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NOVEMBER PROGRAMMING AT SYMPHONY CENTER

**CSO MusicNOW Series Opens New Season on November 1 —
Curated by Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery**

**CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen is Soloist in Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1 in
Program led by Guest Conductor Marek Janowski — November 4-6**

**Jakub Hruša Leads Program including Dvořák's Sixth Symphony and
Barber's Knoxville: Summer of 1915 with Soprano Joëlle Harvey in her CSO Debut —
November 11-13**

**Two Programs Mark the Centenary of Composer Astor Piazzolla:
Giancarlo Guerrero Leads CSO Concerts featuring Bandoneón Soloist Daniel Binelli
November 18-21 and Latin Grammy Award-Winning Quinteto Astor Piazzolla
Makes Symphony Center Debut on November 19**

**Symphony Center Presents Welcomes All-Star Duo of Violinist Leonidas Kavakos and
Pianist Yuja Wang for Chamber Music Series Concert on November 7 and
Russian Virtuoso Daniil Trifonov for Piano Series Concert on November 12**

**Conductor Thomas Wilkins Leads Civic Orchestra of Chicago in Works by Carlos Simon,
Adolphus Hailstork, William Schuman and William Grant Still — November 8**

**Holiday Programming at Symphony Center Begins Thanksgiving Weekend with
Home Alone In Concert — November 26-28**

CHICAGO — The 2021-22 season continues with a wide variety of November programming presented by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) at Symphony Center. Concerts begin [November 1](#) with the return of CSO MusicNOW, the contemporary music series curated by Mead Composer-in-Residence Jessie Montgomery. CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen is soloist in Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1 on a program that also includes Mozart's Symphony No. 41 (*Jupiter*) and Mendelssohn's *The Hebrides* Overture, led by Marek Janowski ([November 4-6](#)). Conductor Jakub Hruša leads the CSO in Dvořák's Sixth Symphony and Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with soprano Joëlle Harvey in her CSO debut ([November 11-13](#)). Two November programs mark the centenary of Astor

Piazzolla (1921-1992), the great Argentine bandoneón virtuoso and composer known for transforming tango music through his use of classical counterpoint and jazz. The CSO opens this weekend celebration of the gifted composer's music in a program led by guest conductor Giancarlo Guerrero featuring Piazzolla's *Aconcagua* Concerto for Bandoneón and Orchestra, with soloist Daniel Binelli ([November 18-21](#)). The celebration continues with a Symphony Center Presents concert featuring Latin Grammy Award-winning Quinteto Astor Piazzolla, which will make its first appearance at Symphony Center on [November 19](#).

Symphony Center Presents programming includes a Chamber Music series concert on [November 7](#) with the all-star duo of violinist Leonidas Kavakos and pianist Yuja Wang in a program of sonatas by Bach, Busoni and Shostakovich and a [November 12](#) Piano series recital featuring Russian virtuoso Daniil Trifonov performing works by Brahms, Debussy, Prokofiev and Szymanowski.

Additional programs in November include the Civic Orchestra of Chicago performing its first live concert at Symphony Center since March 2020 in a free [November 8](#) program featuring works by American composers, led by conductor Thomas Wilkins, and *Home Alone* in Concert, which launches the 2021-22 CSO at the Movies series and holiday season programming at Symphony Center on Thanksgiving weekend ([November 26-28](#)).

Fall 2021 concerts at Symphony Center are presented without audience capacity restrictions and align with current public health guidelines and safety protocols. Ticket information is available at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org) and additional patron information is available at [cso.org/safeandsound](https://www.cso.org/safeandsound).

A chronological list of November 2021 concert programs is available [here](#).

CSO MusicNOW

Homecoming (November 1)

The CSO's contemporary music series opens the new season in a performance at Orchestra Hall with a program curated by the CSO's newly appointed Mead Composer-in-Residence, Jessie Montgomery. The program, which celebrates composers with ties to Chicago, includes *Authority* by area native Ted Hearne and the world premiere of *Scions of an Atlas*, a CSO MusicNOW-commissioned work by rising star Elijah Daniel Smith that reimagines the Baroque concerto grosso form. Haitian American flutist-composer Nathalie Joachim explores individual and cultural identity in her wind quintet *Seen* alongside Montgomery's vocal works *Lunar Songs* and *Loisaida, My Love*, based on text by J. Mae Barizo and Bimbo Rivas.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Concerts

Mozart Jupiter & Robert Chen Plays Bruch (November 4-6)

Marek Janowski, artistic director and chief conductor of the Dresden Philharmonic, conducts Mozart's Symphony No. 41 (*Jupiter*), a masterwork of unrestrained joy, preceded by Mendelssohn's *The Hebrides* Overture, evoking a trip to Scotland's rugged west coast. CSO Concertmaster Robert Chen is soloist in Bruch's First Violin Concerto.

Coleridge-Taylor, Barber & Dvořák 6 (November 11-13)

Born in the Czech Republic, conductor Jakub Hrůša is chief conductor of the Bamberg Symphony, principal guest conductor of the Philharmonia Orchestra and principal guest conductor of the Czech

Philharmonic. He leads the CSO in Dvořák's Sixth Symphony, the composer's joyful portrait of his Czech homeland, on this program that also includes Samuel Barber's nostalgic recollection of small-town America, *Knoxville: Summer of 1915*, with soprano Joëlle Harvey in her CSO debut. Opening the program is Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's 1898 breakthrough score, the rhapsodic *Ballade in A Minor*.

