

My Kind of Town, Chicago is!



Anish Kapoor's "Cloud Gate" in Millennium Park

Join Classical KUSC as we celebrate the great city of Chicago and the 200th birthday of Giuseppe Verdi

as host Brian Lauritzen leads a weeklong visit to the Windy City this fall. Music highlights begin with a concert performance by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra of Verdi's *Macbeth*, led by Riccardo Muti, considered by many the preeminent Verdi conductor in the world, and close with the Gala Opening Night of Chicago Lyric Opera in a performance of *Otello*—two operas inspired by the poet Verdi loved above all others. Maestro Muti will also lead an additional concert with the CSO of works by Mozart and Prokofiev's brilliant *Romeo and Juliet* suite, and the Russian maestro Valery Gergiev brings his own Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra to Chicago for a rare Stravinsky program of his three masterpieces for ballet, *The Rite of Spring*, celebrating the 100th anniversary of its premiere, *The Firebird*, and *Petroushka*.

Chicago is justly famed for its architecture and its food. The Chicago Architecture Foundation takes us on three special tours, including a boat ride on the Chicago River, a coach trip through the city and climaxing with a trolley ride out to Oak Park to view the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and his Prairie-style architecture, born here in Chicago. Fine dining at some of the city's best restaurants and a unique tour to different neighborhoods to sample a variety of ethnic foods pay homage to Chicago's fabulous cuisine.

Our home for six nights is the opulent Palmer House, the city's longtime jewel and the country's longest continually operating hotel, rebuilt only two years after the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. The commentary of Classical KUSC's Brian Lauritzen throughout the trip and free time to explore more of the city— and shop the "Mag Mile"— complete our discovery of one of the country's truly great cities in style. As Frank used to sing: "Chicago is/One town that won't let you down/It's my kind of town!"

Music, Food & Architecture in The Windy City

September 30 – October 6, 2013
Limited to 25 participants
An exclusive tour by KUSC

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Prime tickets to four major performances:
 - Two Chicago Symphony performances conducted by Riccardo Muti, including Verdi's *Macbeth* in concert form
 - Concert by the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra, led by Valery Gergiev
 - Gala opening night at Chicago Lyric Opera with Verdi's *Otello*
- Private architectural history boat ride on the Chicago River
- Private coach tour of Chicago with highlights of the city
- Private excursion to Oak Park to view major buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright
- Private guided tour of the Art Institute of Chicago
- Exclusive food tour of Chicago sampling different cuisines
- Commentary by KUSC's Brian Lauritzen on all the music you'll hear
- Optional theatre performance at Goodman Theatre or Second City
- Free time to shop the Magnificent Mile or take in other Chicago sites



Brian Lauritzen is the producer and host of Classical KUSC's nationwide concert broadcasts of the Los Angeles Philharmonic as well as KUSC's weekly arts magazine Arts Alive and the early music program Baroque Et Beyond. Additionally, Brian writes and produces features for KUSC's more than 50 concert broadcasts each year including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Los Angeles Opera, Los

Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Master Chorale, and Piano Spheres. His work as part of these series has been broadcast internationally by NPR, American Public Media, and the WFMT Radio Network. When he's not in the studio, you can often find Brian careening down snowy slopes (on skis—never a snowboard); chasing an errant serve (his own) outside a tennis court; or swinging his sand wedge wildly from the fairway bunker. He's also a passionate lifelong Minnesota Twins fan and quickly learned to love the Dodgers as his National League team.

TOUR COST: \$3965 pp, ground only;
Group limited to 25 participants

The Chicago tour is an exclusive presentation by Classical KUSC and is organized by The Grand Tour Travel Company, Peterborough, New Hampshire, Calif. Lic.: 2088711-40.

Daily Itinerary



Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Welcome!

