

FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



TD READY
COMMITMENT

VOCAL SERIES

November 14, 2024, 12 p.m.

THE VOICES OF PRAGUE

Grace Quinsey, soprano
John Holland, bass-baritone
Ivan Estey Jovanovic, piano

THE PROGRAM

- “Cinque, dieci, venti” (*The Marriage of Figaro*)..... Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- “Jak vám pravím, pane kmotře” (*The Bartered Bride*)Bedřich Smetana
- “Och, jaký žal...Ten lásky sen” (*The Bartered Bride*)Smetana
- “Ach bože, božinku...Na podzim v ořeši” (*Jakobín*)Antonín Dvořák
- “Madamina, il catalogo è questo” (*Don Giovanni*) Mozart
- “Là ci darem la mano” (*Don Giovanni*) Mozart
- “Běda! Běda! Ubohá Rusalko bledá” (*Rusalka*)Dvořák
- Gypsy Songs, Op. 55*Dvořák
- Má píseň zas mi láskou zní
Aj! Kterak trojhranec můj přerozkošně zvoní
A les je tichý kolem kol
Když mne stará matka
Struna naladěna
Široké rukávy
Dejte klec jestřábu
- “Pa-, pa-, pa-, Papageno” (*The Magic Flute*) Mozart

Photography, video, and audio recording are strictly prohibited during the performance.
You are welcome to take photos before and after the performance and are encouraged to share with us on:



@CanadianOpera

#FreeConcertSeries

Programming is subject to change. For complete up-to-date listings, and to sign up for email updates, visit coc.ca/FreeConcerts.

COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

Tue. Nov. 19, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Chopin & His Fans

Anthony Ratinov, piano

American pianist Anthony Ratinov is the Third Prize winner of the 2024 edition of the Concours musical international de Montréal, where he was praised by *Le Devoir* for his “striking confidence in taking risks” and for “going beyond the virtuoso challenge to have fun with the music.” For his Toronto debut, Ratinov performs music by Chopin alongside short works by some of his “fans,” 20th-century composers who were directly influenced by Chopin, like Scriabin, Rebecca Clarke, and Shostakovich. Hailed for his “unwavering energy and precision” (*La Scena Musicale*), Ratinov has appeared as a soloist with orchestras across Europe and North America. His many honours also include Second Prize at the 2023 Busoni International Piano Competition in Italy, and First Prize at the 2023 Ricard Viñes International Piano Competition in Spain. Ratinov is currently pursuing an Artist Diploma at The Juilliard School.

Wed. Nov. 20, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

VOCAL SERIES

2024/2025 Season Preview

That Choir – That Arts Group

Craig Pike, Artistic Director

As one of Toronto’s most exciting professional a cappella ensembles, That Choir combines high-calibre performance with storytelling through choral music. Join them for a special performance showcasing what’s to come from their 2024/2025 season.

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Tue. Dec. 3, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

VOCAL SERIES

Classical Feuds

Artists of the COC Ensemble Studio

Tensions rise as artists from the COC Ensemble Studio explore some of Classical music’s most infamous composer rivalries through arias and song, whether in friendly competition or outright feuds.

The Free Concert Series in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre is supported by the Free Concert Series Endowment Fund, established in honour of Richard Bradshaw by an anonymous donor



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Grace Quinsey – soprano

Soprano Grace Quinsey, hailing from Windsor, ON, has rapidly made her mark on the opera scene with her compelling dramatic performances and insightful musical interpretations. Known for her captivating portrayal of Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Quinsey reprised this role with the Toronto Concert Orchestra this past August. She also performed the role of Mařenka in Smetana's *Prodaná nevěsta* and Terinka in Dvořák's *Jakobín* at the Year of Czech Music Opera Festival. Other engagements this year include her debut as Pamina in *The Magic Flute* and Giannetta in Opera York's *The Elixir of Love*. Quinsey often takes the stage as a soloist in sacred works, recently performing Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri* and Haydn's *The Creation*. With a rich background in Cecchetti ballet, she is celebrated for her unique characterization and stage presence. Beyond opera, Quinsey is a software developer and a video game aficionado. She is honoured to be performing in the COC Free Concert Series.



John Holland, Bass-Baritone

Czech-Canadian Bass-baritone John Holland has embarked on a diverse career of opera, oratorio, and art song. In 2020, Holland won a JUNO Award for a recording of Handel's *Dixit Dominus*. His operatic credits include the title role in *The Marriage of Figaro* at the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Leporello in *Don Giovanni* at the Estates Theatre in Prague, Kecai in *The Bartered Bride*, Purkrabi in Dvořák's *Jakobín*, and recently as Belcore in *The Elixir of Love*. He is a frequent performer with the Mississauga Symphony and Opera York. Holland completed his PhD in musicology in 2018. His scholarship focused on the study of Czech opera, art song, and choral works. His book *The Lost Tradition of Dvořák's Operas: Myth, Music, and Nationalism* was published last year through Lexington Books. This year, Holland co-produced the Year of Czech Music Opera Fest. He is the founder of the Canadian Institute for Czech Music, the Director of Fundraising and Community Programming for Avenue Road Music and Performance Academy, and a contract faculty member at York University.



Ivan Estey Jovanovic – piano

Ivan Estey Jovanovic is the collaborative pianist and Music Director of Toronto City Opera. Jovanovic completed his Bachelor of Music and Master of Music in Piano Performance at the Belgrade University of Arts. In 2004, he joined Belgrade Opera Orchestra as a repetiteur/pianist and the next year was appointed to a full-time vocal coach position. During his studies at UofT for his Master of Music in Collaborative Piano under the tutelage of Professor Steven Philcox, Jovanovic won the 2013 Gwendolyn Williams Koldofsky Prize. He went on to collaborate with UofT's Opera Division and is currently a vocal coach/harpsichordist with UofT's Early Music Department and Schola Cantorum.

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