

FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



INSTRUMENTAL/VOCAL SERIES

March 22, 2024, 12 p.m.

BUTTERFLY TRANSFORMATION

Veronica Johnny, voice and hand drum

THE PROGRAM

Butterfly Transformation with Cree/Dene artist, Veronica Johnny is an interactive performance infusing Indigenous hand drumming songs and rock songs by The Johnnys. The focus will include the Butterfly Teaching of Cree Elder Joanne Dallaire, and transmutation from a Two-Spirit perspective. A Q&A will follow the presentation.

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. Mar. 26, 2024 | 12-1 p.m.

VOCAL/DANCE SERIES

All Is Love

Opera Atelier

Costumed excerpts of Opera Atelier's *All Is Love* – a ravishing blend of singing, ballet, and orchestral music, staged for the acoustic of Koerner Hall and featuring the artists of the Atelier Ballet.

Wed. Mar. 27, 2024 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

JAZZ/INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Lost & Found

Blackwood

JUNO nominees Peter-Anthony Togni and Jeff Reilly describe a path from the page to the soul by exploring the liquid melodicism of Jeff Reilly's bass clarinet with Peter-Anthony Togni's transcendent keyboard virtuosity. Crossing Europe-based modernist masters like Ralph Towner with Gregorian Chant-based works like Togni's *Ave Verum*, to performing their own version of a Miles Davis classic, they defy stylistic boundaries with virtuosity, musicality, and sensitivity.

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Tue. Apr. 9, 2024 | 12-1 p.m.

INSTRUMENTAL/VOCAL SERIES

Stories from the Front Lines of Music & Medicine

Pulse

Stories from the Front Lines of Music and Medicine combines storytelling and live instrumental and vocal music, inviting the audience into a music therapist's experience of working with individuals with life-limiting illnesses. This performance will feature classical chamber music alongside popular vocal repertoire, with narration by an oncology/palliative care music therapist. This program will be led by Pulse members, cellist Dr. Andrew Ascenzo and music therapist Dr. SarahRose Black, and will feature a superb lineup of guest musicians.

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



Veronica Johnny

Veronica Johnny is a multi-disciplinary Indigiqueer artist, singer/songwriter, and hand drummer of mixed Cree and Dene heritage. She's a member of the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation from the Northwest Territories, presently living in Ontario. Johnny's a dynamic force in the Canadian music & arts industry, as a performer, event facilitator, and arts educator.

Johnny is a dynamic force in the Canadian music & arts industry, working as a performer, writer, arts educator, workshop facilitator, visual artist, producer, manager, promoter, and cultural knowledge keeper. Johnny is an emerging storyteller (both video and written forms) and is currently working on a documentary.

Johnny also offers virtual workshops and healing events through her Indigenous arts education business called IndigenEd, with the intention of lifting female Indigenous voices and stories through music, film and workshops; creating safe spaces where individuals can do their healing; and facilitating land-based, art-focused events.

Every benefit of increased name-recognition has consistently been channeled back into community projects, reflecting Johnny's ongoing enthusiasm for helping youth, women, and developing artists. Her efforts in arts education have grown exponentially.

Johnny has worked with thousands of youths across Canada, in the last 10 years on issues of mental health, self-esteem, the Cree language, art, writing, and cultural identity.

She founded The Johnnys, a multi-award nominated rock'n'roll band, with partner Dave Johnny, whereshe's the rhythm guitarist, lead singer, and band manager. Their all-Cree single, "Nisakihtan Kiya Kisoskatowin and Leathers and Feathers," along with recent singles, all climbed to the Top 10 on the Indigenous Music Countdown in 2022 and 2023! The Johnnys released their fifth album last year, a three-song EP called *Leathers and Feathers: Salas/Gutierrez Remixes*.

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