Celebrating its 80th year showcasing the world’s most innovative artists and composers, University of Chicago Presents brings 26 stunning concerts and events to its 2023/24 season.

Subscription sales begin June 20 with discounts of up to 30% off single ticket prices. Single ticket sales begin August 8. Subscriptions and tickets can be purchased online at chicagopresents.uchicago.edu.

The season's concerts will be held at three gorgeous locations on the campus of the University of Chicago, Logan Center for the Arts, Mandel Hall, and Bond Chapel.

The more than two dozen captivating events cover classical, jazz, contemporary composition, early music (medieval to the Baroque), and world music from award-winning and internationally acclaimed artists. Audiences will have the thrilling opportunity to witness dozens of world and Chicago premieres as well as experience boundary-pushing performances within digital, dance, and performance art.

A few 2023/24 season highlights

- Experience first-class artists in person representing more than ten countries performing work by composers from around the world.
- 14 composers premiere new works through Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition.
- Two concerts presented by musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra titled Music in the Vernacular celebrate music composed inside specific cultures.
- In partnership with Court Theatre, the category-defying production composition as explanation by Eighth Blackbird gets its Chicago premiere.
- Two concerts by Grammy®-Award-winning quartet, Pacifica.
- OpenEndedGroup, led by digital art pioneers Marc Downie and Paul Kaiser, joins forces with dance icon Jodi Melnick and ground-breaking violinist Tom Chiu for three world premieres.
- Jeff Parker and The New Breed and the all-female supergroup Fire and Water Quintet help Jazz at the Logan continue as a leading provider of world-renowned jazz.
- France's Le Consort takes its audience through a journey of Baroque Europe, and Alcee Chriss III shows why he’s a rising star of the pipe organ.
- The delightful refinement of traditional Chinese folk and opera from Wu Fei and the high-energy spiritual liberation from South Africa's Bantu Continua Uhuru Consciousness offer astounding performances and amazing cultural insight.
FULL CONCERT SCHEDULE – organized by date

SEPTEMBER
Sept 28 7:30 PM  * Eighth Blackbird Composition as Explanation Court Theatre $30
Sept 29 7:30 PM  * Eighth Blackbird Composition as Explanation Court Theatre $30
Sept 30 2:00 PM  * Eighth Blackbird Composition as Explanation Court Theatre $30
Sept 30 7:30 PM  Grossman Ensemble+ Logan Center $20

OCTOBER
Oct 6 7:30 PM  Alarm Will Sound Logan Center $40
Oct 8 3:00 PM  CSO Chamber Music at the University of Chicago Mandel Hall $30
Oct 13 7:30 PM  Vadym Kholodenko, piano Mandel Hall $40
Oct 20 7:30 PM  Pacifica Quartet Mandel Hall $30
Oct 21 7:30 PM  Ben Wendel Group Logan Center $40
Oct 27 7:30 PM  OpenEndedGroup with Tom Chiu and Jodi Melnick Logan Center $40

NOVEMBER
Nov 3 7:30 PM  Theon Cross, tuba Logan Center $40
Nov 4 5:00 PM  Alcee Chriss III, organ Bond Chapel $40
Nov 9 7:30 PM  Bantu Continua Uhuru Consciousness Logan Center $40

DECEMBER
Dec 1 7:30 PM  Grossman Ensemble Logan Center $20

JANUARY
Jan 12 7:30 PM  Spanish Brass Logan Center $40
Jan 26 7:30 PM  Jeff Parker & The New Breed Logan Center $40
Jan 28 3:00 PM  Pacifica Quartet Logan Center $30

FEBRUARY
Feb 2 7:30 PM  Akropolis Reed Quintet Logan Center $40
Feb 9 7:30 PM  Schumann Quartet Logan Center $40
Feb 23 7:30 PM  Natalie Glein, cello Mandel Hall $40
Feb 28 7:30 PM  Le Consort Logan Center $40

MARCH
Mar 1 7:30 PM  Grossman Ensemble Logan Center $20

APRIL
Apr 5 7:30 PM  Emmet Cohen Trio Logan Center $40
Apr 7 3:00 PM  Wu Fei, guzheng Logan Center $40
Apr 12 7:30 PM  Lyracle Logan Center $40
Apr 14 3:00 PM  CSO Chamber Music at the University of Chicago Mandel Hall $30
Apr 19 7:30 PM  Fire and Water Quintet Logan Center $40
Apr 26 7:30 PM  Isidore Quartet Mandel Hall $40

