220 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60604-2559 TELEPHONE 312-294-3333 FACSIMILE 312-294-3329

For Immediate Release:

May 22, 2024

Press Contacts:

Hannah Sundwall 312-294-3083

Eileen Chambers 312-294-3092

JUNE PROGRAMMING AT SYMPHONY CENTER AND IN THE COMMUNITY

CHICAGO — June programming presented by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) at Symphony Center and in community venues features a wide variety of events, including Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) concerts with renowned guest conductors and soloists. June CSO concert highlights include the world premiere of CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery's percussion concerto *Procession*, commissioned by the CSO and written for Principal Percussion Cynthia Yeh (May 30-June 1), and a CSO first performance of *The Elements*, written by leading American composers, commissioned and performed by renowned violinist Joshua Bell (June 13-15). Conductor Lahav Shani returns to lead two CSO first performances, Avni's *Prayer* and former CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Mason Bates' Piano Concerto featuring 2024/25 CSO Artist-in-Residence Daniil Trifonov as soloist (June 20-23). Other June return podium appearances include Manfred Honeck (May 30-June 1), Stéphane Denève (June 6-11) and Juraj Valčuha (June 13-15).

The Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Piano series welcomes 2021 International Chopin Piano Competition winner Bruce Liu for his Chicago debut, featuring a variety of innovative works (June 2), and the SCP Chamber Music series features a program with CSO Artist-in-Residence Hilary Hahn in collaboration with pianist Andreas Haefliger, CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen and artists from Chicago-based PARA.MAR Dance Theatre (June 9).

Conductor John Morris Russell and Broadway singer Capathia Jenkins celebrate the music of the James Bond movie franchise at the CSO's 33rd Annual Corporate Night — Shaken, Not Stirred — on June 4.

The CSO at the Movies series concludes with the sold-out performances of Hisaishi Conducts Hisaishi, featuring composer Joe Hisaishi in his CSO podium debut leading the Orchestra's first performances of his Symphony No. 3, as well as music from several of Studio Ghibli's most popular and award-winning films (June 27-30).

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago will conclude its 2023/24 Season with a program of operatic favorites featuring soloists from Lyric Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Center and led by conductor Roberto Kalb (June 3).

The CSO Chamber Music series concludes with two performances: the Guadagnini String Quartet at South Shore Cultural Center on June 2 and the Trillium Ensemble performing works for violin, cello, horn and piano at Symphony Center on June 18.

Tickets and more information are available at <u>cso.org</u>.

Explore a chronological list of June 2024 concert programs.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra

Montgomery & Bruckner 7 (May 30-June 1)

Music director of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Manfred Honeck leads the CSO in two captivating works. The program begins with the world premiere of Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery's CSO-commissioned percussion concerto *Procession*, written for Principal Percussion Cynthia Yeh. Completing the program is Bruckner's Seventh Symphony, which takes inspiration from the music of Romantic-era composer Richard Wagner and combines elements of drama and rapturous intensity, with other musical influences including an Austrian folk dance.

The June 1 performance of Montgomery & Bruckner 7 is part of the 2023/24 Season of CSO MusicNOW and includes a special postconcert experience with the featured artists. The event is limited to CSO MusicNOW subscribers. More information is available at cso.org/musicnow.

Ravel Boléro (June 6-11)

Lauded pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet joins Stéphane Denève, music director of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and the CSO for performances of Saint-Saëns' Fifth Piano Concerto (*Egyptian*), inspired by the composer's 1896 trip down the Nile. The program opens with Nadia Boulanger's *D'un matin de printemps* (*Of a spring morning*) and also features works that offer French impressions of Spanish culture with Debussy's *Ibéria* and Ravel's *Boléro*.

The CSO Latino Alliance 10th anniversary season concludes with a preconcert networking event on Tuesday, June 11. More information is available at cso.org/LatinoAlliance.

The Elements with Joshua Bell (<u>June 13-15</u>)

Grammy Award-winning violinist Joshua Bell joins Juraj Valčuha, music director of the Houston Symphony, for the CSO's first performances of *The Elements*, a suite of five works for violin and orchestra, commissioned by Bell and written by leading American composers Kevin Puts (Earth), Edgar Meyer (Water), Jake Heggie (Fire), Jennifer Higdon (Air), and CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery (Space). Valčuha frames the program with Weber's *Oberon* Overture and concludes with Shostakovich's First Symphony.

The June 15 performance of The Elements with Joshua Bell is a part of the 2023/24 Season of CSO MusicNOW and includes a special postconcert experience with the featured artists. The event is limited to CSO MusicNOW subscribers. More information is available at cso.org/musicnow.

Tchaikovsky Pathétique & Trifonov (June 20-23)

Chief Conductor of the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and music director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra Lahav Shani conducts Tchaikovsky's *Pathétique* symphony. Daniil Trifonov, the 2024/25 CSO Artist-in-Residence, is the featured soloist in the CSO's first performances of Mason Bates' Piano Concerto. The piece was written for Trifonov by Bates, a former CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence, and is a journey through three stylistic sound worlds, from Renaissance dance music to Romantic-era brooding to a contemporary finale imbued with influences of jazz and minimalism. The program opens with the Orchestra's first performances of Israeli composer Tzvi Avni's *Prayer*.

