

The ESO Brings Magical Disney Experience to Downtown Edmonton ***Free, Family-Friendly Concerts in Churchill Square Sept 1 & 2***

For immediate release

Edmonton, AB (July 25, 2023) – The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra (ESO) is bringing the magic of Disney to the heart of Edmonton this September long weekend. On September 1 and 2 at 7 PM, Symphony in the Square will present Disney in Concert *A Dream is a Wish*, a free concert event in Churchill Square featuring the ESO and vocalists performing beloved songs from Disney films.

Audiences are invited to experience live music in the heart of downtown at this festive summer event. Disney in Concert *A Dream is a Wish* transports audiences into the musical world of classic and contemporary Disney animated feature films to discover that dreams really do come true. Join your ESO as we awaken a little mermaid that longs to be human, a lion cub who struggles to find his place in the circle of life, and two sisters who wish to warm a frozen relationship. The stories are told through the talents of four Broadway-calibre singers, original Disney film footage on the big screen, and sweeping orchestral scores performed by your Edmonton Symphony Orchestra and conducted by popular guest conductor Bob Bernhardt. Guest vocalists Deidre Donovan, Stephanie Burkett Gerson, Aaron Phillips, and Terron Brooks will bring these familiar Disney stories to life on stage.

“We are excited to bring the music of Disney to life in this unique way,” said Annemarie Petrov, President and CEO of the Winspear Centre and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. “These free outdoor concerts are a gift to our community, and the perfect way for families to experience the ESO in an accessible, fun environment.”

“The opportunity to perform some of the most recognizable film scores of all time with our full orchestra is truly magical,” adds Bernhardt. “We hope these free concerts create memories that will last a lifetime for the entire community.”

Attendees are encouraged to arrive early to secure a good spot and enjoy the festivities, which will include eight local food trucks. The performance will begin at 7 PM and last approximately two hours, including an intermission. Each performance will be capped off with a pyrotechnics display – transporting everyone to the Magic Kingdom for a memorable evening. There will be washrooms and security on site. Seating is general admission, and attendees can bring chairs or blankets.

The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra last performed in Churchill Square in 2017. Disney in Concert *A Dream is a Wish* is presented by the Winspear Center and Edmonton Symphony Orchestra. This event is made possible in part through support by Station Lands, the City of Edmonton, Alberta Culture Days and EPCOR.

For more information, visit www.winspearcentre.com/disney or call the Winspear Box Office at 780.428.1414. Presentation authorized by Disney Concerts © All rights reserved.



About the Winspear | Edmonton Symphony Orchestra | Tommy Banks Centre

In its 71st year, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra has taken its place as one of Canada's foremost orchestral ensembles. Its current roster includes musicians from Canada and around the world performing a wide-ranging repertoire from great classical masterworks to Hollywood scores to new works. The orchestra is the resident artistic ensemble, the "home team," of the Winspear Centre, among the best acoustic concert halls in North America. Located in the heart of Edmonton, the Centre itself is undergoing a transformation into a state-of-the-art community hub for music, and home to the Tommy Banks Centre for Musical Creativity.

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