MAY
May 17 7:30 PM  Grossman Ensemble Logan Center $20

* Eighth Blackbird is not available for any subscription series package. Single tickets can be purchased only through Court Theatre box office at CourtTheatre.org starting August 8.
CURATED CONCERT SERIES

CLASSIC CONCERT SERIES
UChicago Presents’ longest-running series brings artists from around the world, including Ukraine, Germany, England, Spain, the United States, and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, to the University of Chicago campus for stunning performances of works from the classical period to the present.

- The dynamic Ukrainian pianist Vadym Kholodenko (Oct 13) explores Handel, Beethoven, and Liszt.
- Known for their spontaneity and virtuosity, Spain’s Spanish Brass (Jan 12) brings a 30-year legacy as one of the most sought-after brass groups on the international stage.
- Hailed as “a sonically daring ensemble who perform new works with charisma and integrity” by BBC Music Magazine, Akropolis Reed Quintet (Feb 2) shines an imaginative spotlight on jazz and its impact on classical music.
- Schumann Quartet (Feb 9), comprised of German brothers Mark, Erik and Ken Schumann, and violist Veit Hertenstein present a breathtaking program to include Mozart’s tribute to Haydn, one of Berg’s most original compositions, and a late quartet of Beethoven.
- British cellist Natalie Clien (Feb 23) honors her Jewish ancestry with a program featuring four beloved Jewish composers, including Ernest Bloch, Mendelssohn, and Brian Elias.
- Musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra explore music composed inside the world of specific cultures with two concerts titled Music in the Vernacular featuring works by Haydn, Bartók, Brahms, Stravinsky, Dvořák, and Tchaikovsky (Oct 8 and April 14)

This extraordinary seven Classic Concert Series can be purchased for only $225.

HOWARD MAYER BROWN INTERNATIONAL EARLY MUSIC SERIES
The Howard Mayer Brown International Early Music Series features artists dedicated to historically researched and informed programming and original instrument practices from medieval and Renaissance music to the Baroque.

- Rising star pipe organist, Alcee Chriss III (Nov 4) blends early music with his love of jazz, classical, improvisation, and gospel on the Bond Chapel's Reneker organ built by master organ builder Karl Wilhelm.
- A leading ensemble from Paris, Le Consort (Feb 28) takes the audience on a lovely journey through Baroque Europe in a thrilling Chicago premiere.
- From the Boston area, Lyracle (April 12) celebrates the musical accomplishments of Japanese students at Jesuit missionary schools in Japan (1549–1613).

This delightful three-concert Early Music Series is available for only $90

MUSIC WITHOUT BORDERS SERIES
Sounds from around the globe to Chicago showcase contemporary artists blending world traditions with modern styling.

- Drawing on the singing form of ancient Chinese poetry, Wu Fei, (April 7) weaves traditional guzheng, folk songs, and Chinese opera for her vocal suite Moon Hunter.
- One of South Africa’s most successful musical exports, Bantu Continua Uhuru Consciousness (Nov 9) thrills with high-energy performances to tap into the pulses of their ancestors and awaken crowds to the power of a shared, more just future.

This dynamic two-concert Music Without Borders Series is available for $60.

—MORE—

UChicago Presents 2023/24 season
JAZZ AT THE LOGAN SERIES
Jazz at the Logan series brings the spectrum of contemporary jazz—with its myriad influences from the past to the present—to the Logan Center concert stage with performances by today's most exciting jazz artists.

- **Ben Wendel**, a founding member of the Grammy® nominated groove band Kneebody, kicks-off Jazz at the Logan with his Ben Wendel Group (Oct 21).
- Redefining the sound of the tuba has made Theon Cross (Nov 3) a highly important part of the London jazz scene.
- Returning to Chicago where he was an integral part of the “Modern Chicago Sound” and a member of the indie band, Tortoise, Jeff Parker and the New Breed (Jan 26) is comprised of some of the most exciting and innovative musicians on the scene today.
- Winner of the 2019 American Pianists Award, Emmet Cohen (April 5) dazzles with his precision and fluid keyboard artistry.
- Led by pianist Myra Melford, this all-female supergroup Fire and Water Quintet (April 19) brings to life the drawings of Cy Twombly through the use of provocation and cacophony alongside quieter and more subtle sounds.

