Pipa Concerto spotlights a traditional Chinese instrument performed by the world’s reigning pipa virtuoso and Silk Road Ensemble member Wu Man.
Expect dazzling displays of virtuosity from internationally acclaimed artists on the Symphony Center Presents Piano series. Explore exhilarating repertoire with phenomenal artists such as Chicago favorites Emanuel Ax and Mitsuko Uchida and rising stars Lucas Debargue and Martin Helmchen—and don’t miss the return of the extraordinary Evgeny Kissin!

**October 8**
**Liszt**
**Années de pèlerinage, First Year, Switzerland**
A renowned champion of the vibrant works of Franz Liszt, Louis Lortie opens the 2017/18 Symphony Center Piano season with the first two suites from the composer’s Années de pèlerinage. Drawing heavily on the influence of Romantic art and literature, as well as nature, these are some of Liszt’s finest and most quintessential compositions. “Lortie’s credentials for taking on this greatest of musical pilgrimages are self-evident,” says Christopher White of The Independent. Don’t miss his exhilarating performance.

**October 22**
**Piotr Anderszewski**
**Honeysuckle Fantasy in C Minor, K. 475**
**Honeysuckle Sonata in C Minor, K. 457**
**Janaček**
**On an Overgrown Path, Book II**
**Chopin**
**Selected Works**
Recognized for the intensity and originality of his interpretations, Piotr Anderszewski returns to Symphony Center in his first recital since 2009 with selected works by Mozart and Chopin, plus Janáček’s evocative On an Overgrown Path. “The high point for some listeners may have been the sonata, but all of his playing was stunning,” says Richard Chang of Chicago Classical Review. Anderszewski’s performances are of a pianist at one with the music. His technique is not to be missed. “Bronfman is the Mt. Fuji of pianists. He radiates majestic calm—until he reminds you that he is a volcano” (Chicago Sun-Times).

**November 19**
**Lucas Debargue**
**Chopin**
**Four Impromptus**
**Chopin**
**Ballade No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 52**
**Chopin**
**Selected Etudes**
“Acclaimed for his exceptional technique and transcendent sound, Boris Berezovsky makes a welcome return to Chicago after a 20-year absence. His interpretations of Chopin’s four Impromptus are of a pianist at one with the music” (Chicagofan Magazine).

**February 18**
**Mitsuko Uchida**
**Schubert**
**Sonata in A Major, D. 575**
**Schubert**
**Sonata in A Minor, D. 845**
**Schubert**
**Sonata in D Major, D. 850**
An artist of impecable skill and graceful expression, Mitsuko Uchida returns to the SCP Piano series with an all-Schubert program. The New York Classical Review calls Uchida “the great Schubert interpreter of this generation. Uchida’s Schubert transcends time and place.”

**March 25**
**Boris Berezovsky**
**Chopin**
**Impromptus**
**Chopin**
**Ballade No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 52**
**Chopin**
**Selected Etudes**
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**April 8**
**Emanuel Ax**
**Beethoven**
**Sonata in A Major, Op. 2, No. 2**
**Liszt**
**Three Petrichor Sonnets**
**Liszt**
**Valse Op. 69 from Années de pèlerinage, First Year, Switzerland**
**Rachmaninoff**
**Partita No. 5 in G Major**
**Beethoven**
**Sonata in C Major, Op. 53**
Widmann’s highly anticipated return to the SCP Piano series. A performer of magisterial virtuosity and probing intelligence, Kissin makes each of his Chicago appearances a celebrated event. “Inevitably a torrent of applause ensued, swelling to thunderous rhythmic clapping by the time the pianist had served up three encores” (Chicagofan Magazine). The performance of Kissin’s rendition of Enns’ piano “is an object of adoration” (Widmann).

**April 22**
**Maurizio Pollini**
“Exquisitely wrought and flawlessly delivered. By the time [Pollini] reached his second encore he was playing like a god” [The Independent]. Join us for an afternoon of superb music-making as legendary pianist Maurizio Pollini makes his annual Symphony Center visit.

**May 13**
**Evgeny Kissin**
**Russian**
**superstar pianist Evgeny Kissin makes his highly anticipated return to the SCP Piano series. A performer of magisterial virtuosity and probing intelligence, Kissin makes each of his Chicago appearances a celebrated event. “Inevitably a torrent of applause ensued, swelling to thunderous rhythmic clapping by the time the pianist had served up three encores” (Chicagofan Magazine). The performance of Kissin’s rendition of Enns’ piano “is an object of adoration” (Widmann).

**June 10**
**Martin Helmchen**
**Schumann**
**Novelletten, Op. 21, Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 8**
**Beethoven**
**Dissibell Variations**
Chicagofan Review called Martin Helmchen’s performance with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2016 an “outstanding CSO debut... with a reading of uncommon freshness and sparkling personality. This was Beethoven playing of great individuality and distinction." Don’t miss the Symphony Center recital debut of this revelatory young pianist.

