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## **MAKE IT A NEW YEAR'S TO REMEMBER WITH *BRAVISSIMO!* Cap off 2026 with the COC Orchestra and brilliant opera soloists**

**Toronto** – This New Year's Eve, a glamorous night of gorgeous music returns to **Roy Thomson Hall** for *Bravissimo! New Year's at the Opera*, co-presented by **Glatz Loft Concerts** and featuring the **Canadian Opera Company Orchestra** led by **COC Music Director Johannes Debus**.

This year's featured soloists share strong connection to the COC mainstage, including some recent appearances and exciting debuts on the horizon. Soprano **Sarah Dufresne** dazzled Toronto audiences last winter with a debut performance as Gilda in Verdi's *Rigoletto* that the *Toronto Star* called "a star-making turn for the ages." She's joined by mezzo-soprano **Zoie Reams**, whose "beautiful, rich" (*Opera Canada*) voice has captivated audiences on leading opera stages, including recent appearances at the COC as Maddalena in *Rigoletto* and Neris in Cherubini's *Medea* (2024).

Tenor **Andrew Haji** is a graduate of the COC's Ensemble Studio who is celebrated for his interpretations of major operatic roles on stage and compelling concert performances. Completing the lineup is Grammy Award-winning baritone **Elliot Madore**, who will bring his dynamic stage presence and versatile artistry to his COC debut next spring as Victor in the world premiere of *Empire of Wild* by Ian Cusson and Cherie Dimaline.

Leading the **COC Orchestra**, **COC Music Director Johannes Debus** has been lauded by *The New York Times* for his "superb" conducting and is known to "wring lots of emotion from the score, whether it's in the elegiac arias, exciting ballroom waltzes or those urgent, heart-stopping moments of unbridled passion" (*NOW Toronto*).

Featuring popular selections from Puccini's *Turandot*, Bizet's *Carmen*, Verdi's *La Traviata*, Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, and more, *Bravissimo!* begins at **7 p.m.** on **December 31** and runs approximately two hours, including one intermission.

### **TICKETING INFORMATION**

Tickets for *Bravissimo! New Year's at the Opera* at **Roy Thomson Hall** start at **\$89.50** and are available online now at [roythomsonhall.com](https://roythomsonhall.com) and by phone at **416-872-4255**.

**\*\*Please note:** While programming features the COC Orchestra, all related sales and customer service are managed by the Box Office at Roy Thomson Hall.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Johannes Debus** is generously underwritten by **Riki Turofsky & Charles Petersen**.

The **COC Orchestra** is generously sponsored by **The Schulich Foundation** and by **W. Bruce C. Bailey**.

**ABOUT THE CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY**

Based in Toronto, the Canadian Opera Company is the largest producer of opera in Canada and one of the largest in North America. General Director Ian Derrer joined the company in 2026, forming a leadership team alongside Artistic Director Roberto Mauro and Music Director Johannes Debus. The COC enjoys a loyal audience, including a dedicated base of subscribers, and has an international reputation for artistic excellence and creative innovation. Its diverse repertoire includes new commissions and productions, local and international collaborations with leading opera companies and festivals, and attracts the world's foremost Canadian and international artists. The company is an incubator for the future of the art form, nurturing Canada's new wave of opera performers and creators with customized training and support. The COC's purpose-built opera house, the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, is hailed internationally as one of the finest in the world. For more information, visit [coc.ca](https://coc.ca).

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