



HAMILTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

CELEBRATING NINE YEARS WITH GEMMA NEW

The joy of experiencing music is most meaningful when shared with others. Music unites us, whether we are listening with loved ones, old friends or a new acquaintance. It is a universal language that allows us to connect to composers, musicians and other listeners, unearthing new creations and revisiting old loves.

I am immensely proud to welcome you to the HPO's 2023-24 Season, where we embark on a journey of discovery, together. Featuring familiar works by legendary composers, established living composers and brand-new works from our Composer Fellows, there are countless compelling creative journeys weaved throughout our Mainstage concert series. Stories of life's precious moments and relationships told through each program and shared through a talented slate of guest artists and our own HPO musicians as soloists.

This marks my final season as HPO Music Director before I pass the baton. This orchestra and I have grown together and inspired each other to make incredible music on our stage for nine extraordinary years. I will cherish every moment of this journey and I truly look forward to returning to the HPO stage in the future as an old friend. Thank you, Hamilton, for the precious time I've spent here.

Join us at FirstOntario Concert Hall where we have created a very special season that features favourite works and welcomes exciting new possibilities. As a subscriber you receive the very best offers and an opportunity to curate a season tailored to your musical interests. See you in September as we kick off the 2023-24 season.

Warmly, Gemma

WITH

CREATE YOUR PERFECT PACKAGE

All Mainstage concerts take place at FirstOntario Concert Hall.

GEMMA CONDUCTS SCHUMANN & MENDELSSOHN SEPTEMBER 23, 2023 AT 7:30PM

Gemma New, Conductor Tony Siqi Yun, Piano *

Liam Ritz, Scherzo * * Schumann, Piano Concerto Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 3, "Scottish"

Gemma New leads the orchestra in a celebratory season-opener! Acclaimed Canadian pianist Tony Siqi Yun performs Schumann's dreamy and dramatic Piano Concerto. Hamilton native Liam Ritz dazzles with *Scherzo* and we round out the evening with Mendelssohn's vivid and beloved 'Scottish' Symphony.

* World premiere

BRITTEN, VAUGHAN WILLIAMS & ELGAR

OCTOBER 21, 2023 AT 7:30PM

James Kahane, Conductor Aleh Remezau, Oboe 🌞

Britten, Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge ✓ Vaughan Williams, Oboe Concerto Kathryn Knowles (23-24 Composer Fellow), New Work* ♥ Elgar, Enigma Variations

Join the orchestra in an exploration of musical friendships. Britten's *Variations of a Theme of Frank Bridge* honours the composer's mentor and Elgar's *Enigma Variations* shares a series of musical sketches inspired by those closest to him. HPO Principal Oboe Aleh Remezau takes centerstage as soloist in Vaughan Williams' Oboe Concerto.

Players ChoiceWorld premiere

SIBELIUS & DVOŘÁK NOVEMBER 11, 2023 AT 7:30PM

Jacob Joyce, Conductor Kerson Leong, Violin +

Paul Kawabe (23-24 Composer Fellow), New Work* • Sibelius, Violin Concerto Dvořák, Symphony No. 7

Rising Canadian virtuoso Kerson Leong performs Sibelius' haunting and mysterious Violin Concerto, which seeks beauty in the dark depths of Nordic winter. Dvořák's emotionally charged Symphony No. 7 overflows with intense patriotism for the composer's birth nation.

* World premiere

HOLIDAYS & THE HOCKEY SWEATER MATINEE

DECEMBER 9, 2023 AT 3:00PM

Kalena Bovell, Conductor Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Guest Artists * Hamilton Children's Choir, Guest Artists *

Abigail Richardson-Schulte, The Hockey Sweater *

An iconic Canadian story comes to the concert hall this holiday! *The Hockey Sweater* by Abigail Richardson-Schulte brings Roch Carrier's beloved children's book to life. Sing along to festive favourites performed with the Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra and the Hamilton Children's Choir.

THE MUSIC OF QUEEN JANUARY 20, 2024 AT 7:30PM

We will rock you! Experience the legendary music of Queen performed with your Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. Featuring classic hits like *Bohemian Rhapsody*, *Somebody to Love*, and *Under Pressure*, this is a powerful rock symphony tribute to the iconic Freddie Mercury and one of the world's biggest bands.

AINSTAGE CONCERTS

MOZART, STRAUSS & EVANGELISTA MATINEE FEBRUARY 10, 2024 AT 3:00PM

Caleb Young, Conductor ***** Jessie Brooks, Horn *****

José Evangelista, Airs d'Espagne pour orchestre à cordes * Strauss, Horn Concerto No. 1 Mozart, Symphony No. 40

Mozart's iconic Symphony No. 40, anchors this performance with its ever-familiar opening bars to the angst and drama of the final movement. Spanish Canadian composer *José Evangelista's Airs* d'Espagne pour orchestre à cordes highlights the warmth and whimsy of the strings. HPO Principal Horn Jessie Brooks is soloist for Strauss' grandiose Horn Concerto No. 1, overflowing with energetic fanfare and romantic lyricism.