**May 20**
**Yefim Bronfman**
**Schumann**
**Humoreske**
**Widmann**
**Eleven Humoresques**
**Stravinsky**
**Three Movements from Petrushka**
**Yefim Bronfman returns with a program that pairs Schumann’s romantic Humoreske with a modern take on the same work by Jörg Widmann, Eleven Humoresques, which The Arts Desk calls “Schumann through a glass darkly.” Bronfman’s commanding technique is not to be missed. “Bronfman is the Mt. Fuji of pianists. He radiates majestic calm—until he reminds you that he is a volcano” (Los Angeles Times).**
Enjoy hits ranging from Hollywood’s Golden Age to today’s blockbusters, accompanied live by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Save your seat for three thrilling nights of musical movie magic. Full programming and dates will be announced soon!

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Experience your favorite films in a whole new way. One of our most popular series—on sale now!

CSO AT THE MOVIES

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Legendary composer John Williams returns to the podium at Orchestra Hall to conduct the incomparable CSO in his most beloved and unforgettable works. Don’t miss this thrilling event featuring music from some of the greatest films in cinema history. Performed April 26–29

THURSDAY & I, SATURDAY & E, CSO AT THE MOVIES

For more new music, join us as Riccardo Muti conducts the CSO in three world premieres at Orchestra Hall in 2017/18. See page 29 for more details.

For 20 seasons, MusicNOW has taken concertgoers on an immersive, sonic journey through groundbreaking repertoire. Celebrate with us as CSO Mead Composers-in-Residence Samuel Adams and Elizabeth Ogonek present four programs of expertly curated contemporary music featuring new commissions and multimedia works performed by musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Each evening includes pre- and postconcert music and a reception with free food and drink.

The complete programming lineup of MusicNOW’s 20th anniversary season is coming soon!

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The complete programming lineup of MusicNOW’s 20th anniversary season is coming soon!

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Experience your favorite films in a whole new way. One of our most popular series—on sale now!

CSO AT THE MOVIES

3 FRIDAYS AT 8:00  NOV 24  JAN 19  APR 27*

Enjoy hits ranging from Hollywood’s Golden Age to today’s blockbusters, accompanied live by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Save your seat for three thrilling nights of musical movie magic. Full programming and dates will be announced soon!

*APRIL 27 PERFORMANCE WILL BE JOHN WILLIAMS RETURNS

Legendary composer John Williams returns to the podium at Orchestra Hall to conduct the incomparable CSO in his most beloved and unforgettable works. Don’t miss this thrilling event featuring music from some of the greatest films in cinema history. Performed April 26–29

THURSDAY & I, SATURDAY & E, CSO AT THE MOVIES

For more new music, join us as Riccardo Muti conducts the CSO in three world premieres at Orchestra Hall in 2017/18. See page 29 for more details.
The 2017/18 Family Matinee series focuses on harmony. Join us for three programs that explore the extraordinary possibilities that are within reach when we strengthen our connections with one other.

**December 2**

**Friends in Harmony**

Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Thomas Wilkins conductor

Program to include selections from:

BERLIOZ Rákóczy March

MÁRQUEZ Danzón No. 2

What is the sound of friendship? Though our world is made up of diverse people, speaking 6,500 languages, every community on the planet uses the common language of music to express who they are and to bring people together. This program explores ways that composers from across the world communicate a spirit of unity and brotherhood through music.

**March 17**

**Planet Earth**

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Edwin Outwater conductor

Program to include selections from:

BRITTEN Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes

BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6

VIVALDI Four Seasons

Composers have been inspired to represent magnificent vistas, sweeping panoramas and rolling streams in music for hundreds of years. This program explores the wonders of our natural world and its evolution by drawing from amazing works of orchestral music.

**May 5**

**The Firebird**

Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Tania Miller conductor

STRAVINSKY Suite from The Firebird

What would it be like to live in a world without harmony? Stravinsky’s The Firebird depicts the heroic efforts of Prince Ivan and a magical glowing bird to defeat evil and restore harmony to the world in this program featuring Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and guest dancers.

**6 SATURDAYS AT 10:00 AND 11:45 AM**

Perfect for ages 3–5!

Vibrant music, engaging storytelling and enchanting visuals blend together in a playful concert experience designed especially for our youngest audience members. With Once Upon a Symphony, we invite you to share your love of music with the young children in your family and begin an exciting journey with the CSO.

**December 2**

**Stone Soup**

NOV 18 JAN 20 FEB 3

**The Elves and the Shoemaker**

MAR 3 APR 14 APR 28

Produced and presented in partnership with Chicago Children’s Theatre

For CSO Family Matinee and Once Upon a Symphony concerts, extend the fun with FREE preconcert adventures in the Rotunda, featuring activities with partner organizations, colorful and engaging exhibits and interactive musical experiences.

**November 25**

Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna

December 5 & 6

A Chanticleer Christmas

December 9 & 10

Home Alone

Film with Orchestra

December 15–23

Chicago Symphony Orchestra’s Merry, Merry Chicago!

