



**CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION**  
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## **APRIL PROGRAMMING AT SYMPHONY CENTER AND IN THE COMMUNITY**

CHICAGO — April programming presented by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) at Symphony Center and in other community venues features a wide variety of events, including multiple Chicago Symphony Orchestra (CSO) subscription concerts, such as the return of CSO Artist-in-Residence Hilary Hahn to Symphony Center in a performance of Sarasate's *Carmen* Fantasy and the U.S. Premiere of late Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara's *Deux Sérénades* with the CSO and conductor Mikko Franck. The 2022/23 Season of Symphony Center Presents (SCP) programming continues with return appearances for Emanuel Ax and Evgeny Kissin on the piano series and tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain and his Masters of Percussion. The SCP Jazz series features a performance commemorating the 65th anniversary of the Monterey Jazz Festival with vocalists Kurt Elling and Veronica Swift. April marks the conclusion of the 2022/23 Season of CSO MusicNOW in thrilling fashion with a performance featuring the works of CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery as well as those of her musical inspirations. Featured on the program is Montgomery's MusicNOW-commissioned work, a duo for two violins that will be performed by renowned concert violinist Rachel Barton Pine and Montgomery herself. CSO Chamber Music programming expands to a new community location this month through a collaboration with the University of Chicago that brings a CSO woodwind quintet to the International House.

Tickets and more information are available at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org).

[Explore](#) a chronological list of April 2023 concert programs.

## **Chicago Symphony Orchestra Concerts**

### **Boccherini, Vivaldi & Mozart 40** ([March 30-April 4](#))

Spanish guitarist Pablo Sáinz-Villegas returns to Symphony Center to join the Orchestra in two pieces with bright Mediterranean character: Vivaldi's Guitar Concerto in D Major and Boccherini's Fandango from Guitar Quintet No. 4. Bernard Labadie, who is Music Director of the Orchestra of St Luke's, New York, returns to the CSO to conduct the program, which also features Mozart's Symphony No. 40 and Boccherini's Symphony No. 26 in C Minor.

### **Adès Conducts Adès with Gerstein** ([April 6-11](#))

British conductor Thomas Adès makes his CSO debut with an engrossing program featuring Liszt's *Mephisto Waltz*, a swirling treatment of the Faust legend Janáček's *Taras Bulba*, which follows a 17th-century Cossack warrior, and Sibelius' incidental music to Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Adès is also joined by decade-long musical partner and pianist Kirill Gerstein for the CSO's first performance of Adès' own Piano Concerto, written specifically for Gerstein. At its 2019 premiere in Boston, the piece was described as "mesmerizing ... wild," and "Adès' greatest achievement to date" (*Boston Classical Review*).

### **Mikko Franck & Hilary Hahn** ([April 13-15](#))

Finnish conductor Mikko Franck, currently the music director of the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, joins forces with violinist and CSO Artist-in-Residence Hilary Hahn for Sarasate's brilliant and evocative arrangement of Bizet's *Carmen* and the U.S. premiere of late Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara's *Deux Sérénades*, which was written especially for Hahn. Franck pairs these works with two pieces by Richard Strauss, leading the Orchestra in performances of the symphonic poem *Don Juan*, a portrait of the famous Spanish libertine, and the Suite from *Der Rosenkavalier*, Strauss's ode to the Viennese waltz.

### **Trifonov Plays Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 3** ([April 20-23](#))

Internationally celebrated pianist Daniil Trifonov joins the Orchestra in Rachmaninov's electrifying Third Piano Concerto, conducted by Fabien Gabel, who is making his CSO debut after important podium debuts at the BBC Proms and Opéra de Paris earlier this season. Also included in the program are two works steeped in Russian folklore: Stravinsky's *Petrushka* and Liadov's *Kikimora*. The [April 21](#) performance is presented in Edman Chapel at Wheaton College as part of the CSO at Wheaton series.

### **Jurowski, Helmchen & Shostakovich 8** ([April 27-29](#))

Conductor Vladimir Jurowski, chief conductor and artistic director of the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, returns to Symphony Center for his first CSO performances since 2014 to lead Shostakovich's immense Symphony No. 8, a work written in wartime that searches for hope and renewal beyond the anguish of violence. Celebrated pianist Martin Helmchen, whose 2016 CSO debut was described as "outstanding...with a reading of uncommon freshness and sparkling personality" (*Chicago Classical Review*), joins the Orchestra in Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 25.