O/R

BARBER, RAUM & COPLAND MARCH 23, 2024 AT 7:30PM

Jean-Marie Zeitouni, Conductor ***** Erika Raum, Violin *****

Barber, Adagio for Strings Elizabeth Raum, Violin Concerto ♥ T. Patrick Carrabré, Chase the Sun ♥ Copland, Appalachian Spring

Aaron Copland's iconic and rejuvenating *Appalachian Spring* illustrates the themes of family, love and life this concert highlights. The soul-stirring melody of Barber's evocative *Adagio for Strings* opens the performance on an introspective note, while T. Patrick Carrabré's *Chase the Sun* brings a radiant energy. Celebrated Canadian composer Elizabeth Raum's Violin Concerto features Erika Raum, the composer's daughter.

RACHMANINOFF & TCHAIKOVSKY

APRIL 20, 2024 AT 7:30PM

Mateusz Molęda, Conductor Kevin Chen, Piano *

Alison Yun-Fei Jiang, Flowing Waters ***** Rachmaninoff, Piano Concerto No. 3 Tchaikovsky, Symphony No. 6

The emotional heights and depths of life weave through this concert of celebrated works from the Romantic era. Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3 brims with passion and inner turmoil. Tchaikovsky's Sixth Symphony creates a complex texture of emotions spanning light and dark. The symphonic poem *Flowing Water* by Alison Yun-Fei Jiang balances this program with a stunning melody that flows like ink on a page.

GEMMA CONDUCTS BEETHOVEN 9

MAY 4, 2024 AT 7:30PM

Gemma New, Conductor Carla Huhtanen, Soprano * Lauren Segal, Mezzo-Soprano * Lawrence Wiliford, Tenor * Alexander Dobson, Baritone * Bach Elgar Choir, Guest Artists *

Andrew Balfour, Mamachimowin * Claude Vivier, Lonely Child * Beethoven, Symphony No. 9

Celebrate Gemma's nine years as Music Director with our orchestra and voices from across the city at this show-stopping performance! More than 120 singers take the stage for Beethoven's epic Symphony No. 9 with its iconic choral finale, Ode to Joy! Voices carry throughout this concert with Andrew Balfour's remarkable *Mamachimowin* for orchestra and choir exploring the relationship between Canada and the First Nations. The late Claude Vivier's *Lonely Child*, for orchestra and soprano, transports audiences to the shadowy realm between reality and imagination.

OFF THE MAINSTAGE

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

DECEMBER 16, 2023 AT 7:30PM DECEMBER 17, 2023 AT 3:00PM MELROSE UNITED CHURCH Alexander Cann, Conductor Bach Elgar Choir, Guest Artists INTIMATE & IMMERSIVE MAY 1, 2024 AT 7:30PM THE COTTON FACTORY Gemma New, Conductor

ORDER BY JUNE 30 TO ENJOY ALL THE **BENEFITS OF SUBSCRIBING!**

FREE CONCERT

Order by June 30 to receive a free subscriber appreciation concert to be held in Spring 2024.

PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Final payment must be made by July 15, 2023 -Contact the box office for details.

Tickets will be sent by August 28. Single tickets on sale August 15.

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When you purchase a 7 or 9 concert package by 11:59pm on June 30, your household will be entered to win 25% off your entire subscription order! Five lucky households in total will win. Winners will be announced by July 7, 2023.

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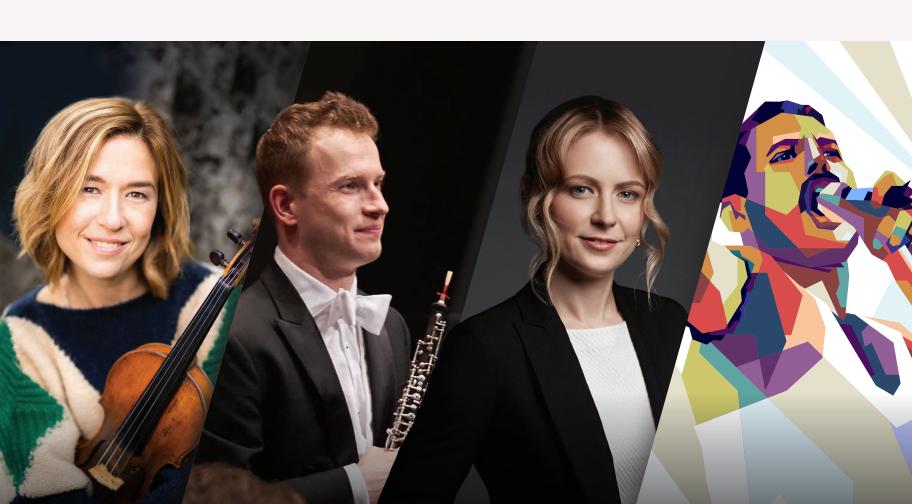
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HOW TO ORDER

BY PHONE Call the HPO Box Office at 905-526-7756

during business hours. If you have questions email boxoffice@hpo.org.

NOTE: Ticket prices do not include applicable HST. A \$3.50 fee per individual ticket will be added to your subscription package upon checkout. This is collected by our venue manager Core Entertainment for the Captial Improvement Fund.



BARBER, RAUM AND COPLAND

BRITTEN, VAUGHAN WILLIAMS & ELGAR

BEETHOVEN 9

THE MUSIC OF QUEEN



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FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION **ABOUT THE SEASON**

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