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Chicago Philharmonic Introduces Heavy Hitters of Cirque de la Symphonie

Chicago, IL – (May 5, 2016) The Chicago Philharmonic partners with Cirque de la Symphonie on Saturday, May 28, 2016 at 7:30 P.M. to present a performance pairing classical masterpieces and film score favorites with awe-inspiring cirque choreography. The Memorial Day Weekend performance at Harris Theater marks the globetrotting Cirque de la Symphonie’s Chicago debut.

Cirque de la Symphonie’s cast of Olympians and world-record-holders includes aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, and jugglers. The troupe performs exclusively with orchestras and has been met with sold-out crowds at venues from the Kennedy Center to the Sydney Opera House.

Christine Van Loo, a female Olympic Athlete of the Year and Athlete of the Decade in acrobatic gymnastics, executes aerial silk acts with her performance partner, Alexander Streltsov. Streltsov’s combination of natural strength and artistic expression has earned him performances in front of three Russian presidents. Vladimir Tsarkov performs mime and juggling feats, entertaining both the audience and the maestro. Circus veteran Elena Tsarkova brings her elegant contortion and balance act, “Lady in White.” Vitalii Buza, who joined the acclaimed Moscow State Circus at the age of sixteen, performs cyr wheel and aerial straps acts.

Musical selections will include Tchaikovsky’s Swan Lake, Bizet’s Carmen, Khachaturian’s Gayaneh, and more as the cirque performs on stage with the orchestra.

Chicago Philharmonic & Cirque de la Symphonie

Saturday, May 28, 2016, 7:30 P.M.
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
205 East Randolph Drive, Chicago, IL 60601

Scott Speck, Conductor

WILLIAMS: Main Title from Superman
SAINT-SAËNS: Danse Macabre
DE ABREU: Tico Tico No Fuba
BIZET: The Toreadores and Danse Boheme from Carmen
STRAVINSKY: Berceuse and Finale from The Firebird
KHACHATURIAN: Valse from Masquerade
WILLIAMS: Flight to Neverland from Hook
TCHAIKOVSKY: Danse des Cygnes from Swan Lake
WILLIAMS: Across the Stars from Star Wars Episode II
KHACHATURIAN: Sabre Dance from *Gayane*
RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Danse des Bouffons from *The Snow Maiden*
OFFENBACH: Can-Can from *Orpheus in the Underworld*
MASSENET: Meditation from *Thais*
TCHAIKOVSKY: Valse from *Swan Lake*

**About The Chicago Philharmonic Society**

The Chicago Philharmonic Society is a collaboration of over 200 of the highest-level classical musicians performing in the Chicago metropolitan area. Governed under a groundbreaking structure of musician leadership, the Society presents concerts at venues throughout the Chicago area that cover the full spectrum of classical music, from Bach to Britten and beyond. The Society’s orchestra, known simply as the Chicago Philharmonic, has been called “one of the country’s finest symphonic orchestras” (*Chicago Tribune*), and its unique chamber music ensembles, which perform as the Chicago Philharmonic Chamber Players (cp²), draw from its vast pool of versatile musicians. The Society’s outreach programs connect Chicago-area youth to classical music and provide performance opportunities for members of the community. Founded 26 years ago by principal musicians from the Lyric Opera Orchestra, the Chicago Philharmonic currently serves as the official orchestra of the Joffrey Ballet, continues its 21-year association with the Ravinia Festival, and presents symphonic concerts in Evanston and, beginning in May 2016, at the Harris Theater.

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