Guerrero Conducts Piazzolla & Beethoven (November 18-21)

Astor Piazzolla, born a century ago, revolutionized the Argentine tango with urbane sophistication. Piazzolla's *Aconcagua*, a bandoneón concerto named for a mountain in the Andes, is alternately pensive and streetwise in spirit. Giancarlo Guerrero, a six-time Grammy Award-winning conductor and music director of the Nashville Symphony and NFM Wrocław Philharmonic, leads the CSO and soloist Daniel Binelli in this program that also includes Buxtehude's Chaconne, vibrantly orchestrated by Mexican composer Carlos Chávez, and Beethoven's First Symphony.

Symphony Center Presents Chamber Music

Leonidas Kavakos & Yuja Wang (November 7)

Superstar soloists Leonidas Kavakos, violin, and Yuja Wang, piano, combine their talents to perform a violin sonata by J.S. Bach, along with sonatas by two composers who fell under the master's influence. Busoni's Second Violin Sonata ends with a kaleidoscopic set of variations on a Bach chorale, while Shostakovich's late-career sonata channels the grandeur and intensity in Bach's music.

Symphony Center Presents Piano

Daniil Trifonov (November 12)

Russian virtuoso Daniil Trifonov comes to Chicago to offer a colorful and thoughtful program including Debussy's first masterwork for the piano, *Pour le piano*; Szymanowski's Sonata No. 3; a set of playful miniatures by Prokofiev, entitled *Sarcasms*, Op. 17, and Brahms' Sonata in F Minor.

Symphony Center Presents Special Concert

Quinteto Astor Piazzolla (November 19)

The Latin Grammy Award-winning Quinteto Astor Piazzolla is the recognized standard-bearer for nuevo tango with its signature ensemble of instruments: bandoneón (Argentine accordion), violin, piano, electric guitar and double bass. The group celebrates the centenary of its namesake, Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla, in a program of his most memorable compositions.

Pablo Mainetti (bandoneón), Bárbara Varessi Peg (piano), Serdar Geldymuradov (violin), Armando de la Vega (guitar), Daniel Falasca (double bass) and Julián Vat (musical director) form the current generation of this quintet. Together they bear the responsibility of preserving the pure sound of Piazzolla in today's world while exploring and performing the vast repertoire of this outstanding composer.

Civic Orchestra of Chicago

Fate Now Conquers (November 8)

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the CSO's premier training ensemble of emerging professional musicians, returns to perform its first live concert at Symphony Center since March 2020. Led by guest conductor Thomas Wilkins, the program opens with the 2020 orchestral work *Fate Now Conquers* by composer Carlos Simon. The program of music by American composers continues with Adolphus

Hailstork's *An American Port of Call*, William Schuman's *New England Triptych* and William Grant Still's Symphony No. 1 (*Afro-American*).

Holiday Programming at Symphony Center

Home Alone in Concert (November 26-28)

The holiday season at Symphony Center begins Thanksgiving weekend with *Home Alone* in Concert. Audiences can enjoy the hilarious, heartwarming family favorite shown on the big screen at Symphony Center as the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Richard Kaufman, performs John Williams' delightful, Academy Award-nominated score.

Patron Information | Safe and Sound at Symphony Center

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) 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, the CSOA will continue to modify guidelines and the concert experience, based on the latest public health recommendations and in consultation with leading health experts.

Patrons will be required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a negative test upon arrival at all performances. Options for proof of vaccination include presentation of a vaccination card or by the use of the mobile app [My Bindle](#), which is accepted at Symphony Center and other Chicago-area performing arts venues. Alternatively, proof of a negative PCR test within 72 hours of the performance date or antigen test within 6 hours of the performance must be shown upon arrival. Anyone currently unable to get a vaccination, including children under 12, is required to present proof of a negative test.

Since restrictions at Chicago-area concert venues eased in spring of 2021, Symphony Center has welcomed audiences for three weeks of Chicago Symphony Orchestra programs in May and June, as well as for more than 20 Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Center Presents concerts since the beginning of the 2021-22 season in September.

Before each concert, ticket holders will receive specific instructions for entry. From September 2 through November 21, 2021, concerts will be presented without intermission and will last less than 90 minutes. Patrons are encouraged to visit [cso.org/safeandsound](https://www.cso.org/safeandsound) for audience protocol instructions and the most recent information.

Round-trip shuttle service is now available for an additional fee of \$25 per person for patrons traveling to Symphony Center from the North Shore or western suburbs. The North Shore Shuttle will be offered for CSO Friday matinee performances, with more information available [here](#). The new Wheaton Shuttle will be offered for one CSO matinee on [Friday, November 19](#), with more information available [here](#).

Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at [cso.org](https://www.cso.org), by calling [312-294-3000](tel:312-294-3000) (Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.) or by emailing patronservices@cso.org.

All artists and programs are subject to change.

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

Bank of America is the Maestro Residency Presenter.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

The Mead Composer-in-Residence at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra is endowed through a generous gift from Cindy Sargent and the late Sally Mead Hands.

Major support for CSO MusicNOW is generously provided by the Zell Family Foundation, Cindy Sargent, the Sally Mead Hands Foundation and the Julian Family Foundation.

Elijah Daniel Smith *Scions of Atlas*, world premiere, commissioned by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra through the Helen Zell Commissioning Program.

The Civic Orchestra of Chicago performance on November 8 is generously sponsored by The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation.

The performances on November 11-13 are made possible by the Zell Family Foundation.

The appearance of Joëlle Harvey is made possible by the Grainger Fund for Excellence.

The performances conducted by Giancarlo Guerrero on November 18-21 are in partnership with the Fundacion Astor Piazzolla, part of a worldwide celebration honoring the 100th anniversary of Astor Piazzolla's birth.

The performances on November 26-28 are made possible by The Year of Chicago Music 2021.

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Chicago Symphony Orchestra: 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.