CSO at the Movies

Hisaishi Conducts Hisaishi (<u>June 27-30</u>)

One of Japan's most celebrated composers, Joe Hisaishi has produced music for 12 of Hayao Miyazaki's Studio Ghibli films, most recently including *The Boy and the Heron* (2023), nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Original Score. Having composed music for over 80 Japanese and foreign films, Hisaishi leads the CSO in his podium debut in a program of his own works and Studio Ghibli favorites. Hisaishi conducts the CSO's first performances of his most recent work, Symphony No. 3 (*Metaphysica*) to open the concert, followed by Symphonic Variation "Merry-Go-Round" from *Howl's Moving Castle* and DA-MA-SHI-E. A recent alumna of Lyric Opera of Chicago's Ryan Opera Center, soprano Diana Newman makes her CSO debut as soloist in the *Princess Mononoke* Suite, which closes the program.

CSO Chamber Music

Guadagnini String Quartet at South Shore Cultural Center (June 2)

The Guadagnini String Quartet presents three unusual works. Wolf's single-movement *Italian Serenade* leaves an impression of playful irony. Beethoven's G Major Quartet, subtitled "Compliments" due to its elegant phrasing and mood, emerges as a charming and witty work grounded in 18th-century musical tradition. Grieg's String Quartet in G Minor, one of only a handful of the composer's large-scale compositions, stands as a supreme achievement and, in his own words, "strives towards breadth, soaring flight and, above all, resonance for the instruments for which it is written."

This event is free and takes place at South Shore Cultural Center, 7059 S. South Shore Dr., Chicago, IL 60649. Tickets are required.

Trillium Ensemble Plays Brahms (June 18)

Comprised of CSO Principal Second Violin Baird Dodge, CSO cello Karen Basrak, CSO horn Oto Carrillo and pianist Daniel Schlosberg, Trillium Ensemble performs Brahms' only chamber-music work spotlighting the horn, Trio for Horn, Violin and Piano. The program opens with Indian-American composer Reena Esmail's *Saans* (Breath), followed by Fauré's Piano Trio in D Minor.

CSO Featured Concert

Shaken, Not Stirred (<u>June 4</u>)

Broadway star and vocal powerhouse Capathia Jenkins and Cincinnati Pops conductor John Morris Russell join the CSO for an evening celebrating the music from the James Bond movie franchise, featuring memorable hits from *Skyfall*, *Goldfinger*, *Diamonds Are Forever* and more.

This performance is part of a fundraising event presented in partnership by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association and the League of the CSOA, co-chaired by Liz Branch and Jessica Erickson. Proceeds benefit the Chicago Symphony Orchestra's artistic, educational and community engagement programs in Chicago and across the globe. More information is available at cso.org/shakennotstirred.

Symphony Center Presents Piano

Bruce Liu (<u>June 2</u>)

The 2021 International Chopin Piano Competition winner Bruce Liu makes his Chicago debut with a program highlighting inventive works for the instrument. Haydn's Sonata in B Minor opens the program, followed by Chopin's Sonata No. 2 in B-flat Minor. The program also includes Kapustin's Variations, selections from Rameau's *Pièces de*

clavecin ("Harpsichord pieces") and Nouvelles suites de pièces de clavecin ("New suites of harpsichord pieces") which demonstrates 18th century innovations, and Prokofiev's Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, the second of his three "war sonatas," closes the program.

Bruce Liu will participate in a postconcert CD signing. This signing will take place in Grainger Ballroom, with merchandise available in the Symphony Store, the Ballroom and online in advance.

Symphony Center Presents Chamber Music

Hilary Hahn & Friends (June 9)

Internationally acclaimed violinist and CSO Artist-in-Residence Hilary Hahn returns to Symphony Center to culminate her three-year tenure in this role. In this program that celebrates artistic collaboration across genres, Hahn joins pianist Andreas Haefliger for performances of Brahms' Violin Sonatas Nos. 1 and 3, as well as CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen for a performance of the violin duo work *Musings* — a CSO MusicNOW-commissioned work by Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery that violinist Rachel Barton Pine and Montgomery premiered in 2023.

The program also highlights a collaboration between Hahn and artists from the Chicago-based PARA.MAR Dance Theatre. The CSOA has commissioned Stephanie Martinez, the company's founder and artistic director, to create original choreography for company member Laura Morton La Russa, who will join Hahn onstage for performances of two solo violin works written for Hahn. Specifically, Hahn will perform the CSO-commissioned encore *Through My Mother's Eyes*, written by composer Steven Banks and premiered by Hahn at 2023 CSO concert performances, and *Shards of Light*, commissioned by the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Composer-in-Residence Carlos Simon for Hahn to perform as an encore during the NSO's 2024 European Tour.

Ensembles from The People's Music School and the Chicago Musical Pathways Initiative will perform in the Rotunda beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Civic Orchestra of Chicago

Civic & Ryan Opera Center (June 3)

Detroit Opera Music Director Roberto Kalb leads members of the Lyric Opera of Chicago's renowned artist development program, the Ryan Opera Center, and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago for the Civic's season finale. The program features selections from operatic favorites, including Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* and Puccini's *La Bohème*, and closes with music by Richard Rodgers from the musical *State Fair*.

