FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Celebrating 30 years of Chicago Philharmonic with Beethoven birthday tribute

Chicago, IL – (October 23 2019) This November, Chicago Philharmonic celebrates the orchestra’s history and bright future with a concert dedicated to Ludwig van Beethoven, featuring a special reunion with David Perry, a favorite Philharmonic son. Beginning the program is the dazzling Violin Concerto, which highlights the intense technical skill and musical prowess of violin virtuoso David Perry who joins us for this special reunion concerto that he originally performed with the Philharmonic in May 2006. The concerto was written during a particularly prolific time during Beethoven’s career and later made a concert staple by composer and conductor Felix Mendelssohn. Alongside the Violin Concerto is Beethoven’s revolutionary Symphony No. 3 (Eroica), which changed the notion of what a symphony can and should be in the early 19th century.

Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Scott Speck* leads the performance with a signature passion and warmth that brings back audience members again and again. As one patron noted: “Scott Speck was brilliant and wonderfully informative and gregarious. Who said conductors need to be stiff and haughty?”

In celebration of Chicago Philharmonic’s 30 Year Anniversary, pictures and materials of the orchestra’s achievements and Philharmonic family members will adorn the foyer of North Shore Center for the Performing Arts.

Reunion: Beethoven 3
November 17 2019, 3pm
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, Skokie

Scott Speck conductor
David Perry violin

Beethoven Violin Concerto in D Major
Beethoven Symphony No. 3 (Eroica)

Tickets $25 - $75 | Students $10
chicagophilharmonic.org
(312) 957-0000

Approximate running time 1 hour and 45 minutes with intermission. Photos and review tickets available upon request.

*There has been a program change. Due to illness, Larry Rachleff will be unable to conduct. Maestro Scott Speck will instead lead the orchestra. We wish Maestro Rachleff a speedy return to good health.
ABOUT THE CHICAGO PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

The Chicago Philharmonic Society is a collaboration of nearly 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 Bernstein 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, draw from its vast pool of versatile musicians. The Society's community engagement programs connect Chicago-area youth to classical music and provide performance opportunities for members of the community. Founded 30 years ago, the Chicago Philharmonic currently serves as the official orchestra of the Joffrey Ballet, continues its 25-year association with the Ravinia Festival, is a resident company of Harris Theater Chicago, and performs at Auditorium Theater, Symphony Center and all the great concert halls of the Chicago and North Shore area. In 2018, the Illinois Council of Orchestras awarded the Chicago Philharmonic “Orchestra of the Year”. In 2019, the Illinois Council of Orchestras awarded the Chicago Philharmonic with “Programming of the Year” and “Community Relations of the Year”.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Scott Speck, Artistic Director, has inspired international acclaim as a conductor of passion, intelligence, and winning personality. Speck is the Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Chicago Philharmonic, and Music Director of the Joffrey Ballet, Mobile (AL) and West Michigan Symphony Orchestras.

Speck led four performances for the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 2014-15 and was immediately reengaged for four more concerts the following season. His concerts with the Moscow RTV Symphony Orchestra in Tchaikovsky Hall garnered unanimous praise. His gala performances with Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell, Midori, Evelyn Glennie, and Olga Kern have highlighted his recent and current seasons as Music Director of the Mobile Symphony. He was invited to the White House as former Music Director of the Washington Ballet.

In past seasons Speck has conducted at London's Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, the Paris Opera, Chicago’s Symphony Center, Washington’s Kennedy Center, San Francisco’s War Memorial Opera House, and the Los Angeles Music Center. He has led numerous performances with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, Houston, Baltimore, Paris, Moscow, Shanghai, Beijing, Vancouver, Romania, Slovakia, Buffalo, Columbus (OH), Honolulu, Louisville, New Orleans, Oregon, Rochester, Florida, and Virginia, among many others.

Previously he held positions as Conductor of the San Francisco Ballet, Music Advisor and Conductor of the Honolulu Symphony, and Associate Conductor of the Los Angeles Opera. During a tour of Asia he was named Principal Guest Conductor of the China Film Philharmonic in Beijing.
In addition, Speck is the co-author of two of the world’s best-selling books on classical music for a popular audience, *Classical Music for Dummies* and *Opera for Dummies*. These books have received stellar reviews in both the national and international press and have garnered enthusiastic endorsements from major American orchestras. They have been translated into twenty languages and are available around the world. His third book in the series, *Ballet for Dummies*, was released to great acclaim as well.

**David Perry, violin**, enjoys an international career as a chamber musician, soloist, and teacher. He has performed in Carnegie Hall and across the major cultural centers of North and South America, Europe, and the Far East. Mr. Perry joined the Pro Arte Quartet and the UW-Madison faculty in 1995, and was granted a Paul Collins Endowed Professorship in 2003. He has served as guest concertmaster with such groups as Chicago Philharmonic, China National Symphony Orchestra, Ravinia Festival Orchestra, American Sinfionette, and Orpheus Chamber Orchestra. Thanks to the Nathan McClure Opportunities Fund, Mr. Perry plays on a 1711 Franciscus Gobetti violin, arranged by Chancellor John Wiley and the UW Foundation.

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