



CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA ASSOCIATION
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**HERBIE HANCOCK RETURNS TO HIS HOMETOWN
TO PERFORM HIS FIRST CONCERT IN NEARLY TWO YEARS,
OPENING THE 2021/22 SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS JAZZ SERIES**

Thursday, September 2, at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets On Sale to Subscribers Now and General Public on July 13

CHICAGO—Legendary pianist and composer Herbie Hancock and his band open the 2021/22 Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Jazz series—the first SCP Jazz concert in 19 months—on Thursday, September 2, at 7:30 p.m. This concert celebrates the 70th anniversary of Hancock’s Orchestra Hall debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and is his first concert in nearly two years, opening a national tour from his hometown. Tickets are on sale to subscribers now and to the general public on Tuesday, July 13, at 10 a.m.

“It’s time for me to get back out there and do what I love to do,” said Hancock. “We will be safe and we will be careful, but it’s time to reconnect with our fans, play live music and have some fun after a long period of isolation. It’s time to spread a little joy.”

Now in the sixth decade of his professional life, Hancock continues to amaze audiences and inspire musicians across all genres. In 1952, at age 11, he first performed a movement of a Mozart piano concerto with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as a winner of its Youth Auditions competition. Subsequently, he has appeared numerous times on the SCP Jazz series and with the CSO both in Orchestra Hall and at Ravinia. For his upcoming concert, Hancock brings a program that features a retrospective of material from throughout his career, including glimpses of material from his long forthcoming next release.

A native of Chicago’s South Side, Hancock was a child piano prodigy. He began playing jazz in high school, initially influenced by Oscar Peterson and Bill Evans. Hancock’s musical explorations have included acoustic and electric jazz, funk, rock, electronic dance and pop music, as well as collaborations with a range of performers including Miles Davis, Wayne Shorter, Wynton Marsalis, Stevie Wonder, Kathleen Battle, Sting, Carlos Santana and Paul Simon, among others. Hancock received an Academy Award for his *Round Midnight* film score

and 14 Grammy Awards including Album of the Year for *River: The Joni Letters*. He currently serves as Creative Chair for Jazz for the Los Angeles Philharmonic and as Institute Chairman of the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz. In 2011, Hancock was named a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador by UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova, received a Kennedy Center Honors Award in 2013, and a Grammy Award for Lifetime Achievement in 2016.

Tickets can be purchased by phone at **312-294-3000** or online at cso.org.

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association is committed to creating a comfortable, enjoyable and safe environment for its musicians, patrons and staff. To ensure everyone's visit to Symphony Center is safe and sound, we will continue to modify our guidelines and the concert experience, based on the latest public health recommendations. Patrons are encouraged to visit cso.org/safeandsound for the latest information.

Artists, programs and prices are subject to change.

The SCP Jazz Series is sponsored, in part, by Exelon.

This concert is part of Chicago In Tune Festival and 2021: Year of Music in Chicago.

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Symphony Center Presents
Jazz

Thursday, September 2, 7:30 p.m.
Herbie Hancock

Tickets: \$50-\$110

Featured Artists:

[Herbie Hancock](#)

Chicago Symphony Orchestra: cso.org and experience.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 62 international tours, performing in 29 countries on five continents.

People around the globe listen to weekly radio broadcasts of CSO concerts and recordings on the WFMT radio network and online at cso.org/radio. Recordings by the CSO have earned 63 Grammy Awards, including two in 2011 for Muti's recording with the CSO and Chorus of Verdi's *Messa da Requiem* (Muti's first of eight releases with the CSO to date). Find details on these and many other CSO recordings at cso.org/resound.

The CSO is part of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, which also includes the Chicago Symphony Chorus (Duain Wolfe, Director and Conductor) and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago (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.