### **Symphony Center Presents Piano**

#### **Emanuel Ax ([April 2](#))**

American pianist and audience favorite Emanuel Ax returns to Symphony Center with a program of early Romantic repertory. Since winning the Arthur Rubinstein Competition in 1974, Ax's career has brought him to audiences around the world, both as a soloist and as a chamber musician. The program highlights his eloquent interpretations of works by Schubert and Liszt.

#### **Evgeny Kissin ([April 16](#))**

Evgeny Kissin returns to Symphony Center with a recital of major works from the piano literature spanning over a century. The program begins with J.S. Bach's Chromatic Fantasy and Fugue and continues with works by Mozart and Chopin before concluding with four selections by Rachmaninov to mark the composer's 150th birthday in April.

### **Symphony Center Presents Chamber Music**

#### **Jerusalem Quartet with Pinchas Zukerman & Amanda Forsyth ([April 30](#))**

Violinist and violist Pinchas Zukerman and cellist Amanda Forsyth combine forces with the Jerusalem Quartet at Symphony Center for the first time since 2018 in a program celebrating string quintet and sextet repertory. Featured on the program are Dvořák's enchanting String Sextet, Brahms' String Sextet No. 1 and Bruckner's Adagio, which the ensemble plays with "a beguiling warmth and soaring cantabile to ravish the senses" (*The Strad*).

### **Symphony Center Presents Jazz**

#### **Monterey Jazz Festival on Tour: Celebrating 65 Years ([April 14](#))**

The Monterey Jazz Festival celebrates its 65th anniversary with a not-to-be-missed performance by an all-star ensemble. This band features Grammy Award winning vocalist Kurt Elling, who is joined by break-out vocal sensation and Monterey Jazz Festival star Veronica Swift as well as critically acclaimed saxophonist Lakecia Benjamin. Musical director of the ensemble and pianist Christian Sands, bassist Yasushi Nakamura, and drummer Clarence Penn.

## **Symphony Center Presents**

### **Zakir Hussain and the Masters of Percussion ([April 7](#))**

Zakir Hussain, described by *Gramophone* as the “indisputable tabla maestro,” returns to Symphony Center with his Masters of Percussion for the first time since 2016. This concert, featuring Hussain and drumming virtuosos from India, Colombia and Burkina Faso promises a program filled with a wide variety of cultures, instruments, ages and genres.

## **CSO MusicNOW**

### **In Context featuring Jessie Montgomery & Rachel Barton Pine ([April 24](#))**

The 25th Season of CSO MusicNOW culminates in a thrilling grand finale entitled ‘In Context,’ which features works by Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery alongside compositions by American classical music icons of the postmodern classical music era that influenced her from an early age. Acclaimed violinist and Chicago resident Rachel Barton Pine joins Montgomery for her CSO MusicNOW commission, a violin duo. The program opens with two pieces by Richard Einhorn, a mentor of Montgomery’s in her early days as a composer in New York. Also on the program are 20th-century African American composer Julia Perry’s Pastoral; one of Montgomery’s earliest works, *Play*, and pieces by American composers Leonard Bernstein and Walter Piston, all featuring musicians of the CSO. The program also features a world premiere by Angel Alday. Alday was selected as one of five young promising Chicago composers to receive coaching and mentorship from Montgomery this year. Alday’s woodwind quintet will debut alongside Montgomery’s violin duo.

Following the concert, concertgoers are invited to the Rotunda to enjoy complimentary pizza and refreshments, plus the opportunity to mix and mingle with the artists and fellow audience members.

## **CSO for Kids**

### **Once Upon a Symphony: The Elves and the Shoemaker ([April 1 & 29](#))**

Once Upon a Symphony programs combine vibrant music played by CSO musicians, storytelling, and enchanting visuals for a playful concert experience, and are produced in partnership with Chicago Children’s Theatre. In this performance, members of the CSO and storyteller Felix Mayes bring to life *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, a story that reveals we all need help at times, and when we receive it, we are able to strengthen our connections with one another.

Make an afternoon of your visit to Symphony Center [with this easy-to-use guide](#), including parking and dining details and fun postconcert activities.

## **CSO Chamber Music**

### **CSO Chamber Music at the University of Chicago** ([April 16](#))

Musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra come together for an afternoon of woodwind quintets performed on the University of Chicago campus. The program features works by W. A. Mozart, Carl Nielsen, and Max Raimi, alongside a piece by UChicago's own Augusta Read Thomas, who was the CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence from 1997 through 2006. Musicians performing on the program include: Piccolo and Flute Jennifer Gunn, Principal Oboe William Welter, Assistant Principal Clarinet and E-flat Clarinet John Bruce Yeh, Horn Oto Carrillo and Assistant Principal Bassoon William Buchman.