This incredible five-concert Jazz at the Logan Series is only $150.

PACIFICA QUARTET SERIES
Pacifica Quartet returns to celebrate its 10th anniversary as the first Don Michael Randel Ensemble—in–Residence in University of Chicago’s Department of Music.

- With a career spanning nearly three decades, the Grammy® Award-winning Pacifica Quartet (Oct 20 and Jan 28) has achieved international recognition as one of the finest chamber ensembles performing today. The Quartet is known for its virtuosity, exuberant performance style, and often-daring repertory choices.

Enjoy two concerts from this multiple award-winning quartet for only $45.

SPECIAL EVENT SERIES
This category-defying series features these dazzling performances including dance, music, art, and a hybrid of art forms.

- Hailed as “one of the most vital and original ensembles on the American Music scene” by The New York Times, Alarm Will Sound (Oct 6) is a 20-person chamber orchestra presenting Irish composer Donnacha Dennehy’s new evening-length work, Land of Winter.
- Behold three distinct disciplines (digital art, dance, music) working together for the world premiere of Open-EndedGroup’s Blackletter (Oct 27) as well as two additional world premieres, including Jodi Melnick’s dance piece Agua Viva–The Sadness of Flowers and Tom Chiu composition Z-Axis.

These two world-premiere experiences are only $60

—MORE—
TICKETS

Subscriptions starting as low as $45, are available across six curated series, offering patrons significant savings of up to 30% off single ticket prices.

FULL SEASON PASS to all 26 concerts is available at $644 saving more than $275 (30%) off the single ticket price.

Curated Series Subscriptions are 25% off single ticket prices.

UChicago Presents also offer discounts to under 35, student, University and staff, and the opportunity to create your own series with a Pick 4- or Pick 6- and Pick 8-concert flexible series option. Youths ages 6-17 may receive a free ticket with every paying accompanying adult.

Subscription information (sales start June 20) can be found at https://chicagopresents.uchicago.edu/tickets/subscription-information

Single tickets information (sales start August 8) at https://tickets.uchicago.edu/Online/default.asp

Student, youth, and family ticket information can be found at https://chicagopresents.uchicago.edu/tickets/students-youth-families

Patrons may also call 773.702.ARTS (2787) or visit the UChicago Arts Box Office at the Logan Center for the Arts, 915 E. 60th Street, Tues–Fri, 12–4pm.

Single tickets go on sale August 8, 2023.

CONCERT VENUES
This season, the University of Chicago Presents holds concerts at the following locations:

• Mandel Hall: 1131 East 57th Street, Chicago, IL 60637
• Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts: 915 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637
• Bond Chapel: 1025 E 58th St, Chicago, IL 60637

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESENTS
Established in 1943, The University of Chicago Presents series brings extraordinary artists from around the world to Chicago. Artists engage with audiences, scholars, and students in dynamic live performances, educational and enrichment experiences, and community engagement activities through a diverse mix of chamber music and recitals, early, contemporary, jazz, and world music, including artist residencies, commissions, and premieres.

—MORE—
2023/24 FULL CONCERT SCHEDULE – organized by series

SPECIAL COLLABORATION WITH COURT THEATRE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 / 7:30 PM
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 / 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 / 2 PM

COURT THEATRE

* EIGHTH BLACKBIRD
composition as explanation
BY DAVID LANG

UChicago Presents is proud to partner with Tony® Award Winner for Best Regional Theatre, Court Theatre, to present Eighth Blackbird's category-defying production composition as explanation. This production has been hailed as “extraordinary, inventive, and deserving of constant reinvention” by Cultural Voice of North Carolina. A playground of chamber music, theatre, poetry, and performance art, Eighth Blackbird presents a distinctly marvelous happening not to be missed. With music by David Lang and direction by Anne Bogart, the night is based on Gertrude Stein's essay of the same name. By lifting Stein's words off the page, 8BB creates layers of interpretation that reveal the human relationship with art from an entirely unprecedented perspective. One that is thoughtful, clever, humorous, insightful, and joyful.

