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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago Humanities Festival Announces Spring 2014 Programs

**Chef and Chez Panisse Restaurateur Alice Waters
In Conversation with Culinary Writer Ruth Reichl**
April 10 at the Art Institute of Chicago

Grammy Award-Winning Opera Singer Jessye Norman
May 19 at the School of the Art Institute

CHICAGO, IL—Feb. 25, 2014— The Chicago Humanities Festival (CHF) announces its spring 2014 programs: featuring **Alice Waters**, **Ruth Reichl**, and **Jessye Norman**. On **April 10, 2014**, American chef, Chez Panisse restaurateur, and activist Alice Waters will be in conversation with six-time James Beard Award-winning culinary writer Ruth Reichl. The two food icons will dish on Waters' latest cookbook, *The Art of Simple Food II*, and discuss the **Edible Schoolyard Project**, which has revolutionized school lunch programs. The program will take place at the **Art Institute of Chicago, Rubloff Auditorium** (159 E. Monroe St.) at **6 p.m.** On **May 19, 2014**, CHF will host five-time Grammy Award-winning opera singer and Kennedy Center Honoree Jessye Norman. Norman comes to Chicago to discuss her career and forthcoming memoir, *Stand Up Straight and Sing!*, with opera dramaturg **Colin Ure**. The program will take place at the **School of the Art Institute Ballroom** (112 S. Michigan Ave.) at **6 p.m.** Tickets are on sale now for **\$15–35** and can be purchased online at chicagohumanities.org or at [312-494-9509](tel:3124949509).

"In welcoming three American icons to our stage, we are celebrating creativity on a truly visceral level," said **CHF Artistic Director Matti Bunzl**. "What is more elemental, after all, than food and song? And who has lifted them to a higher level of excellence than Alice Waters, Ruth Reichl, and Jessye Norman? What a thrilling spring at the Chicago Humanities Festival!"

SPRING 2014 SCHEDULE:

G=General Admission, M=CHF Member, ST=Students

[The Art of Simple Food: Alice Waters in Conversation with Ruth Reichl](#)

Thursday, April 10, 2014 | 6 p.m. | Art Institute of Chicago, Rubloff Auditorium (159 E. Monroe St.)

G \$25, M \$15, ST \$10 | Reception Package \$130

This program is presented in partnership with Green City Market, the Edible Schoolyard Project, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Legendary Chez Panisse restaurateur and Slow Food icon **Alice Waters** and **Ruth Reichl**, one of our greatest living food writers, come together for a rare and intimate conversation about culinary culture. The two will dish on Waters' latest cookbook, *The Art of Simple Food II*, and discuss the Edible Schoolyard Project, which has revolutionized school lunch programs, cultivating the next generation of thoughtful eaters.

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Following the program, Waters and Reichl will host a reception to benefit the Edible Schoolyard Project and Green City Market. The reception package is \$130 and includes a ticket to the program, a ticket to the reception, and a hardcover copy of *The Art of Simple Food II*.



Alice Waters, restaurateur, author, activist, and proprietor of Chez Panisse Restaurant in Berkeley, California, is a pioneer of a culinary philosophy based on using only the freshest organic products, served only in season. She is vice president of Slow Food International, and established the Edible Schoolyard Project. She is the author of eleven books, including *The Art of Simple Food* and her most recent book, *Art of Simple Food II: Recipes, Flavor, and Inspiration from the New Kitchen Garden*.



Ruth Reichl has been writing about food for more than four decades and has received six James Beard Awards for her work. She was editor in chief of *Gourmet* magazine for ten years and was the restaurant critic for *The New York Times* and the *Los Angeles Times*. As co-owner of Swallow Restaurant, she played a part in the culinary revolution that took place in Berkeley, California in the 1970s. Her latest book, *Delicious!*, will be published by Random House in May 2014.

Jessye Norman: Stand Up Straight and Sing!

Monday, May 19, 2014 | 6 p.m. | School of the Art Institute Ballroom (112 S. Michigan Ave.) | G \$35, M \$25, ST \$10
This program is presented in partnership with Lyric Opera of Chicago and the School of the Art Institute.

Opera legend **Jessye Norman** comes to Chicago to share her extraordinary journey from a childhood in segregated Augusta, Georgia, to star of the world's grandest stages. Her memoir *Stand Up Straight and Sing!* deepens our appreciation for her stunning musical gifts. Get up close and personal with one of history's greatest singers. Following the conversation with opera dramaturg **Colin Ure**, Ms. Norman will sign copies of *Stand Up Straight and Sing!*



Jessye Norman is one of America's greatest and most accomplished classical singers, with five Grammy Awards, dozens of international prizes, and a Kennedy Center Honor (its youngest-ever recipient) among her countless awards. She pursued music at Howard University and the University of Michigan, and achieved astonishing early success with a contract from the Berlin Opera. Her career since then has reached from the stage of the Metropolitan Opera to concerts in honor of the Dalai Lama, the bicentennial of the French republic, as well as multimedia presentations of American roots music. Her memoir, *Stand Up Straight and Sing!*, will be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in May 2014.



Colin Ure was born in Glasgow, Scotland and studied music at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. Following graduation he performed as a professional classical singer throughout the UK, and in 1992 became an artists' manager, where he advised, developed, and structured the careers of young singers worldwide. In 2005 he was appointed dramaturg for the Houston Grand Opera. Currently based in Chicago, he works as a freelance dramaturg and writer/presenter for the WFMT radio series *Ryan Center Recital Series*.

TICKETS:

For more information on CHF's Spring 2014 programs, visit chicagohumanities.org. Tickets are on sale now [online](#) or through the **CHF Box Office** at **312-494-9509**, Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. **Tickets range from \$15–35, with a limited number of reduced-price tickets available for students and teachers (with valid ID).** A \$6 per order processing fee is applied to all pre-event sales. All tickets are \$5 more at the door.

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About the Chicago Humanities Festival

The Chicago Humanities Festival began in 1989 as a dream shared by a determined group of Chicago's cultural leaders eager to extend the riches of the humanities to everyone. Since that first year, some of the world's most exciting thinkers, artists, and performers have come to Chicago each fall for a festival that celebrates ideas in the context of civic life. Past Festival themes include Laughter, The Body, tech knowledge, America, and this past year's **Animal: What Makes Us Human**. Under the leadership of **Executive Director Phillip Bahar** and **Artistic Director Matti Bunzl**, CHF partners with Chicago's premier cultural institutions and the festival has become an annual highlight for thousands of people from Chicago and beyond. In addition to the annual fall festival, CHF also presents the spring **Stages, Sights & Sounds**, an international children's theater festival, and programs throughout the year that encourage the study and enjoyment of the humanities. Visit chicagohumanities.org for more information.