After the optional group flight from Los Angeles to Chicago, get settled at the magnificent Palmer House and then convene in the lobby to set off on your first Chicago adventure – an architectural history boat ride on the Chicago River while enjoying a welcome drink and getting to know your fellow travelers. After we disembark, enjoy a scrumptious dinner at Spiaggia, acclaimed as one of the country's best Italian restaurants.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

The Windy City and Macbeth

After our **breakfast daily** at the hotel, this morning we explore the Windy City by coach with a local expert. **Lunch** will be at a classic Chicago steakhouse. The afternoon will be free for you to explore Chicago: peruse the over 450 shops on Magnificent Mile, meander the University of Chicago where Enrico Fermi led the Manhattan project, or bike along Lake Michigan. This evening we celebrate Verdi's 200th birthday with Riccardo Muti, "the greatest Verdi conductor of our time," and the Chicago Symphony and Chorus performing *Macbeth* in concert form. Baritone Dario Solari and dramatic soprano Tatiana Serjan take on the leading roles.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

Art and Stravinsky

Today we visit the famed Art Institute of Chicago, the second largest art museum in the country and most famous for its Impressionist, Post-impressionist, and American paintings. With our expert guide, learn about some of the museum's most famous masterpieces including Seurat's *Sunday in the Park*, Hopper's *Nighthawks*, and Grant Wood's *American Gothic*. **Lunch** will be at the museum's Terzo Piano restaurant, aptly named for the architect of the Art Institute's new wing, Renzo Piano. The afternoon is free. This evening's highlight is a performance by the Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra of Saint Petersburg, directed by Valery Gergiev, playing an all-Stravinsky program of *The Firebird*, *Petroushka*, and *The Rite of Spring*.



Riccardo Muti

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

A Gastronomic Adventure!

Chicago is known as a great food town. Today we explore its wide variety of culinary delights with a guided tour of ethnic eateries in different neighborhoods. Call it **lunch** hopping! This evening, reconvene for another spectacular concert directed by Riccardo Muti of the Chicago Symphony, one of the world's best orchestras. Mozart's sprightly Divertimento in D serves as the prelude to Hindemith's lyrical Violin Concerto. Beloved by audiences around the world, Prokofiev's suite from the ballet *Romeo and Juliet* encompasses both the tenderness and fury of Shakespeare's drama.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

Frank Lloyd Wright and Chicago

This morning, we travel by trolley to the suburb of Oak Park to visit Frank Lloyd Wright's home and studio where he began his career as one of the great architects of the twentieth century. We will take a walk down Forest Avenue lined with his Prairie-style homes and end at Unity Temple, a rare example of a Wright-designed church. His designs were inspired by the belief that everyone should live in environments which are connected to the natural world. An optional excursion this evening is a performance of *Pullman Porter Blues* by Cheryl West at the Goodman Theatre, walking distance from the hotel, or a comedic show at Chicago's inimitable Second City, a short cab ride away.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Viva Verdi!

A free day in Chicago to complete your shopping, explore other sites or simply relax. Tonight is the Gala Opening Night at Chicago Lyric Opera, one of the highlights of Chicago's music as well as social season. The production of Verdi's late masterpiece *Otello* is by Sir Peter Hall, former director of Britain's National Theatre and Royal Shakespeare Company, and one of the world's most revered directors of opera and theater, and stars Johan Botha as Otello, Ana María Martínez as Desdemona and Falk Struckmann as Iago. Afterward dine with your fellow travelers and reminisce the week's events at the **farewell dinner** at Everest, one of Chicago's finest restaurants, on the 40th floor of the Chicago Stock Exchange Building with spectacular views over the city.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

The tour ends after breakfast, and we transfer to O'Hare for the group flight return to Los Angeles.

Itinerary is subject to change. Meals in bold are included in the price of the tour.

TOUR REGISTRATION

\$3,965 per person, ground only, double occupancy

Single supplement: \$800

Optional group flight: \$395, on United Airlines

DEPOSIT: \$900 per person, first come, first served

Tax-deductible contribution: \$400

Balance deadline: August 2, 2013

After that date, call for availability.

Call Minnie Prince of KUSC at 213-225-7534 or mprince@kusc.org to reserve your place on the tour with a credit card deposit, or send a check made to The Grand Tour for the deposit amount to: KUSC Chicago Tour, KUSC, PO Box 7913, Los Angeles, CA 90007. Registration materials can be downloaded from www.kusc.org

QUESTIONS?

Contact Minnie Prince at 213-225-7534 or mprince@kusc.org or The Grand Tour at 800-727-2995 or info@thegrandtour.com