Dalia Chin, flute, acting, voice
Zachary Good, clarinet, acting, voice
Maiani da Silva, violin, acting, voice
Ashley Bathgate, cello, acting, voice
Matthew Duvall, percussion, acting, voice
Lisa Kaplan, piano, acting, voice

* Tickets are available starting August 8 through Court Theatre box office at CourtTheatre.org or 773.753.4472. Eight Blackbird is not available for any subscription series.

CLASSIC CONCERT SERIES

UChicago Presents longest-running series brings the greatest artists from around the world to the U of C campus for stunning performances of works from the Classical period to the present.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 / 3 PM | MANDEL HALL
CSO CHAMBER MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
MUSIC IN THE VERNACULAR
Stravinsky: Concertino for String Quartet
Dvořák: String Quartet No. 14 in A-flat Major Op. 105
Tchaikovsky: Souvenir de Florence

Rong-Yan Tang, violin
Cornelius Chiu, violin
Youming Chen, viola
Diane Mues, viola
Daniel Katz, cello
Richard Hirschl, cello

—MORE—
CSO CHAMBER MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO continued…

The Chicago Symphony Orchestra responds to Professor Steven Rings’ prompt to explore music of the vernacular. In this chamber music program, musicians from the CSO take on Stravinsky’s Concertino, written while he was living in a fishing village in France; Dvořák’s String Quartet No. 14 featuring a lively syncopation related to a Czech stomping dance, and Tchaikovsky’s Souvenir de Florence with distinctly Russian folk-like melodies.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13 / 7:30 PM | MANDEL HALL
VADYM KHOLODENKO, PIANO
Handel: Suite in B-flat Major, HWV. 440
Haydn: Sonata in C-sharp minor, Hob. XVI:36
Beethoven: Sonata No. 27 in E minor, Op. 90
Adès: Traced Overhead
Liszt: Après une lecture de Dante
Liszt: Tarantella in G minor

Award-winning Ukrainian pianist Vadym Kholodenko has captured audiences across the globe with his depth of sound, exceptional refinement of expression, and consummate virtuosity. Praising Kholodenko, New York Classical Review writes he “exudes a sense of excitement that comes straight out of his personality…closer to an experience of absolute improvisation than one will ever find in the classical repertoire.”

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
SPANISH BRASS
With a thirty-three-year legacy in the world of chamber music, Spanish Brass continues to be one of the most dynamic and sought-after brass groups on the international musical stage. Comprised of five virtuosic musicians from Spain, the ensemble is renowned for its stunning skill, richly varied repertoire, and passionate commitment to expanding the possibilities of the brass quintet. Their performances are famous for their energy, spontaneity, and sheer musicality.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
AKROPOLIS REED QUINTET
Hailed as “a sonically daring ensemble who perform new works with charisma and integrity” by BBC Music Magazine, Akropolis will present imaginative arrangements alongside original reed works that highlight exploration into jazz and its impact on classical music. The program will include a traditional baroque dance suite with early jazz harmonies and Moods and Attitudes, a new work by jazz composer Omar Thomas consisting of a modernized shuffle, a noir ballad, and a bebop romp.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
SCHUMANN QUARTET
Mozart: Quartet in A Major, K. 464
Berg: Quartet, Op. 3

The three brothers, Mark, Erik and Ken Schumann, and violist Veit Hertenstein are well known for their willingness to take risks and explore new musical territories. This breathtaking program will include Mozart’s tribute to Haydn, one of Berg’s most original compositions, and a late quartet of Beethoven’s that brought the composer back to the string quartet genre after a 10-year absence.

