



CONCERT ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

June 9, 2016

**60th Anniversary Season Finale Concert
Calgary Philharmonic Bids Farewell to Maestro Roberto Minczuk
at *Symphony of a Thousand: Mahler Eight*,
June 10 & 11**



Maestro Roberto Minczuk

Calgary, AB: The Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra will bid farewell to long-time Music Director Roberto Minczuk this weekend at *Symphony of a Thousand: Mahler Eight*, in a spectacular concert and tribute that also marks the grand finale to the Orchestra's 60th Anniversary Season. Maestro Minczuk has held the position since 2006 and has been a key influence in shaping the Orchestra into Calgary's leading cornerstone arts organization. Maestro Minczuk has been named as Music Director Laureate, and will return to the Orchestra next Season as a guest conductor.

What: *Symphony of a Thousand: Mahler Eight*

Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, Arts Commons
205 – 8th Avenue SE

When: Friday, June 10, 2016 – 8PM
Saturday, June 11, 2016 – 8PM



The concert also features eight guest soloists and a large massed choir:

Erin Wall, soprano
Colleen Daly, soprano
Mireille Asselin, soprano
Susan Platts, alto
Anita Krause, alto
David Pomeroy, tenor
Tyler Duncan, baritone
Oren Gradus, bass
Calgary Philharmonic Chorus
Richard Eaton Singers
Cantaré Children's Choir

Key Information:

- Maestro Roberto Minczuk is completing 10-years with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra as Music Director with these concerts on June 10 & 11 marking his last performances in that role.
- One of the largest productions ever presented by the Calgary Philharmonic, *Symphony of a Thousand: Mahler Eight* is traditionally presented for grand occasions and was last performed in Calgary by the Orchestra in 1985 to commemorate the opening of the Jack Singer Concert Hall.
- Over 235 choir members will be on stage, with Edmonton's Richard Eaton Singers and Calgary's Cantaré Children's Choir joining the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus.
- *Symphony of a Thousand: Mahler 8* marks the final concerts of the Orchestra's celebratory 60th Anniversary 2015/2016 Season.
- Under Maestro Minczuk's leadership the Orchestra embarked on a complete symphony cycle of Mahler's symphonies, with the final work *Symphony No. 9* to be led by Maestro Minczuk during the upcoming 2016/2017 Season when he returns as a guest conductor with under his new title Music Director Laureate.

Media Opportunities:

Those wanting to arrange interviews or coverage of the event can contact:

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Led by internationally renowned Music Director Roberto Minczuk, the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra has been a cornerstone of Calgary's multi-faceted arts community since 1955 and is one of North America's finest and most versatile live music ensembles. A repertoire that is extensive and broad in scope consistently attracts acclaimed guest artists and conductors. From classical giants to rock 'n' roll hits and family favourites, the CPO offers an average of 80 concerts per Season designed to fit all musical tastes.

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Roberto Minczuk, conductor

A protégé of Kurt Masur, Brazilian-born Roberto Minczuk is a conductor and musician of international prominence. He is the recipient of several distinguished awards and prizes including a 2004 Latin Grammy for best classical album, *Symphonic Jobim*; a 2004 Emmy for the program *New York City Ballet – Lincoln Center Celebrates Balanchine 100*; and a 2001 Martin E. Segal Award which recognizes Lincoln Center's most promising young artists.

Maestro Minczuk is firmly established as one of his generation's brightest talents. He debuted in the United States conducting the New York Philharmonic in 1998 and in 2002 he was invited to assume the post of Associate Conductor, a post last held by Leonard Bernstein. Minczuk has conducted 93 orchestras throughout North and South America, Europe, Asia and the Pacific. His North American engagements of the last seasons include these orchestras: New York, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Minnesota, San Francisco, St. Louis, Atlanta, Baltimore, Dallas, Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa and Calgary. In Europe, his engagements have included the orchestras of: London, Wales and Scottish BBC Symphony Orchestras; London, Liverpool, Oslo, Hallé, Rotterdam, Bergen, Barcelona, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Odense, Helsinki, Netherlands, Ireland, France, Lyon, Belgium, Lille and Scotland. He has conducted the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra as well as the Tokyo Philharmonic and Yomiuri Symphony.

Maestro Roberto Minczuk lives in both Calgary and Rio de Janeiro with his wife Valéria and their four children: Natalie, Rebecca, Joshua and Julia

Erin Wall, Soprano

Acclaimed for her musicality and versatility, Erin Wall sings an extensive opera and concert repertoire spanning three centuries. She has sung leading roles in many of the world's great opera houses, including the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, the Vienna Staatsoper, Opéra National de Paris, and Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Colleen Daly, Soprano

Colleen Daly is rapidly emerging as a "dramatically powerful" (*The Washington Post*) singer in today's operatic arena. Miss Daly's most recent performances include Musetta in *La Bohème* with Annapolis Opera, Lyric Opera of Baltimore and Des Moines Metro Opera; Violetta in Opera Delaware's production of *La traviata*, which she also covered at New York City Opera; Fiordiligi in *Così fan tutte* with Intermountain Opera; Micaëla in both *La Tragédie de Carmen* with Syracuse Opera and in *Carmen* with Baltimore Concert Opera; the Countess in Annapolis Opera's production of *Le nozze di Figaro*; and the



title role of *Thaïs* at Opera Company of Middlebury.

