



## The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra Announces 2020/2021 Season

### For immediate release

February 21, 2020 Edmonton, AB – The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) is proud to announce its 2020/2021 concert season. From Beethoven to a spotlight on Broadway to music celebrating the roaring twenties, the 2020/2021 season will once again amplify Edmonton's arts and culture scene.

Chief Conductor Alexander Prior's fourth season with the ESO celebrates classical offerings near and dear to him: Rachmaninoff, Mahler, Wagner, and familiar favourites from Mozart, Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, The Sounds of Hollywood, as well as a symphony spotlight where 14 ESO soloists will be featured.

"It is my sincere hope that this season will inspire you in your life, will offer chances to reflect on the nature of our world and society. Most of all, it will bring Edmontonians of all backgrounds and walks of life together, unified in our love for art and for what art does for our city and community," says Prior.

The flagship **Masters** series abounds with favourites from the classical canon as well as ESO premiere works. **For the first time ever, the ESO will perform Dvořák's treasured *Stabat mater* in its entirety.**

The **Lighter Classics Playlist** is back with Gershwin, holiday classics, and Romantic treasures including a concert titled An Evening in Venice.

The **Traditional Classics** series continues to present masterpieces from the heart of the orchestral repertoire including Russian Romantic favourite works as well as *Mozart's Flute Concerto No. 2*, which features flutist Anthony Trionfo returning to the Winspear stage.

The **Robbins Pops** never fails to add glitz, showbiz, and fabulous arrangements to the season. Audiences can indulge in concerts ranging from A Night on Broadway to The Linda Ronstadt Songbook to Mambo Kings: Hot Latin Nights.

The **Perfect Pairings** series makes for a perfect date night, with shorter programs, a complimentary drink ticket, and an after-party with ESO musicians. Highlights include Vivaldi & Vino featuring award winning violinist Blake Pouliot as well as Accordion & Aprikat with accordion virtuoso Ksenija Sidorova.

Younger audiences will find the **Symphony for Kids** series is the ideal kids'-sized introduction to orchestral music. All of these concerts include pre-concert activities to enjoy.

"This is a season of incredible emotional breath, vital colour, and ferocious, unrelenting and unapologetic energy, embracing all aspects of our lives. Truly this is a season and a symphony for everyone," shares Prior.

"Chief Conductor Alexander Prior's influence is much in evidence throughout this new brilliant season. A fantastic roster of guest artists along with our unique programming offers something for all the senses. I look forward to experiencing this season with our community," adds President and CEO Annemarie Petrov.

**Features of the 2020/2021 season:**

**Symphony Under the Sky – September 3, 4, 5 and 6, 2020**

The final outdoor festival night includes a parade of ESO musicians performing their favourite “party pieces,” featuring solos, duets, and trios with winds, brass, and strings. This unique concert also includes the world premiere of a new orchestral work (the culmination of the annual Young Composer Project), and concludes with Tchaikovsky’s spectacular *1812 Overture*.

**A Night on Broadway - Sept 25 and 26, 2020**

Join your ESO, guest conductor Jack Everly as we welcome Broadway stars to sing a myriad of magnificent moments from memorable musicals including hits from *West Side Story*, *Les Misérables*, and *Gypsy*.

**Dvorak’s Stabat Mater - April 9 and 10, 2021**

A much-requested, towering work for vocalists and orchestra is finally brought to the Winspear stage. In a grateful salute to decades of dedication to Edmonton’s music community, the ESO presents Leonard Ratzlaff conducting soloists and his beloved Richard Eaton Singers in Dvořák’s magnificent *Stabat mater*.

**Prohibition: Music from the Roaring Twenties - May 14, 15, and 16, 2021**

Sneak into the dark cabarets and hidden speakeasies of New York, Paris, and Berlin, and experience the 1920s in all of its glory and decadence. Highlighted by vintage imagery and film, this concert features the decade’s big hits by the likes of Irving Berlin, Kurt Weill, and Jelly Roll Morton, made famous by Édith Piaf, Josephine Baker, and Rudy Vallée, all performed by the ESO and three stellar singers.

For a full listing of the new 2020/2021 season, visit <https://www.winspearcentre.com/2020-2021-eso-season/>

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**About the Winspear | Edmonton Symphony Orchestra | Tommy Banks Centre**

In its 69th year, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra has taken its place as one of Canada’s foremost orchestral ensembles. Its current roster includes 56 musicians from Canada and around the world performing a wide-ranging repertoire from the great classical masterworks to pops and family concerts. The orchestra is the resident artistic ensemble, the “home team,” of the Winspear Centre, among the best acoustic concert halls in North America. The Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity launched in 2013 delivering musical discovery programs that transform lives.

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