—MORE—
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 / 7:30 PM | MANDEL HALL
NATALIE CLEIN, cello
Ernest Bloch: Meditation
Weinberg: Sonata for Cello & Piano No. 2 in G minor, Op. 63
Brian Elias: L’innominata
Mendelssohn: Sonata No. 1 in B-flat major, Op. 45
Ernest Bloch: Three scenes From Jewish life

British cellist Natalie Clein has built a distinguished career regularly performing at major venues and with orchestras worldwide. Clein came to widespread attention at the age of sixteen when she won both the BBC Young Musician of the Year and the Eurovision Competition for Young Musicians in Warsaw. Inspired by her Jewish ancestry, this program features four beloved Jewish composers.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14 / 3 PM | MANDEL HALL
CSO CHAMBER MUSIC AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
MUSIC IN THE VERNACULAR
Haydn: Piano Trio No. 39 in G Major Op. 82 No. 2
Bartók: Contrasts for violin, clarinet, piano
Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B minor Op. 115
Qing Hou & Lei Hou, violin
Lawrence Neumann, viola
John Sharp, cello
John Bruce Yeh, clarinet
John Novacek, piano

These unparalleled musicians from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra explore music composed inside the world of specific cultures. The program includes one of Haydn’s best-known piano trios, Bartók’s Contrasts (filled with Hungarian and Romanian dance melodies), and closes with a later work of Brahms, one of the first chamber works composed for an ensemble featuring clarinet.

FRIDAY, APRIL 26 / 7:30 PM | MANDEL HALL
ISIDORE QUARTET
UCP PREMIERE
Mendelssohn: String Quartet No. 5, Op. 44, No. 3 in E-flat Major
Wijeratne: “Disappearance of Lisa Gherardini”
Britten: String Quartet Op. 36, No. 2 in C Major

This program connects past to present with a piece Mendelssohn wrote in 1838 to inspire religious contemplation, Benjamin Britten’s 1946’s commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the death of Henry Purcell, and Dinuk Wijeratne’s 2022 true story of the 1911 theft of the Mona Lisa. Winners of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant and the 14th Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2022, this young dynamic group was founded at the Juilliard School with a mission is to “approach the established as if it were new, and the new as if it were firmly established.”

—MORE—
HOWARD MAYER BROWN INTERNATIONAL
EARLY MUSIC SERIES

The Howard Mayer Brown International Early Music Series features artists dedicated to historically researched and informed programming and original instrument practices from medieval and Renaissance music to the Baroque.

ALCEE CHRISS III, ORGAN
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4 / 5 PM | BOND CHAPEL
Expect to be delightfully surprised by Texas-born Dr. Alcee Chriss III, who has soared to become a leading young pipe organist, blending his love of jazz, classical, improvisation, and gospel. This thrilling Early Music concert will feature the Bond Chapel's Reneker organ built by master organ builder Karl Wilhelm. American Record Guide writes, “he plays with clarity, imagination, musicality, virtuosity, and yes, personality.” Active as a church musician, conductor, and jazz pianist, he currently serves as the Minister of Music at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Ridgefield, CT.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
LE CONSORT
A JOURNEY THROUGH BAROQUE EUROPE
CHICAGO PREMIERE
This leading baroque ensemble of four young musicians from Paris brings a delightful program showing the immense expressive range and creativity of Bach, Vivaldi, Corelli, Purcell, Rameau, and others. You will also hear two magnificent settings of “Follia” — the era’s most recognizable melody.

FRIDAY, APRIL 12 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
LYRACLE
MUSICIANS OF THE TENSHÔ EMBASSY
This Early Music program celebrates the musical accomplishments of Japanese students at Jesuit missionary schools in Japan (1549–1613) who became accomplished viol players and singers. European Jesuits ran schools where music was considered essential learning. Lyracle honors these boys’ achievements through music and storytelling with works by Durante Lobo, Francisco Guerrero, Damião de Góis, and Jacopo Peetrino. Actor Danielle Boivin joins the five musicians for the readings from historical documents.

MUSIC WITHOUT BORDERS SERIES

UChicago Presents’ newest series brings sounds from around the globe to Chicago, showcasing contemporary artists blending world traditions with modern styling.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
BANTU CONTINUA UHURU CONSCIOUSNESS
Praising BCUC as “exhilarating” The Guardian writes “they continue to shock and surprise...they have shaken up South African music.” BCUC’s music is for the people, by the people, with the people, and an instrument of political and spiritual liberation. With their high-energy performances, they have become one of South Africa’s most successful musical exports. Tapping into the pulses of their ancestors, they awaken crowds to the power of a shared, more just future.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 / 3 PM | LOGAN CENTER
WU FEI, guzheng
MOON HUNTER
Wu’s work, as described by allmusic.com, “evinces respect for tradition, an interest in what instruments can do, and good old-fashioned showmanship.” Wu Fei’s solo guzheng/vocal suite Moon Hunter draws on the singing form of ancient Chinese poetry. Wu’s original work weaves together traditional guzheng, folk songs, and Chinese opera. The program features Wu’s telling the history of the guzheng and the regional linguistic character of different singing styles of Chinese operas.
JAZZ AT THE LOGAN SERIES