A native of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, Ms. Daly is frequently called upon to appear as a featured soloist at embassies and political events; to date, she has performed at the Italian, Austrian, Irish, and Columbian embassies, and has performed for Vice President Biden, Maryland Governors Martin O'Malley and Larry Hogan, and Supreme Court Justices Scalia and Roberts.

Mireille Asselin, Soprano

Highlights of Mireille Asselin's 2015/2016 season included returns to both the Metropolitan Opera to cover the role of Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, conducted by Maestro James Levine and Opera Atelier in the role of Celia in Mozart's *Lucio Silla*. On the concert stage she sang Mahler's Symphony 4 with the Royal Conservatory Orchestra and a recital at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall.

Asselin's 2014/2015 season included her debut with the Metropolitan Opera as Poussette in *Manon*, an engagement to Opera Atelier as Morgana in *Alcina*, and concert debuts with the Colorado Bach Ensemble, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, and Edmonton Symphony (*Messiah*), and the Calgary Philharmonic (*Carmina Burana*). She had solo appearances with the Opera Lyra, Ottawa Choral Society, Amici Chamber Ensemble (Toronto) and Johnstown (PA) Symphony, and also returned to the Boston Early Music Festival for multiple roles in the Monteverdi Trilogy.

Susan Platts, Alto

Mahler specialist Susan Platts' recordings include *Das Lied von der Erde* with the Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra and Virginia Arts Festival, and *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* with the Smithsonian Chamber Players and Santa Fe Pro Musica. Her performances of Mahler's works include: *Symphony No. 2* with Orchestre Métropolitain, the San Diego, Baltimore, Toronto, Vancouver, Québec, Montreal, American Symphonies, and the Boston, New Mexico, Calgary and Krakow Philharmonics; *Symphony No. 3* with the Orchestre de Paris, the Vancouver, Montreal, North Carolina, Oregon Symphonies, and the Brevard Music Center; *Symphony No. 8* with the Québec, Montreal, American, Vancouver, Milwaukee, Royal Scottish National Symphonies; *Das Lied* with the Malaysian Philharmonic, National Ballet of Canada, North Carolina Symphony, Louisville Orchestra and at the Chautauqua Festival; *Kindertotenlieder* with the Houston and Québec Symphonies; and *Rückert Lieder* with the Chicago Philharmonic and Montreal Symphony.

Anita Krause, Alto

Celebrated for her gorgeous voice and impeccable musicianship, Canadian mezzo-soprano Anita Krause is equally esteemed in the concert hall and on the opera stage. She has performed with many of North America's leading orchestras, including the Chicago Symphony, l'Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, the Baltimore Symphony and the Toronto Symphony (TSO). Ms. Krause has also appeared with the National Arts Centre Orchestra (NACO), the Rochester Philharmonic, the Grant Park Symphony, and Les Violons du Roy, as well as with the orchestras of Vancouver, Calgary, Québec, Edmonton, Nova Scotia, Kitchener-Waterloo and the Canadian Opera Company. She has collaborated with such leading conductors as Christoph Eschenbach, Charles Dutoit, Carlos Kalmar, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Bernhard Gueller, Hans Graf, Eliahu Inbal, Kent Nagano, Paavo Jarvi, Gerard Schwarz, Pinchas Zukerman, Stefan Lano, Bernard Labadie, Bramwell Tovey, Bruno Weil and Yoav Talmi.



David Pomeroy, Tenor

Canadian tenor David Pomeroy is enjoying a career that is placing him in the spotlight on some of the world's most important stages. The Newfoundland native made his Metropolitan Opera debut, portraying the title role of Hoffmann in *Les Contes d'Hoffmann*, opposite soprano Anna Netrebko under the baton of Maestro James Levine. Mr. Pomeroy had sung the title role of Faust with bass James Morris in the annual "Met in the Parks" concert series and later reprised the role on the main stage.

With the Canadian Opera Company (COC) in Toronto he has performed the title roles of Faust and Hoffmann as well as Rodolfo (*La Bohème*), Skuratov (*From the House of the Dead*), Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*) and Alfred (*Die Fledermaus*).

Tyler Duncan, Baritone

Tyler Duncan's recent performances include Yamadori in *Madama Butterfly* and Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* at the Metropolitan Opera.

