



Featuring the award-winning Live at Massey Hall films, these free films offer insight into the Canadian music scene, with behind the scenes interviews with artists, stellar performances, plus short curriculum connected guides with pre- and post-viewing activities for select films. Activities can be completed synchronously or asynchronously, in-school or at-home.

Suggested age: Secondary school, some concerts contain explicit language. See specific details, notes, and highlights in the "Concert Highlights" section below.



CŒUR DE PIRATE

Béatrice Martin, born September 22, 1989, better known by her stage name Cœur de pirate (French for Pirate's Heart), is a Canadian singer-songwriter and pianist. A francophone from Montréal, she sings mostly in French and is credited in the *Montréal Mirror* with "bringing la chanson française to a whole new generation of Québec youth." Martin has appeared in concert with French singer Julien Doré, performing a duet of the Rihanna hit "Umbrella" and has been involved with many other collaborations.

TALKING POINTS

Why is singing in French important to Cœur de pirate? What role might it play in reference to Canadian identity?

What are the differences between singing in English and singing in French? How does singing in French change the meaning, tempo, and reception of a song? What are other famous French songs and artists who sing in French?

Choose a song from the film. Why do you think the band uses these specific instruments in this song? How do the chosen instruments help the musician create a musical feeling? Why is it important to choose the right sound?

Close your eyes. While listening to a piece by Cœur de pirate, what comes to your mind? A scene? A story? A memory?



CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS AND NOTES

00:08 - 01:30 - Interview with Cœur de Pirate about what's so important to her about performing at Massey Hall.

ACTIVITY 1

Choose one of the songs from the film. Select a verse, translate it into English, and try singing the song to the same rhythm. How does the translation change the rhyming patterns, the cadence, and the meaning of the original verse?

ACTIVITY 2

The songs in the film explore themes of love, friendship and all look at feelings, in the tradition of chansons françaises, epitomized by Édith Piaf's famous song "La Vie En Rose", and other French artists like Lucienne Boyer with her song "Parlez- Moi d'Amour" and Françoise Hardy's song "Tous Les Garçons et Les Filles". Compare the verses of Cœur de pirate with the verses of Piaf, Boyer, and Hardy, what do they have in common lyrically and how are they different? Create a list of some of the overlapping words.

ACTIVITY 3

Write your own lyrics inspired by the chansons françaises styling. Begin with the list of words created in the above exercise and brainstorming words associated with the word list to create a map or web of the words and associated words, until you have filled an entire page to use as a starting point for your lyrics.

ACTIVITY 4

Use the lyrics of one of the songs in the film to create your own lyrics either by making a black out poem (click for example), or by printing the lyrics, chopping them up and reassembling them and adding in other words to create your own song with a new melody. How are you able to change the meaning? What else would you add to build new meaning?



STAFF INTERVIEW Ian McDonnell, Ticketing Coordinator

- ◆ *What is your role at Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall?*

I am one of three Ticketing Coordinators in the Box Office.

- ◆ *How did you get into the world of Ticketing?*

When I moved to the city, I began working Front of House at the Canon Theatre (Now the Ed Mirvish Theatre). From there, a friend at work got me a job interview with the Canadian Opera Company's Box Office.

- ◆ *Tell us more about your education, career path, and interests.*

After three years with the COC, I applied for a position with Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall as a Box Office Supervisor. From there, I started in the newly created full-time position of Ticketing Coordinator (the job I still hold today). My initial responsibilities included taking over the roster of rental concert events. I have worked at around 400 concert events in my time with Massey Hall. Everything from Spandau Ballet to Neil Young, Dream Theatre to Cat Stevens. I would not trade any of it. As far as education, I briefly attended university. Most of my qualifications came through work experience. I would be hesitant to recommend any specific education path to work in this industry, but anything in data analysis or administration would be a plus. I have recently gone back to school for Computer Programming and Data Analysis. Cooperation is the main skill requirement.

As far as interests, like a lot of people in the theatre/concert industry, I began as an artist in the city, specifically a musician. A lot of my interest falls into that world.

- ◆ *How were you involved in Cœur de pirate's Live at Massey Hall?*

From its inception (*Live at Massey Hall*), I have set up the Ticketing for nearly all the events, including Cœur de pirate. I will say that the Live at Massey Hall events have always been my favorite. Audiences' opportunity to catch an act for a reasonable price and for those artists to play a venue that they may not have otherwise is a really incredible combination.

- ◆ *Who do you work with at the Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall?*

Well, everyone in the box office. As far as other departments, I work with everyone. When announcing an event and before it goes on sale, I work with the Bookings, as well as Programming and Marketing teams to coordinate those actions. Between the events on sale and a curtain fall, I could be coordinating with any number of departments to arrange tickets or make changes to the ticketing specifications on the event. On the night of the performance, I work with the Events team and the event promoter.

- ◆ *What is some advice you have for someone interested in pursuing a career in Ticketing?*

Be a person that works well with other people. You can only be so good at "Ticketing," and the rest is how you get along with people. From patrons to promoters, a positive attitude is always helpful. Ticketing is rarely the end game for someone looking to work in the events industry, but it is a great launching pad to explore the culture industry. It is, after all, where the money comes from.

- ◆ *What is your favorite part of your job?*

Being around the music.

- ◆ *What is your favorite memory of the Halls?*

We had a staff party right before Massey Hall closed for renovations. We had an open mic on stage; it was awesome.

- ◆ *Are there any other comments you would like to share with student readers?*

No better place to work than Massey Hall!

