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## **NOVEMBER PROGRAMMING AT SYMPHONY CENTER AND IN THE COMMUNITY**

CHICAGO — November 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. November CSO concert highlights include return podium appearances for Daniel Harding (November 2-7), John Storgårds (November 9-11) and Michael Tilson Thomas (November 30-December 5), as well as a program led by Phillipe Jordan, which is offered at Symphony Center and as the opening program of the CSO at Wheaton series (November 16-19). Jordan and the CSO perform Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* and welcome Leonidas Kavakos as soloist in Szymanowski's Violin Concerto No. 2. Violinist Karen Gomyo also makes her CSO solo debut on November 9 in the CSO's first subscription concert performances of Philip Glass' Violin Concerto No. 1.

The 2023/24 Season of Symphony Center Presents programming continues with the return of celebrated violinist Maxim Vengerov on the Chamber Music series (November 10), an engaging and informative piano recital program from Sir András Schiff on the Piano series (November 12) and the next concert in the 30th season of the Symphony Center Presents Jazz series featuring the Brad Mehldau Trio (November 17). The Orchestras series welcomes the return of former CSO music director Daniel Barenboim with his Staatskapelle Berlin orchestra for an all-Brahms program on November 28. Thanksgiving weekend at Symphony Center features the opening program on this year's CSO at the Movies series, with three performances of Disney's *Fantasia in Concert* November 24-26, as well as a matinee concert featuring the Vienna Boys Choir that heralds the arrival of the holiday season. The Civic Orchestra of Chicago, a

program of the Negaunee Music Institute at the CSO, performs a free community concert at Senn High School in a program that will be repeated at Symphony Center (November 19 & 20).

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

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

## **Chicago Symphony Orchestra**

### **The Planets ([November 2-7](#))**

Award-winning conductor and Music and Artistic Director of the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Harding will lead the CSO and the Chicago Symphony Chorus in Holst's *The Planets* on a program that opens with Schumann's Overture to *Manfred*. The full Chicago Symphony Chorus will perform in Brahms' radiant *Schicksalslied* ("Song of Destiny"), which is considered one of the composer's best choral works. Grammy Award winner Jenny Wong will prepare the Chicago Symphony Chorus as guest chorus director.

### **Glass & Rachmaninov ([November 9-11](#))**

Chief Conductor of the BBC Philharmonic John Storgårds conducts the CSO in Rachmaninov's Third Symphony and Sibelius' atmospheric symphonic poem *Pohjola's Daughter*. Completing the program is violinist Karen Gomyo in her CSO solo debut in the first CSO subscription performances of Philip Glass' Violin Concerto No. 1.

### **The Rite of Spring & Kavakos ([November 16-19](#))**

Swiss conductor and Music Director of the Vienna State Opera, Philippe Jordan conducts the CSO in Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring*, a staggering ballet score that is widely considered one of the first examples of Modernism in orchestral music. Celebrated violinist Leonidas Kavakos returns to the CSO to perform Szymanowski's folk-inspired Second Violin Concerto. Mussorgsky's *St. John's Night on the Bare Mountain* opens the program.

### **MTT Conducts Mozart ([November 30-December 5](#))**

Twelve-time Grammy Award winner Michael Tilson Thomas returns to lead the CSO in a compelling Austro-Germanic program, including Mozart's Six German Dances and Piano Concerto No. 12 with renowned pianist and chamber musician Orion Weiss as soloist. Schoenberg's orchestration of Brahms' Piano Quartet No. 1 closes the program.

## **CSO for Kids**

### **Global Perspectives ([November 4](#))**

Spanish-American guest conductor François López-Ferrer opens the CSO for Kids season. He leads members of the CSO on a musical journey around the world, exploring how orchestral music celebrates the extraordinary diversity of people and cultures around the globe. This program is recommended for children ages 5-12.

Family Matinee attendees are invited to participate in pre- and postconcert activities at Symphony Center from 11:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The free Orchestra Explorer Activities are located on floors 1-5 of the Symphony Center Rotunda and include a scavenger hunt, instrument petting zoo, tambourine craft and more.

## **Symphony Center Presents Chamber Music**

### **Maxim Vengerov & Polina Osetinskaya ([November 10](#))**

Rooted in the great tradition of the Russian violin school and considered to be one of the greatest violinists of all time, Maxim Vengerov performs three intertwined works by Clara Schumann, Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms. Prokofiev's Five Melodies and Violin Sonata close the program. Vengerov collaborates with the internationally acclaimed pianist Polina Osetinskaya.

## **Symphony Center Presents Piano**

### **Sir Andrés Schiff ([November 12](#))**

Longtime Chicago favorite Sir Andrés Schiff performs works from his extensive repertoire in a program introduced from the stage. An engaging and informative host, Schiff delves into the history and significance of each piece with "a commentary at once comic and serious [and turns] this pop-up master class into an unforgettable experience" (*The Independent*).

