



Friday | February 3 | 8pm
Sanders Theatre

Chris Thile

Selections will be announced from the stage.

*There will be no intermission in this evening's program,
which will run approximately 90 minutes.*

Performance Sponsors and 2022/23 Season Sponsors
Amy & Joshua Boger

ABOUT THE ARTIST

MacArthur Fellow and Grammy Award-winning mandolinist, singer, songwriter **Chris Thile**, who the *Guardian* calls “that rare being: an all-round musician who can settle into any style, from bluegrass to classical,” and NPR calls a “genre-defying musical genius,” is a founding member of the critically acclaimed bands Punch Brothers and Nickel Creek. For four years, Thile hosted public radio favorite *Live from Here with Chris Thile* (formerly known as *A Prairie Home Companion*). With his broad outlook, Thile creates a distinctly American canon and a new musical aesthetic for performers and audiences alike, giving the listener “one joyous arc, with the linear melody and vertical harmony blurring into a single web of gossamer beauty” (*New York Times*).

Most recently, Chris recorded *Laysongs*, released in June 2021 on Nonesuch. The album is his first truly solo album: just Thile, his voice, and his mandolin, on new recordings of six original songs and three covers, all of which contextualize and banter with his ideas about spirituality. Recorded in a converted upstate New York church during the pandemic, *Laysongs*’ centerpiece is the three-part “Salt (in the Wounds) of the Earth,” which was inspired by C.S. Lewis’ *The Screwtape Letters*. The album also features a song Thile wrote about Dionysus; a performance of the fourth movement of Béla Bartók’s Sonata for Solo Violin; “God Is Alive, Magic Is Afoot” based on Buffy Sainte-Marie’s adaptation of a Leonard Cohen poem; a cover of bluegrass legend Hazel Dickens’ “Won’t You Come and Sing for Me,” and “Ecclesiastes 2:24,” an original instrumental loosely modeled after the Prelude from J.S. Bach’s Partita for Solo Violin in E Major.

From the Celebrity Series of Boston archives...



Chris Thile made his Celebrity Series debut in January 2012 as part of the Goat Rodeo Sessions with cellist Yo-Yo Ma, fiddler Stuart Duncan, and bassist Edgar Meyer, and appeared most recently as part of Celebrity Series’ virtual 2020/21 season, after his March 2020 engagement fell victim to the pandemic, along with the remainder of the 2019/20 Celebrity Series season.

In the 2020/21 virtual season, when Celebrity Series’ mission was to continue to provide performances for audiences and employment for musicians in the midst of the pandemic, he and Aoife O’Donovan made a joint appearance, recorded at Mass MOCA in North Adams and streamed through Celebrity Series At Home. Previous live Series appearances have included:

- a solo Bach program in October 2013
- a duo program with bassist Edgar Meyer in October 2014
- a trio program with Meyer and cellist Yo-Yo Ma, in a program entitled *Bach Trios* in April 2017
- as headliner in November 2017

Chris Thile is presented by Celebrity Series of Boston for the seventh time today.



Celebrity Series of Boston

DREAMERS' CIRCUS

Rune Tonsgaard Sørensen violin

Ale Carr Nordic cittern

Nikolaj Busk piano, accordion



FRIDAY
FEBRUARY 24
8PM NEC'S JORDAN HALL

celebrityseries.org

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2022/23


Celebrity Series of Boston



FEBRUARY 2023

Chris Thile

Fri | Feb 3 | 8pm
Sanders Theatre

Artemis

Sat | Feb 4 | 8pm
Berklee Performance Center

What Makes It Great? with Rob Kapilow Copland's *Appalachian Spring* with A Far Cry

Sun | Feb 5 | 3pm
NEC's Jordan Hall

Jessica Vosk, *My Golden Age*

Sun | Feb 5 | 5pm
Symphony Hall

Circa, *Sacre*

Thu – Sat | Feb 9 – 11 | 8pm
Boch Center Shubert Theatre

NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS

Sandeep Das & Mike Block

Where the soul never dies
Sat | Feb 11 | 4pm
Harvard-Epworth Church

Emi Ferguson and Ruckus

Sat | Feb 11 | 8pm
GBH's Calderwood Studio

Jason Moran and the Big Bandwagon *James Reese Europe and the Harlem Hellfighters: From the Dancehall to the Battlefield*

Fri | Feb 17 | 8pm
Berklee Performance Center

DEBUT SERIES

Alexi Kenney, violin *Shifting Ground*

Wed | Feb 22 | 8pm
Longy's Pickman Hall

Dreamers' Circus

Fri | Feb 24 | 8pm
NEC's Jordan Hall

NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS

Sandeep Das: *Soundscapes of India* - Suhail Yusuf Khan with Boston City Singers

Sat | Feb 25 | 3pm
Multicultural Arts Center,
Cambridge

MARCH 2023

Igor Levit, piano
Sat | Mar 4 | 8pm
NEC's Jordan Hall

Lawrence Brownlee, tenor Kevin Miller, piano *Rising*

Sun | Mar 5 | 3pm
GBH's Calderwood Studio

KODŌ, *Tsuzumi*

Sun | Mar 12 | 5pm
Symphony Hall

JAZZ FESTIVAL (Mar 8-11, 7pm)

at Artists For Humanity EpiCenter

Melissa Aldana Quartet Hiromi Nnenna Freelon Ambrose Akinmusire

Aoife O'Donovan

Fri | Mar 17 | 8pm
Sanders Theatre

Chineke! Orchestra

Andrew Grams, conductor
Stewart Goodyear, piano
Wed | Mar 22 | 8pm
NEC's Jordan Hall

Terri Lyne Carrington + Social Science

Fri | Mar 24 | 8pm
Berklee Performance Center

DEBUT SERIES

Fatma Said, soprano
Rafael Aguirre, guitar
Thu | Mar 30 | 8pm
Longy's Pickman Hall

and many more...

Visit celebrityseries.org to view the full season schedule