

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release: March 27, 2023

COC'S FINE WINE AUCTION TOASTS TO OPERA'S FUTURE

Toronto – The Canadian Opera Company, in partnership with Iron Gate Auctions and Ranger Wine, proudly presents the COC's digital Fine Wine Auction from April 27 to May 4, 2023. Building on the success of recent seasons, the event will once again be hosted entirely online at <u>irongateauctions.com</u>, making the bidding catalogue available to enthusiastic wine collectors across Canada.

"Our Fine Wine auction has a history of over 20 years, making it one of the most significant fundraisers for the Canadian Opera Company," says **Fine Wine Auction Chairperson Graham Watchorn**. "We are grateful to our community of donors and supporters who continue to make this event a success along with Stephen Ranger of Ranger Wine and Iron Gate Auctions. I am excited to see the continued growth of our fine wine community and look forward to augmenting our digital auction with in-person events beginning this spring."

All proceeds from the **Fine Wine Auction** go directly to supporting the COC's mission to bring excellent artists and performances to the mainstage, offer Canada's best coaching and performance opportunities to the talented young artists of the **COC Ensemble Studio**, and ensure that families of all abilities and financial backgrounds have access to enriching cultural and arts education opportunities.

The 2023 auction features exceptional selections from top producers from all the major wine growing regions of the world. Bidders will once again be rewarded by top Burgundian producers such as **Domaine de la Romanée**Conti, Armand Rousseau, and Comte Georges de Vogüé. The auction will also feature a number of large format bottlings of such rare gems as **Domaine Méo-Camuzet Clos de Vougeot**, and **Dominus** in magnum. Double magnums from Ridge Monte Bello, Chateau Montelena, and Deus-Ex Machina Clos Saint-Jean are additional highlights, and Bordeaux is generously represented by Château Mouton Rothschild, Château Margaux, and excellent vintages of Château d'Yquem.

Featured wines this year include:

- Domaine de la Romanée Conti
- Château Haut Brion
- Château Ausone
- Domaine Dujac
- Domaine Armand Rousseau
- Château Mouton Rothschild
- Château d'Yquem
- Chateau Palmer
- Ridge Vineyards
- Dominus Estate
- Château Lafite Rothschild
- Pierre Ponnelle

The COC Fine Wine Auction begins at 9 a.m. ET on April 27, 2023 and closes at 6 p.m. ET on May 4, 2023.

For more details on registration and to be notified when the auction catalogue has opened, please visit **coc.ca/FineWineAuction**.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Season Sponsor: BMO Financial Group

Presenting Sponsor: Graywood Developments **Event Partners:** Iron Gate Auctions, Ranger Wine

Hosting Partner: The St. Regis Toronto

Thank you to the entire COC community, including our <u>COC Board of Directors</u>, our <u>Corporate Sponsors and Foundation Supporters</u>, generous public funders, union partners, and — most critically — <u>our audience</u>. Your inspiring support ensures that opera flourishes, uniting global audiences and paving the way for a vibrant future.

ABOUT THE CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY

Based in Toronto, the Canadian Opera Company is the largest producer of opera in Canada and one of the largest in North America. General Director Perryn Leech joined the company in 2021, forming a leadership team with Music Director Johannes Debus and Deputy General Director Christie Darville. The COC enjoys a loyal audience, including a dedicated base of subscribers, and has an international reputation for artistic excellence and creative innovation. Its diverse repertoire includes new commissions and productions, local and international collaborations with leading opera companies and festivals, and attracts the world's foremost Canadian and international artists. The company is an incubator for the future of the art form, nurturing Canada's new wave of opera performers and creators with customized training and support. The COC's purpose-built opera house, the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts, is hailed internationally as one of the finest in the world. For more information, visit coc.ca.

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