## **Chicago Symphony Orchestra Chamber Music**

### **Civitas Ensemble Plays Bartók & Price ([November 14](#))**

The Civitas Ensemble presents recently discovered works by two 20th-century composers: Béla Bartók's Piano Quintet in C Major and longtime Chicago resident Florence Price's Piano Quintet in A Minor. Price's Piano Quintet draws on the musical language of African American spirituals and reworks elements of the juba dance, brought to the American South by enslaved Africans and popularized by Black performers.

## **Symphony Center Presents Jazz**

### **Brad Mehldau Trio ([November 17](#))**

Grammy Award-winning jazz pianist Brad Mehldau and his trio perform at Symphony Center, presenting audiences with an intense live experience, embodying the essence of jazz exploration, classical romanticism and pop.

## **Civic Orchestra of Chicago**

### **Notes for Peace ([November 12](#))**

Launched in March 2018 in partnership with Purpose Over Pain, the Notes for Peace project empowers parents who have lost children to gun violence to create original songs of tribute. Join families from Purpose of Over Pain, Fellows of the Civic Orchestra, musicians from the Irene Taylor Trust, and professional vocalists for a concert of songs of tribute. This program will take place at Epiphany Center for the Arts (201 S. Ashland Ave.) .

### **Natural Wonder ([November 19-20](#))**

This program highlights music of three diverse composers and their visions of the natural world. In Beethoven's *Pastoral* Symphony, birds warble, peasants celebrate together outdoors and a thunderstorm rages across the countryside. The music was inspired by Beethoven's own walks outside his home in Vienna, Austria. Gabriella Smith's *Tumblebird Contrails* from 2014 captures her feelings of ecstasy and wonder as she hiked along the rugged California coastline. The vast, arching melodies of Hovhaness' *Mysterious Mountain* suggest metaphorical summits — where “the mundane and spiritual worlds” are said to meet. Tito Muñoz, music director of the Phoenix Symphony, leads the Civic Orchestra in this program that is offered as a free community concert at Nicholas Senn High School (5900 N. Glenwood Ave., Chicago) on Sunday, November 19, at 2:00 p.m., and at Symphony Center on Monday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m.

## **CSO at the Movies**

### **Fantasia in Concert ([November 24-26](#))**

The CSO performs Disney's groundbreaking marriage of symphonic music and animation, *Fantasia*, in concert. This program includes music from the original 1940 film and *Fantasia 2000*, including Dukas' *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony and Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* Suite, while Disney's stunning animation is shown on screen.

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## **Symphony Center Presents**

### **Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna ([November 25](#))**

One of the world's most famous and oldest choirs, the Vienna Boys Choir brings a program drawn from its repertoire of Austrian folk songs, classical masterpieces and yuletide favorites this holiday season, building on a history spanning about 500 years.

## **Symphony Center Presents Orchestras**

### **Staatskapelle Berlin ([November 28](#))**

Former CSO Music Director Daniel Barenboim leads the venerable Staatskapelle Berlin for an all-Brahms program. One of the world's oldest orchestras, the Staatskapelle was established in the 16th century and later gave the premieres of major works by Mendelssohn, Wagner and Richard Strauss.

## **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](https://www.cso.org/dining).

## **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.

Civic Orchestra of Chicago performances at Symphony Center and in neighborhood venues are free, but tickets are required unless otherwise noted. Seating is general admission, and there is a nonrefundable \$5 per ticket service fee for most performances that take place at Symphony Center. Tickets will become available two weeks prior to each concert.

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](http://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](http://cso.org/parking) for more parking and transit options.

United Airlines is the Official Airline of the CSO.

The appearance of the Chicago Symphony Chorus has been made possible by a generous gift from The Grainger Foundation.

Support for Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association programming for children and families is provided by Abbott Fund, John D. and Leslie Henner Burns, John Hart and Carol Prins, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Kinder Morgan, PNC, Courtney Shea, Megan and Steve Shebik, Michael and Linda Simon, the Walter and Caroline Sueske Charitable Trust and an anonymous family foundation.

The appearance of John Storgårds is made possible by the Juli Plant Grainger Fund for Artistic Excellence.

The November 16-19 performances are generously sponsored by the Zell Family Foundation. The appearance of Leonidas Kavakos is made possible by the Grainger Fund for Excellence.

The November 17 performance has been made possible through a generous grant from Dan J. Epstein, Judith Guitelman and the Epstein Family Foundation.

CSO at Wheaton performances are generously sponsored by the JCS Arts, Health and Education Fund of DuPage Foundation.

The November 24-26 performances are part of the CSO at the Movies series, which is generously sponsored by Megan and Steve Shebik.

The November 30-December 5 performances are made possible by the Juli Plant Grainger Fund for Artistic Excellence.

Chicago Symphony Orchestra Programs are partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

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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. Riccardo Muti, the Orchestra's distinguished 10th music director from 2010 until 2023, was recently named Music Director Emeritus for Life beginning with 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 63 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 64 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/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](https://www.cso.org/civic-orchestra-of-chicago) is a training ensemble for emerging professionals with Ken-David Masur serving as its principal conductor. [Symphony Center Presents](https://www.cso.org/symphony-center-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-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.