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**LEGENDARY AMERICAN ROCK BAND CHICAGO TO PERFORM LIVE WITH
CHARLOTTE SYMPHONY**
ONE NIGHT ONLY: 8 PM SAT, SEPT 21 AT BELK THEATER



August 21, 2013 | CHARLOTTE, NC - Chicago—one of the most successful rock groups in history—is bringing its powerful live show to open the Charlotte Symphony's Pops Series this fall. From the signature sound of the Chicago horns, their iconic vocalists and a few dozen ever-classic songs, this band's concerts are celebrations!

The band line-up includes original Chicago members Robert Lamm on keyboards and vocals, Lee Loughnane on trumpet, James Pankow on trombone and Walt Parazaider on woodwinds. Other members are Jason Scheff on bass and vocals, drummer Tris Imboden, guitarist Keith Howla, Lou Pardini on keyboards and vocals and Wally Reyes on percussion. Symphony-goers may find this interesting: original member Parazaider, a De Paul University graduate, was offered a spot with the Chicago Symphony in the early years but opted to stick with the band instead.

The "legendary rock and roll band with horns," Chicago is the first American rock band to chart Top 40 albums in six consecutive decades. In Billboard Magazine's list of Top 100 artists of all time, Chicago came in at #13, the highest charting American band, having produced an incredible 47 gold and platinum records. Most recently, in March of 2013, Chicago's multi-platinum two-disc bestseller, *The Very Best Of Chicago, Only The Beginning* charted at #1 on two Billboard charts: the Catalog Chart and the Digital Catalog chart.

The group is also responsible for more than twenty Top-10 singles. Their most popular hits include "Saturday in the Park," "25 or 6 to 4," "Colour My World," "You're the Inspiration," "Baby, What A Big Surprise," "If You Leave Me Now" and more (see list of Chicago hits below).

Chicago has just released (August 2013) a brand-new single titled "Somethin' Comin', I Know," recorded on the road. A new mobile recording-rig system travels with the band, and they have created an online collaboration portal to allow even more performances to be worked on remotely around the clock. In addition to "Somethin' Comin', I know," Chicago is recording a number of new original songs and plans to release them digitally, two at a time, throughout the year before eventually creating a compilation. Fans are being offered clips of works in progress on the band's website chicagotheband.com.

Lifetime achievements include a Grammy Award, multiple American Music Awards, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, a Chicago street dedicated in their honor and keys to and proclamations from an impressive list of US cities. Chicago generously supports many charitable causes, raising money and donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to groups including the American Cancer Society; the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation, which seeks a cure for a fatal children's disease; and Hannah & Friends, an organization that serves children and adults with special needs.

Chicago has toured every year since their 1967 beginning, not missing a single concert in 46 years, and they're coming to Charlotte to play with the Symphony. Conductor Albert-George Schram will take the podium to fuse Chicago's rock with the Orchestra at 8 pm on Saturday, September 21 at Belk Theater.

For tickets to this one-night-only show, go to charlottesymphony.org or call 704-972-2000.

Some of Chicago's Hits:

Make Me Smile

Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?

25 or 6 to 4

Saturday In The Park

Beginnings

Questions 67 and 68

Just You 'N' Me

Feelin' Stronger Every Day

If You Leave Me Now

Old Days

Baby, What A Big Surprise

Hard Habit To Break

You're The Inspiration

Colour My World

I'm A Man

Free

Call On Me

Dialogue (Part I and II)

Look Away

Wake Up Sunshine

Happy Man

(I've Been) Searchin' So Long

Hard To Say I'm Sorry

Another Rainy Day In New York City

Here In My Heart

Other Charlotte Symphony Pops concerts

The Chicago concert is part of the Charlotte Symphony's Pops series. Other fall Charlotte Symphony Pops concerts include the folk-rock duo Indigo Girls on October 5; the rat-pack inspired Midtown Men, featuring stars from the original cast of Jersey Boys, on November 1 and 2; and Live and Let Die, a symphonic tribute to Paul McCartney, on November 16 and 17.

About the Charlotte Symphony

The Charlotte Symphony (CSO) is a cornerstone of the cultural community, enhancing the quality of life in the Charlotte area through great symphonic music that educates, entertains and enriches the human spirit. Founded in 1932, the CSO has brought music to generations of concertgoers and schoolchildren for more than eight decades, boasting a longer legacy than any orchestra in the region. As one of the largest professional performing arts groups in the central Carolinas, the CSO has grown into a premier musical institution that now delivers more than 70 concerts from Classics to Pops each season and directly reaches more than 130,000 people every year through its artistic and education programs.

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