Enjoy these festive musical celebrations for the whole family, including the stunning voices of Chanticleer and the Vienna Boys Choir, presentations of the heartwarming classic Home Alone and the return of the CSO’s annual holiday spectacular Merry, Merry Chicago!
Friday, September 22, 7:00
Symphony Ball
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti conductor
Anne-Sophie Mutter violin
Rossini Overture to William Tell
Mozart Violin Concerto No. 5 (Turkish)
Tchaikovsky Suite from The Sleeping Beauty
The Women’s Board of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association proudly presents a prestigious gala evening of music and celebration to open the 2017/18 season. Enjoy a festive preconcert reception, followed by Riccardo Muti leading the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in beloved masterpieces, including Rossini’s William Tell Overture and Tchaikovsky’s The Sleeping Beauty. Anne-Sophie Mutter, “the undisputed queen of violin-playing” (The Times, London), performs Mozart’s fiery Turkish Concerto.

Saturday, October 28, 8:00
China NCPA Orchestra
Lü Jia conductor
Wu Man pipa
Program to include:
HARRISON Pipa Concerto
BRAHMS Symphony No. 4
Praised for its “joyful confidence and youthful strength” (Musical America), the China NCPA Orchestra performs an eclectic program of symphonic works. American composer Lou Harrison’s Pipa Concerto spotlights a traditional Chinese instrument performed by the world’s reigning pipa virtuoso and Silk Road Ensemble member Wu Man.

Saturday, November 25, 3:00
Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna
The Vienna Boys Choir brings the sounds of the holidays to Symphony Center. Enjoy this enchanting afternoon of popular folk songs, classical masterpieces and beloved holiday favorites, perfect for the whole family.

Tuesday, December 5, 7:30
Fourth Presbyterian Church
A Chanticleer Christmas
 Revel in the spirit of the holidays with the dazzling sounds of the “world’s reigning male chorus” (The New Yorker). The Grammy® Award-winning a cappella group will perform cherished Christmas favorites, from classical to contemporary, surrounded by the soaring arches of Chicago’s Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday, December 5, 7:30
Wednesday, December 6, 7:30
Fourth Presbyterian Church
A Chanticleer Christmas
 Revel in the spirit of the holidays with the dazzling sounds of the “world’s reigning male chorus” (The New Yorker). The Grammy® Award-winning a cappella group will perform cherished Christmas favorites, from classical to contemporary, surrounded by the soaring arches of Chicago’s Fourth Presbyterian Church.

Tuesday, October 10, 7:30
Bill Murray, Jan Vogler and Friends
Bill Murray actor and vocals
Jan Vogler cello
Mira Wang viola
Vanessa Perez piano
Legendary actor and Wilmette native Bill Murray teams up with acclaimed German cellist Jan Vogler to present a spirited evening of music and literature. In this rare live appearance, Murray brings his irresistible charm and wit to readings of classic American poetry and prose, alongside musical selections by Bach, Bernstein, Gershwin and more.

Sunday, December 10, 1:00
Sunday, December 10, 4:30
Home Alone Film with Orchestra
Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Richard Kaufman conductor
Anima-Young Singers of Greater Chicago
Emily Ellsworth artistic director
Williams Home Alone
This beloved comedy classic features renowned composer John Williams’ charming and delightful score performed live by Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Macaulay Culkin stars as Kevin McCallister, an 8-year-old boy who’s accidentally left behind when his family leaves for Christmas vacation, and who must defend his suburban Chicago home against two bumbling thieves. Hilarious and heart-warming, Home Alone is holiday fun for the entire family!
MORE SPECIAL CONCERTS

Save up to 10% when you add these concerts to your subscription. Call 312-294-3000 or visit cso.org for prices.

Friday, December 15, 7:00
Saturday, December 16, 3:00
Sunday, December 17, 1:00
Sunday, December 17, 4:30
Friday, December 22, 7:00
Saturday, December 23, 3:00
Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Merry, Merry Chicago!
Members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Emil de Cou, conductor
Chicago Children's Choir
Josephine Lee, artistic director
Ring in the holidays at Symphony Center with Merry, Merry Chicago! This festive event features treasured cards, a spirited sing-along of holiday favorites and a visit by a very special guest from the North Pole.

Wednesday, December 20, 8:00
Chicago Symphony Orchestra Brass
The legendary brass section of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, renowned for its incredible power, matchless brilliance and dazzling virtuosity, performs a concert of symphonic masterworks and traditional favorites.

Sunday, March 4, 3:00
Lang Lang in Recital
Heralded as the “hottest artist on the classical music planet” by The New York Times, international superstar Lang Lang returns to Symphony Center for what promises to be a spellbinding performance.

Sunday, April 29, 3:00
John Williams Returns
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
John Williams, conductor
Legendary composer John Williams returns to the podium at Orchestra Hall to conduct the incomparable CSO in his most beloved and unforgettable works. Don’t miss this thrilling event featuring music from some of the greatest films in cinema history.

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CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA LIVE

Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Riccardo Muti, conductor

Shoenberg: Kol Nidre
Shostakovich: Suite on Verses of Michelangelo Buonarroti


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