This event takes place at University of Chicago, International House Assembly Hall, 1414 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637. Concertgoers will use the Dorchester Avenue entrance for this performance.

### **CSO Brass Quintet at Symphony Center** ([April 18](#))

The CSO Chamber Music series continues with an all-brass performance by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet, whose members include Principal Trumpet Esteban Batallán, Trumpet John Hagstrom, Horn David Griffin, Trombone Michael Mulcahy, and Principal Tuba Gene Pokorny. The program features a wide range of repertoire, from an arrangement of Verdi's *Nabucco* Overture to works by Telemann and Shostakovich to Anthony DiLorenzo's *Go*, a fiery and fast-paced new work for brass quintet. The pairing of classic and contemporary works highlights a new era of chamber composition and underscores the power of the trumpet, trombone, horn and tuba.

This event is free. Tickets are required and can be reserved beginning April 4.

## **CSOtv**

Audiences in Chicago and worldwide can connect with the extraordinary artistry of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra with free access to a wide variety of content available through the [CSOtv \(cso.tv\)](#) video portal. Email signup is required to access free content. Content includes the critically acclaimed CSO Sessions series, as well as the CSO for Kids and Civic Orchestra of Chicago series, archival concert performances and more.

On April 1, online audiences can access a new themed playlist dedicated to the string quartet repertoire. The playlist encompasses a wide variety of genres and styles, from

Maurice Ravel's String Quartet in F to former CSO Mead Composer-in-Residence Missy Mazzoli's *Death Valley Junction*. Also featured are exciting works by Florence Price, Tomeka Reid and Alberto Ginastera. All performances feature CSO musicians performing together in chamber groups.

New playlists will be introduced monthly on CSOtv throughout the 2022/23 Season.

### **Food and Beverage**

Levy Restaurants, in concert with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, is reimagining food and beverage for concertgoers, Chicagoans and visitors alike at Symphony Center. From concert bars serving thoughtful selections to sit-down dining experiences and unforgettable private events, the two world-class institutions are now working together to deliver an elevated concert experience.

Symphony Center's newest restaurant, Forte, created for audience members, locals and visitors, is open Wednesday-Saturday, 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. with expanded hours for performances. Forte's menu features contemporary Mediterranean cuisine and classic cocktails, draft beer, locally roasted Metric coffee and locally made Paulo gelato in a space that's recently refreshed to pair with the historic building. Reservations can be made through [Tock](#).

For select performances, concertgoers can enhance their concert experience by dining at the Thomas Club, located on the ninth floor of Symphony Center with sweeping views of Lake Michigan. Reservations can be made through [Tock](#).

### **Patron Information**

Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org) or by calling [312-294-3000](tel:312-294-3000), 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.

### **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](https://www.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](https://www.cso.org/parking) for more parking and transit options.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Programs are sponsored by the Illinois Arts Council.

The March 30-April 4 program is sponsored by the Bonnie Ann Barber Endowment Fund, which recognizes the importance of the CSO to Chicago and aims to preserve and support the CSO's legacy for future generations.

Allstate Insurance Company is the Youth Education Program Sponsor.

Support of Once Upon a Symphony is provided, in part, by PNC Bank.

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

Sponsors for the April 14 Jazz program are Downbeat and WDCB.

Funding for educational programs during the 2022/23 SCP Jazz season has been generously provided by Dan J. Epstein, Judy Guitelman and the Dan J. Epstein Family Foundation.

The April 16 program at the University of Chicago is supported by the Office of the Provost and UChicago Arts.

The April 18 program featuring the CSO Brass Quintet is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

The April 20-23 appearance of Daniil Trifonov is made possible by the Grainger Fund for Excellence.

The April 21 CSO at Wheaton performance is generously sponsored by the JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund of DuPage Foundation.

Support for the CSO at Wheaton series is also provided by Megan and Steve Shebik.

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

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra: [cso.org](http://cso.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. Jessie Montgomery is Mead Composer-in-Residence, and Hilary Hahn is CSO Artist-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 63 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](http://cso.org/radio). Recordings by the CSO have earned 64 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 eleven releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at [cso.org/resound](http://cso.org/resound).

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago (Ken-David Masur, Principal Conductor), 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.