Tickets for this concert are pay what you wish, and seating is general admission.

Food and Beverage

From lobby bars serving enticing selections of refreshments to sit-down dining experiences and options for unforgettable private events, there are a variety of opportunities to elevate your concert experience. Symphony Center's restaurant, Forte, features contemporary Mediterranean cuisine and classic cocktails, draft beer, locally roasted coffee and gelato.

The Thomas Club, located on the ninth floor of Symphony Center with sweeping views of Lake Michigan, opens on select dates for dining. View menus, make reservations, and learn more about dining at the Thomas Club or Forte restaurant at cso.org/dining.

Parking and Transit Options

Symphony Center and SpotHero, the nation's leading parking reservation app, have teamed up to help make parking easier. To reserve a parking spot, visit spothero.com or download the SpotHero app and search for Symphony Center. Valet parking is available for most performances at Symphony Center's 67 E. Adams St. entrance. A round-trip North Shore Shuttle service is available for Friday matinees. Exclusive subscriber parking rates are available through the Grant Park South Garage. Visit cso.org/parking for more parking and transit options.

Patron Information

Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at <u>cso.org</u> or by calling <u>312-294-3000</u>, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The walk-up Box Office at 220 S. Michigan Ave. is open Monday-Saturday 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

All artists and programs are subject to change.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

The appearance of Jean-Yves Thibaudet is made possible by the Grainger Fund for Excellence.

The Artist in Residence at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is made possible through a generous gift from James and Brenda Grusecki.

The performances and appearances by Joshua Bell have been enabled by the Paul Ricker Judy Endowment Fund.

Major support for the June 1 and June 15 performances is generously provided by the Zell Family Foundation, Sargent Family Foundation, Sally Mead Hands Foundation, Julian Family Foundation and The Aaron Copland Fund for Music.

The 2023/24 Civic Orchestra season is generously sponsored by Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, which also provides major funding for the Civic Fellowship program.

This performance is generously sponsored by Lori Julian for the Julian Family Foundation, Nancy Dehmlow, Fred and Phoebe Boelter, Mr. Philip Lumpkin, Liisa Thomas and Stephen Pratt, Ms. Pamela Crutchfield, David and Janet Fox, Merle Jacob, Judy and Scott McCue, Susan Norvich, Julian Oettinger, Steve & Megan Shebik, Ms. Cynthia Vahlkamp & Mr. Robert Kenyon and the Negaunee Music Institute Board.

The Tchaikovsky Pathétique & Trifonov concerts are generously sponsored by Zell Family Foundation & Ling Z. and Michael C. Markovitz.

Hisaishi Conducts Hisaishi is part of the CSO at the Movies series, which is generously sponsored by Megan and Steve Shebik.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.

###

Chicago Symphony Orchestra: cso.org

Founded by Theodore Thomas in 1891, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is consistently hailed as one of the world's great orchestras. In April 2024, Klaus Mäkelä was named the Orchestra's 11th music director, and he will begin an initial five-year tenure as Zell Music Director with the 2027/28 Season. Riccardo Muti, the Orchestra's distinguished 10th music director from 2010 until 2023, became Music Director Emeritus for Life at the beginning of the 2023/24 Season. Jessie Montgomery is Mead Composer-in-Residence and Hilary Hahn is CSO Artist-in-Residence.

The CSO commands a vast repertoire, from baroque through contemporary music. Its renowned musicians perform more than 150 concerts annually, in Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center in downtown Chicago and each summer at the Ravinia Festival in suburban Highland Park. The ensemble regularly tours nationally, and since 1892, has made 64 international tours, performing in 29 countries on five continents.

Patrons around the globe enjoy weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings via the WFMT Radio Network and online at <u>cso.org/radio</u>. Launched in 2007, <u>CSO Resound</u> is the ensemble's Grammy Award–winning independent record label, featuring live performances with world-class

conductors and guest artists. Since 1916, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Chorus have amassed an extensive discography that has earned 65 Grammy awards from the Recording Academy.

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA), which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Symphony Center Presents, and the Negaunee Music Institute. The Chicago Symphony Chorus, founded by Margaret Hillis in 1957, is the country's largest professional chorus. Founded by second music director Frederick Stock during the 1919–20 season, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago is a training ensemble for emerging professionals with Ken-David Masur serving as its principal conductor. Symphony Center Presents features guest artists and ensembles across an expansive array of genres, including classical, jazz, world and contemporary. The Negaunee Music Institute offers community and educational programs that annually engage more than 200,000 people of diverse ages and backgrounds throughout the Chicagoland area.

Through the Institute and numerous other activities — including annual free community concerts in Chicago neighborhoods — the CSO is committed to using the power of music to strengthen bonds with its longtime patrons and create connections with new audiences.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association is supported by thousands of patrons, volunteers and institutional and individual donors. The Negaunee Foundation provides generous support in perpetuity for the work of the Negaunee Music Institute.