

# FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



VOCAL/DANCE SERIES

March 28, 2024, 12 p.m.

## *ALL IS LOVE* Opera Atelier

Featuring members of the cast, including:

Measha Brueggergosman-Lee, soprano  
Danielle MacMillan, mezzo-soprano  
Jesse Blumberg, baritone  
Artists of Atelier Ballet

Christopher Bagan, assistant music director

Founding Co-Artistic Directors Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg

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](http://coc.ca/FreeConcerts).

## THE PROGRAM

For their Free Concert Series preview, Opera Atelier presents highlights from *ALL IS LOVE*, a unique mixed program, which will be fully-staged in Toronto's Koerner Hall from April 11 to 14.

"*ALL IS LOVE* explores the different ways love and desire impact our lives and relationships," says Marshall Pynkoski, Founding Co-Artistic Director. "The character of Love, as portrayed by artist of Atelier Ballet, Eric Da Silva, will literally appear on stage – propelling the action and emotions of all of the performers."

*ALL IS LOVE* features the music Opera Atelier loves best and includes repertoire by J.P. Rameau, M.A. Charpentier, and Reynaldo Hahn - culminating in Act 1 of Debussy's operatic masterpiece *Pelléas et Mélisande* - played on 19th century period instruments by Tafelmusik. *ALL IS LOVE* also includes additional excerpts by Henry Purcell, Matthew Locke, and G.F. Handel with the full corps of Artists of Atelier Ballet.

*ALL IS LOVE* stars soprano Measha Brueggergosman-Lee in addition to Opera Atelier audience favourites: tenor Colin Ainsworth, soprano Karine White, soprano Meghan Lindsay, mezzo-soprano Danielle MacMillan, soprano Cynthia Smithers, bass-baritone Douglas Williams, and baritone Jesse Blumberg with stage direction by Marshall Pynkoski and choreography by Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg under the baton of conductor David Fallis.

*ALL IS LOVE* features a collection of paintings created specifically for the production by Opera Atelier Resident Set Designer Gerard Gauci. They will be projected above the stage, reflecting each movement of the production.

For tickets, visit [operaatelier.com/tickets](http://operaatelier.com/tickets)

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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

## COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

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.

Thu. Mar. 28, 2024 | 12-1 p.m.

VOCAL SERIES

*France in Springtime*

Artists of the COC Ensemble Studio

The COC's Ensemble Studio invites you to journey to France and enjoy *un apres-midi* at the Free Concert Series. Showcasing French art song, arias, and *melodies*, this concert will bring you overseas and back again - passport required!

## YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Thu. Apr. 11, 2024 | 12-1 p.m.

DANCE SERIES

*Highlights from Anne of Green Gables - The Ballet®*

Ballet Jörgen

Bengt Jörgen, C.M., Artistic Director

Canada's preeminent touring ballet company, Ballet Jörgen, travels coast to coast each season performing a vibrant repertoire of full-length ballets and shorter contemporary works. In this program, the company will present highlights from its newest full-length ballet, *Anne of Green Gables - The Ballet®* along with other popular company works. *Anne* will transport audiences to early 20th-century Atlantic Canada to follow the adventures of Anne Shirley, an orphan girl sent to live on a farm in the fictional town of Avonlea, Prince Edward Island. Based on the beloved Canadian novel by Lucy Maud Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables* is a playful, colourful, and evocative production that will delight audiences of all ages.

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FOUR SEASONS CENTRE  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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## **Sweeter than Roses/A Chloris**

Sweeter than roses,  
Or cool, cool evening breeze.  
On a warm flowery shore, was the dear kiss,  
First trembling made me freeze,

If it be true, Chloris, that you love me,  
(And I'm told you love me dearly),  
I do not believe that even kings  
Can match the happiness I know.

Then shot like fire all o'er.

Even death would be powerless  
To alter my fortune.  
With the promise of heavenly bliss!  
All that they say of ambrosia  
Does not stir my imagination  
Like the favour of your eyes!

What magic has victorious love!

All that they say of ambrosia  
Does not stir my imagination  
Like the favour of your eyes!  
All, all, all is love to me.

*(Text: Richard Norton, Théophile de Viau  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

## **Mi Lusinga**

Who can tell my thoughts?  
If I am betrayed, or if I hear the truth?

Sweet affection flatters me  
With the appearance of goodness.  
Yet who knows? It's convenient to fear.

I was deceived  
By loving still.  
But if that were ever  
Whom I adored,  
And I abandoned her,  
Unfaithful, ungrateful I am,  
I am cruel and treacherous.

*(Text: Antonio Fanzaglia)*

## **L'Heure Exquise**

The white moon  
Gleams in the woods;  
From every branch  
There comes a voice  
Beneath the boughs...

O my beloved.

The pool reflects,  
Deep mirror,  
The silhouette  
Of the black willow  
Where the wind is weeping...

Let us dream, it is the hour.

A vast and tender  
Consolation  
Seems to fall  
From the sky  
The moon illumines...

Exquisite hour.

*(Text: Paul Verlaine  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

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Opera Atelier is an opera/ballet company committed to creating historically-informed productions that are realized as complete artistic statements—always built from the ground up with equal attention given to music, dancing, acting, and design. All of our productions are performed on period instruments.

While our core repertoire extends from Monteverdi to Mozart, we also explore productions of later repertoire. In doing so, we keep pace with the finest international ensembles and conductors who are performing productions of Beethoven, Massenet, and Debussy on period instruments in major venues to great acclaim.

We are also committed to commissioning new music for period instruments, and the creation of original works. For Opera Atelier, the pivotal aspect of period production lies in the in-depth examination of the original intentions of composers, choreographers, and librettists in order to find new ways to challenge ourselves as artists in the 21st century. A period production is not a museum piece; it is a new creation and takes its own place in history.

Opera Atelier's productions are performed in partnership with Tafelmusik, Canada's internationally-acclaimed period-instrument orchestra.

Led by founding Artistic Directors Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg since 1985, Opera Atelier has garnered acclaim for its performances at home as well as in the U.S., Europe, and Asia.

OA continues to evolve and takes artistic risks—always striving to reimagine opera and ballet as compelling storytelling for the 21st century.

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