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## **2024/25 SEASON OF SYMPHONY CENTER PRESENTS JAZZ ANNOUNCED**

CHICAGO — The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association (CSOA) has announced programming for the 2024/25 Season of Symphony Center Presents (SCP) Jazz. Established in 1994, the eight-concert series continues to welcome both legendary and trailblazing jazz musicians to Symphony Center. Highlights of the 2024/25 SCP Jazz series include a concert featuring the legendary Charles Lloyd along with a tribute to Wayne Shorter, as well as return appearances for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis and Grammy Award-winning singer-composer Cécile McLorin Salvant. Japanese pianist and composer Hiromi makes her SCP Jazz series and Symphony Center debut with a program exploring the avant-garde worlds of video game soundtracks and jazz-fusion. Pianist-composer Jason Moran and his group, the Harlem Hellfighters, bring music of James Reese Europe, a groundbreaking WWI-era bandleader, into the spotlight in a multimedia project. The series also features the Chicago premiere of legendary jazz pianist Oscar Peterson’s 1979 *Africa Suite*, inspired in part by South African anti-apartheid activist and statesman Nelson Mandela.

Explore program listings and ticketing information for the 2024/25 Season of SCP Jazz at [cso.org/jazz](https://cso.org/jazz).

“Next season’s Symphony Center Presents Jazz series continues its legacy of bringing both legendary and trailblazing jazz musicians to the stage of Orchestra Hall for Chicago audiences,” said James Fahey, Senior Director of Programming for Symphony Center Presents. “The season features a diverse array of artists including series debuts, Chicago favorites presenting new programs, today’s jazz royalty and unique tributes to jazz legends of the past. Both longtime subscribers and new audiences will enjoy these amazing artists who always bring unique performances, which is a hallmark of this ever-evolving art form.”

The 2024/25 Season of the SCP Jazz series opens on [Friday, October 25, at 8:00 p.m.](#), with an evening highlighting two of jazz’s pioneering saxophonists and composers —Charles Lloyd

and Wayne Shorter. Bringing a lifetime of genre-blending experience and experimentation to the stage, Charles Lloyd returns to Symphony Center with his quartet including pianist Aaron Parks, bassist Larry Grenadier and drummer Eric Harland. Jazz luminaries Danilo Pérez (piano), John Patitucci (bass) and Brian Blade (drums) — the three remaining members of Wayne Shorter's legendary quartet — are joined by special guest saxophonist Mark Turner. Through their personal interpretations, the musicians honor Shorter's pivotal contributions to jazz, capturing the spirit of his music, innovation and legacy.

On [Friday, November 22, at 8:00 p.m.](#), pianist-composer, MacArthur Fellow and the Kennedy Center's Artistic Director for Jazz Jason Moran honors James Reese Europe — a groundbreaking WWI-era musician who was celebrated equally in the dancehall and for his military service. As pianist and bandleader of the Harlem Hellfighters regiment, James Reese Europe and the group are credited with bringing jazz to Europe for the first time. Moran uses his distinct interpretational and compositional voice through a multimedia presentation to connect Europe's signature and syncopated sound to the jazz legends who followed and the music of today. The program also features young musicians from the Kenwood Academy High School under the direction of Gerald Powell, building on a long history of collaboration between Moran and the school.

Led by Wynton Marsalis, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra returns to Symphony Center for its annual appearance on [Friday, January 24, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#) By drawing on the genre's history and performing the vast catalogs of artists like Count Basie, Duke Ellington and Dizzy Gillespie, the ensemble works to ensure jazz lives long into the future.

Following numerous Symphony Center appearances since her debut in 2012, singer and composer Cécile McLorin Salvant returns to Symphony Center on [Friday, February 21, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Revealing the connections between vaudeville, blues, jazz, baroque and traditional folk music, three-time Grammy Award-winner Salvant bridges the gap between the musical past and the contemporary world. The program features imaginative interpretations of standards and original works.

On [Friday, March 21, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#), the Bill Charlap Trio, known for its masterful interpretations of the Great American Songbook, is joined by NEA Jazz Master and vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater and multi-instrumentalist and trumpeter Nicholas Payton. Bridgewater puts her unique spin on those standards and takes leaps of faith in reimagining jazz classics, while Payton honors postmodern New Orleans music.

Japanese pianist and composer Hiromi makes her Symphony Center debut on [Friday, April 4, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#) With her new quartet, Hiromi explores the avant-garde worlds of video game soundtracks and pioneering jazz-fusion albums like Herbie Hancock's *Head Hunters*. Harpist Brandee Younger and her trio will open the program, paying homage to jazz harp pioneers Dorothy Ashby and Alice Coltrane. The Trio makes its SCP debut.

The SCP Jazz season continues with a performance by Grammy-winning Brazilian pianist and singer Eliane Elias on [Friday, May 9, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#) Elias seamlessly intertwines straight-ahead jazz and Afro-Latin rhythms like samba and bossa nova. To open the evening, Colombian-born jazz harpist Edmar Castañeda, who makes his SCP debut, performs original compositions and interpretations of traditional Colombian songs from his album *Family* — nominated for a Latin Grammy in the Best Latin Jazz Album category.

The series finale on [Friday, June 13, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#) offers a rare live performance of pianist Oscar Peterson's *Africa Suite*, inspired in part by Nelson Mandela and the intense struggle for human rights in 1980s apartheid South Africa and lovingly produced by Peterson's widow Kelly. The program is led by composer and arranger John Clayton and features an all-star ensemble including Peterson protégé Benny Green (piano), Christian McBride (bass), Lewis Nash (drums), Russell Malone (guitar) and the Chicago Jazz Orchestra.

Beyond the eight concerts in the 2024/25 SCP Jazz series, two additional Symphony Center Presents concerts have been added to the previously announced slate of programs. Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali performs at Symphony Center on [Friday, March 14, 2025, at 8:00 p.m.](#), in partnership with the South Asia Institute. The program features Rizwan Mujahid Ali Khan and Muazzam Mujahid Ali Khan on vocals. Also added next season is *Boleros de Noche* featuring Tres Souls & Trío Remembranza on [Saturday, April 12, 2025, at 7:30 p.m.](#) The program aims to preserve, uplift and celebrate bolero music, often considered the most romantic genre of Latin American music.

### **Patron Information**

Subscriptions are now on sale for the 2024/25 Season of Symphony Center Presents Jazz. Curated series subscription packages and Create Your Own series of three or more concerts are available.

Curated subscribers initially save up to 30% on standard ticket prices and save 15% on additional tickets ordered throughout the season. Additional subscriber benefits include priority seating, flexible ticket exchange privileges, access to reduced parking rates and offers at the Symphony Store.

Subscriptions may be ordered online, by phone, by mail or in person at the Symphony Center Box Office. A convenient payment plan option is available for purchases made by credit card. Individual concert tickets for 2024/25 Season programs go on sale to the public in August.

Patron Services representatives are available to assist with ticket purchases by web chat at [cso.org](http://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.

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**Chicago Symphony Orchestra: [cso.org](https://www.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 [cso.org/radio](https://www.cso.org/radio). Launched in 2007, [CSO Resound](https://www.cso.org/resound) 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](https://www.cso.org/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](https://www.cso.org/civic) is a training ensemble for emerging professionals with Ken-David Masur serving as its principal conductor. [Symphony Center Presents](https://www.cso.org/presents) features guest artists and ensembles across an expansive array of genres, including classical, jazz, world and contemporary. The [Negaunee Music Institute](https://www.cso.org/negaunee) 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.