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## THIS SUNDAY, RICCARDO MUTI & CSO LAUNCH FIRST TOUR SINCE 2020, WITH STOPS IN 7 NORTH AMERICAN CITIES (JANUARY 22–FEBRUARY 2), PLUS ADDITIONAL U.S. CONCERTS (FEBRUARY 26–MARCH 4)

CHICAGO – This Sunday, January 22, Music Director Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) embark on a seven-city, eight-concert North American tour (January 22–February 2) that marks their first tour together since February 2020, before the start of the pandemic. Now in the 13th season of his partnership with the orchestra, Muti leads programs juxtaposing Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, Eighth Symphony and Coriolan Overture with Russian repertoire including Prokofiev's Fifth Symphony, Liadov's The Enchanted Lake and Ravel's arrangement of Mussorgsky's Pictures from an Exhibition. Featuring CSO debuts in Mesa, AZ; Stanford, CA; and Stillwater, OK, the tour culminates with a pair of performances that represent the CSO's first appearances in Toronto since 1914. To conclude their winter touring activities, Muti and the orchestra join violinist Julia Fischer for an evening featuring Schumann's Violin Concerto and Tchaikovsky's Manfred Symphony in Kansas City (February 26), before reprising their tour repertory at destinations across Florida (February 28–March 4).

Muti and the CSO continue a long and distinguished tradition as cultural ambassadors, having completed 18 tours together since the beginning of his tenure as music director in 2010. Their upcoming tours will feature multiple educational and community engagement activities, organized with support from the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO. Offered during the CSO's stops in Stillwater, Toronto, Kansas City, and Naples, FL, these activities will include masterclasses and coaching sessions led by CSO musicians, performances by chamber ensembles of CSO musicians, and open rehearsals with Muti himself.

<u>View</u> a chronological listing of the CSO's 2023 North American Tour and U.S. appearances.

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

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's North American Tour is generously sponsored by the Zell Family Foundation.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra's appearances in Florida are generously sponsored by Judy and Verne Istock, Nancy A. Lauter and Alfred L. McDougal Charitable Fund, Ling Z. and Michael C. Markovitz, the Regenstein Foundation and the Zell Family Foundation.

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