He has sung Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the San Diego Symphony and Calgary Philharmonic, Mahler's Eighth Symphony with the Toronto and American Symphonies; Mendelssohn's *Christus* and Bach's *Magnificat* with the New York Philharmonic; Haydn's *Die Schöpfung* with the Montreal, Winnipeg and Québec Symphonies; Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Calgary Philharmonic, Toronto and Seattle Symphonies, and in Berlin, Frankfurt, Stuttgart and Munich with the Philharmonie der Nationen; Händel's *Messiah* with Tafelmusik, the National, Montreal, Baltimore, Seattle, Newfoundland and Toronto Symphonies, Boston's Händel and Haydn Society, Portland Baroque Orchestra and San Francisco's Philharmonia Baroque; Brahms' *Requiem* with the Rochester Philharmonic and at the Chautauqua and Berkshire Choral Festivals; Janáček's *Glagolitic Mass* with the Toronto Symphony; Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with the Puerto Rico and Montreal Symphonies, Munich Bach Choir, Grand Philharmonic Choir and Dresdner Kreuzchor, Bach's *Ich habe genug* with Tafelmusik, Symphony Nova Scotia and the Calgary Philharmonic; and the Mozart *Requiem* with the Montreal, Utah and Toronto Symphonies. With the Montreal Symphony he has performed Berlioz's *L'Enfance du Christ* and recorded Ibert/Honegger's *L'Aiglon*. Recordings include the title role of John Blow's *Venus and Adonis*, Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* with Portland Baroque, Purcell works and Carissimi's *Jephte* with Les Voix Baroques.

Oren Gradus, Bass

Oren Gradus is rising in recognition and critical acclaim throughout North America and Europe as a brilliant basso cantante. His 2015/16 season begins with his return to Boston's Odyssey Opera for Massenet's rarely performed *Le Cid*, followed by his return to Pittsburgh Opera in his acclaimed portrayal of Zaccaria in *Nabucco*. Gradus made his role debut as Duglas D'Angus in Rossini's *La Donna del Lago* at the Metropolitan Opera in the 2014/15 season, and returns this season to reprise the role alongside Joyce DiDonato and Lawrence Brownlee.

Recent seasons for the Brooklyn-born bass have included several career milestones: in the 2012-2013 season he made his house debut with Washington National Opera as Henry VIII in *Anna Bolena*; his house and role debuts with Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona as the four villains in *Les Contes*



d'Hoffman; his house debut with Canadian Opera Company as Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*; and his house and role debuts with Opéra d'Avenches in Switzerland as Zaccaria in *Nabucco*. Mr. Gradus returned to the Metropolitan Opera as Publio in *La Clemenza di Tito*, which was broadcast as part of The Met: Live in HD series. He also had the privilege of performing in concert with the legendary Roger Waters in his original opera *Ça Ira* in Gothenberg, Sweden. In the 2013-2014 season, Mr. Gradus reprised his powerful portrayal of Colline in the Met's production of *La bohème*, which will be broadcast in theaters worldwide. Mr. Gradus also returned to Pittsburgh Opera for performances of Ramfis in *Aida* and Sarastro in *Die Zauberflöte*, and made his house debut with Baltimore Opera as Zaccaria in *Nabucco*.

Calgary Philharmonic Chorus

The Calgary Philharmonic Chorus, led by Chorus Master Timothy Shantz, is a group of over 150 voluntary singers who perform diverse repertoire including oratorio, opera, light classics, contemporary music and pops. The acclaimed ensemble is featured in approximately eight concerts with the Orchestra each Season.

Established in 1963, the Chorus works with the Orchestra to achieve excellence in the performance of choral music and to promote the enjoyment and development of choral singing in the Calgary community. Chorus members come from all walks of life and include physicians, students, lawyers and stay-at-home mothers who dedicate over 19,000 hours annually to rehearsals and performances. The Chorus is proud to perform for local charities during the Christmas season and often takes part in community education and outreach activities with the Orchestra throughout the year.

Cantaré Children's Choir

Cantaré Children's Choir, formed in 1997 by Founder / Artistic Director Catherine Glaser-Climie, is dedicated to providing an extraordinary choral music experience through excellence in performance, outstanding music education, serving the community through song, and touring. Cantaré has established an enviable reputation for the musical sophistication its exuberant members express and for its gorgeous tone and impeccable technique.

In addition to presenting its own acclaimed concert series, our award-winning choir is honored to have performed for many prestigious events including for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II [in Ottawa], and in collaboration with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Calgary Opera, and the Calgary Civic Symphony.

Cantaré has won awards at the local, provincial and national level including First Prize at Canada's National Music Festival. Tours across Canada, the United States and Europe enhance the experience with once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

Richard Eaton Singers

Founded in 1951 by the late Richard S. Eaton, Edmonton's symphonic choir, Richard Eaton Singers (RES), has played a leading role in the cultural community of the city for more than six decades. RES is dedicated to the enjoyment, study and performance of great choral music, to an international standard of excellence, and to fostering the appreciation and future of this music.



RES performances have included Edmonton premieres of many choral masterpieces such as the Bach *St. John* and *St. Matthew Passions*, Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis*, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*, Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast* and Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*.

The choir has traveled extensively across Canada, to the Netherlands, Britain, and Germany, and has exchanged with other choirs, including the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus and Vancouver Bach Choir.