Jazz at the Logan series brings the spectrum of contemporary jazz — with its myriad influences from the past to the present — to the Logan Center concert stage with performances by the most exciting artists of today. Check our website for the opportunity to join us for early pre-show free concerts presented by the Jazz Institute of Chicago at Café Logan.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER

BEN WENDEL GROUP

Ben Wendel, saxophone
Nate Wood, drums
Harish Raghavan, bass
Taylor Eigsti, piano

The New York Times describes a founding member of the Grammy® nominated groove band Kneebody, saxophonist Ben Wendel as “a naturally inquisitive musician whose credentials branch out beyond jazz.” Recipient of multiple awards, including the ASCAP Jazz Composer Award, he’s worked with a variety of musicians from Snoop Dogg to Linda May Han Oh. Ben Wendel brings together a quartet of accomplished forward-thinking musicians for his UChicago Presents debut.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER

THEON CROSS, tuba

Think you know the sound of a tuba? Wait until you hear Theon Cross. Hailed for reinventing the tuba, the flexibility and power of his sound have made Cross a major figure in London’s thriving jazz scene. His rise to fame started in 2016 with the release of Aspirations, bringing international attention and a Jazz FM nomination for best Jazz Newcomer.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER

JEFF PARKER & THE NEW BREED

This cutting-edge jazz ensemble pushes the boundaries of the genre with its fusion of jazz, rock, funk, and electronic music. Led by guitarist and composer, Jeff Parker, an integral part of the “Modern Chicago Sound” and member of the Chicago-based indie band, Tortoise, the New Breed is comprised of some of the most exciting and innovative musicians on the scene today. Pitchfork describes their latest recording Mondays at The Enfield Tennis Academy as “spiritual jazz, knotty melodies, and effortless solos over a slow-moving foundation…mesmerizing as a luxurious, beatific ambient record.”

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER

EMMET COHEN TRIO

Zachary Weg of All About Jazz says Cohen is “one of the finest piano players to emerge in decades.” A frequent headliner at Jazz at Lincoln Center, this multifaceted jazz pianist’s signature professional undertaking is the “Masters Legacy Series,” a celebratory set of recordings honoring legendary jazz musicians. His precision and fluid keyboard artistry has garnered international acclaim, including winning the 2019 American Pianists Award, and being named a finalist in 2011 Thelonious Monk International Piano Competition.

FRIDAY, APRIL 19 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER

FIRE AND WATER QUINTET

FOR THE LOVE OF FIRE AND WATER

This supergroup was assembled by pianist and composer Myra Melford includes Mary Halvorson on guitar, Ingrid Laubrock on saxophone, Tomeka Reid on cello, and Lesley Mok on percussion. For The Love of Fire and Water is inspired by the American painter Cy Twombly’s drawings, Gaeta Set (for the Love of Fire & Water). The dynamic music uses provocation and cacophony alongside quieter sounds and blank space. The resulting music aligns with Twombly’s organic, elemental ideas that he sought to portray in his artwork.

—MORE—

UChicago Presents 2023/24 season
PACIFICA QUARTET SERIES

UChicago Presents is thrilled to have this multi-award-winning string quartet return to celebrate its 10th anniversary as the first Don Michael Randel Ensemble–in–Residence in University of Chicago's Department of Music. With a career spanning nearly three decades, the Grammy® Award-winning Pacifica Quartet has achieved international recognition as one of the finest chamber ensembles performing today. The Quartet is known for its virtuosity, exuberant performance style, and often-daring repertory choices.

Simin Ganatra, violin
Austin Hartman, violin
Mark Holloway, viola
Brandon Vamos, cello

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 / 7:30 PM | MANDEL HALL
Dvořák: String Quartet No. 12 in F major, Op. 96 “American”
Gruenberg: Four Diversions for String Quartet, Op. 32
Beethoven: String Quartet in A minor, Op. 132

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 / 3 PM | LOGAN CENTER
Mozart: Quartet in C major, K. 465 "Dissonance"
Bartók: Quartet No. 4, Sz. 91
Debussy: String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10

SPECIAL EVENT SERIES

This category-defying series features these dazzling performances including dance, music, art, and a hybrid of art forms.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
ALARM WILL SOUND
LAND OF WINTER BY DONNACHA DENNEHY
US PREMIERE
Hailed as “one of the most vital and original ensembles on the American Music scene” by The New York Times, this 20-person chamber orchestra will perform Irish composer Donnacha Dennehy’s new evening-length work, Land of Winter. The Latin name for Ireland is Hibernia, which translates as “land of winter.” This exciting new work will explore the play between light and time as they relate to the seasons of the year.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
OPENENDEDGROUP
WITH TOM CHIU AND JODI MELNICK
THREE WORLD PREMIERES

OpenEndedGroup: BlackLetter
Tom Chiu: Z-Axis
Jodi Melnick: Agua Viva–The Sadness of Flowers

OpenEndedGroup: BlackLetter
This incredible new work of live 3D cinema by pioneers in digital art, Marc Downie and Paul Kaiser, stages an encounter between past and present, projecting Martin Luther's fiery words through the lens of contemporary AI imaging systems. Driven by the performance of violinist Tom Chiu, it casts Luther's judgments of women onto one woman dancer, Jodi Melnick, as she shifts through space.

—MORE—

UChicago Presents 2023/24 season
OPENENDEDGROUP continued…

Tom Chiu: Z-Axis
Tom Chiu continues his ongoing explorations with extended techniques by experimenting with the dimensionality and directionality of specific sound parameters.

Jodi Melnick: Agua Viva–The Sadness of Flowers
A lush dance duet by Jodi Melnick and Maya Lee-Parritz hinges on a fragile, often wild, conductive line, empowering the female body.

CHICAGO CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY COMPOSITION

The Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition, known for its collaboration between composers, conductors, and musicians, begins the season with an exciting performance by the resident Grossman Ensemble, soprano soloist Kristina Bachrach, and special guest artists. Conducted by one of the leading figures in modern music, Brad Lubman, the program includes Unsuk Chin's gripping seven-movement work based on scenes from fairytales Akrostichon-Wortspiel, and Arlene Sierra's energetic Ballistae, inspired by ancient artillery machinery. CCCC commissions of Brad Lubman and Ramon Lazkano receive world premieres.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
GROSSMAN ENSEMBLE+
VIRTUOSI AT THE EDGE
Brad Lubman, conductor

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
GROSSMAN ENSEMBLE
WORLD PREMIERES I
Georgia Mills, conductor

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
GROSSMAN ENSEMBLE
WORLD PREMIERES II
David Dzubay, conductor

Four works brought to life over the previous nine-week workshop cycle receive world premieres from the CCCC’s Grossman Ensemble — “some of the best contemporary players in the city” - Chicago Reader. Composers Gregory Beyer, Sean Shepherd, Melinda Wagner, and Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon offer a program of contemporary music featuring an array of sonic landscapes, rhythmic complexity, and colorful expression, led by returning conductor David Dzubay. An after-party with the artists completes the evening.

—MORE—

UChicago Presents 2023/24 season
FRIDAY, MAY 17 / 7:30 PM | LOGAN CENTER
GROSSMAN ENSEMBLE
WORLD PREMIERES III
Jeff Meyer, conductor

The CCCC’s resident group of contemporary music specialists, the Grossman Ensemble, presents new compositions exploring relationships, textures, and electroacoustic elements mixed with elements of jazz, blues, and other cultural influences. Composers David Bird, Vivian Fung, Felipe Lara, and Gabriel Novak each introduce their new work with accomplished conductor and champion of new music Jeff Meyer. Celebrate the close of the Grossman Ensemble’s 2023/24 season at an afterparty with the artists.

The University of Chicago Presents is grateful to these partners and supporters in its 2023/24 season:

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FOR ADDITIONAL PHOTOS, INTERVIEWS, AND INFORMATION, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK.

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