

Media Release

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Calgary Philharmonic announces its 2024/2025 Season

Rune Bergmann's final season as Music Director includes Yo-Yo Ma, Carmina Burana, and Kiesza

Calgary Alta. (April 9, 2024) — Today, the Calgary Philharmonic with Music Director Rune Bergmann, announced the 2024/2025 Season which will be Rune Bergmann's last as Music Director.

"After eight incredible seasons of music with you, this one will mark my final as Music Director with our beloved Calgary Phil. My time here has been a journey filled with both excitement and challenges, navigating transitions in our world, especially amidst the unprecedented challenges of the pandemic years," comments Music Director Rune Bergmann. "Yet, we've persevered admirably, emerging stronger and more resilient for the love of music in this city. A vibrant city needs a vibrant orchestra. It's with great pride I present one more incredible season for Calgary".

The 2024/2025 Season promises to be a stunning showcase of the Orchestra's full ability, with concerts that will celebrate Rune's achievements with the Phil. In a perfect book-end tribute, **Yo-Yo Ma**, the legendary cellist who last appeared with the Calgary Phil in Rune's inaugural season, returns in May 2025. In September, Rune opens with **Carmina Burana** — the choral spectacle which will feature the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus, Calgary Boys Choir, Calgary Children's Choir, and virtuosic soloists. From September to May, audiences will experience an exciting range of musical programming they've come to know from the Phil including cherished orchestral masterpieces, fresh compositions by pioneering artists, enchanting family-friendly performances, beloved holiday tunes, blockbuster films, and timeless pop hits. The Season wraps up with **Mahler's Resurrection Symphony**, and Rune's final bow as Music Director.

The season boasts the return of superstar guests including Juno Award-winning violinist **James Ehnes** and pop-sensation **Kiesza**. Not-to-be-missed works by renowned composers like **Ludwig van Beethoven**, **Leonard Bernstein**, and **Sergei Rachmaninoff** will wow audiences while the music of iconic artists such as **Tina Turner**, **Bob Marley**, and **Pink Floyd** will knock your socks off!

"This season showcases this Orchestra's incredible strengths and versatility" says Calgary Phil President + CEO Marc Stevens. "The audiences we're seeing from all parts of Calgary and beyond, all ages, all backgrounds, are a credit to Rune's vision of trusted programming and ensuring access to the Orchestra in our concert halls, out and about, and online. He's also passionately advocated to Calgary for the music of Anton Bruckner, continued the city's love affair with Gustav Mahler's music, and brought high profile artists, new commissions, and timeless classics. All of this is reflected in this stunning line-up. There truly is something for everyone this season!"

The Orchestra also presents lively **Education Concerts**, which welcome thousands of students to the Jack Singer Concert Hall across the season. Seniors, students, and other groups can experience a behind-the-scenes **Open Rehearsal** for select concerts to discover the time and dedication it takes to prepare for a performance.

As always, subscribers can choose from different ticket packages, including Classics, Pops, and Symphony Sundays For Kids, or they can Compose Your Own collection of concerts. In addition to offering concert series packages and deals, the Calgary Phil is proud to continue to offer discounts for groups, frontline workers and veterans, \$15 tickets for Cpossibilities members, youth and senior tickets, and Flex Passes for the ultimate in last-minute flexibility. It's never been easier to access your Calgary Phil.

Subscription packages are on sale now and single tickets go on sale June 11, 2024. Visit calgaryphil.com for details.

Highlights from the 2024/2025 Season

Rune Leads + and the Phil's Own

The Orchestra and Rune Bergmann will take audiences on a journey through orchestral sound, featuring exhilarating pieces such as Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus. Additionally, Rune will conduct the orchestra in Tchaikovsky in *Love*, featuring violinist Bomsori Kim. Diana Cohen will shine in *Symphonie Fantastique* performing Prokofiev's *Violin Concerto*. Additionally, Calgary Phil's Artistic Advisor and cellist/composer Cris Derksen, will take the stage in *Controlled Burn*, marking the Calgary premiere of her piece. Rune will conclude the season with Mahler's *Resurrection* Symphony.

Remarkable Special Guests + Epic Classics

The season has an impressive lineup of guest artists. Pianist Jonathan Biss will mesmerize audiences with his rendition of Beethoven's majestic *Emperor Concerto*. Karen Gomyo will enchant listeners with her interpretation of Bernstein's *Serenade*, while Jeffrey Kahane plays/conducts Ravel's mesmerizing *Piano Concerto*. Prepare to be moved by Honens Laureate Nicholas Namoradze's passionate performance of Rachmaninoff's famed *Second Piano Concerto*. Additionally, acclaimed artists such as violinist James Ehnes, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, pianist Jeneba Kanneh-Mason, and conductor Naomi Woo, will grace the Jack Singer Concert Hall stage. Grammy Award-winning conductor JoAnn Falletta will lead a concert of French masterpieces, including Poulenc's *Organ Concerto*. New works from Canadian composers Katie Agócs, Anna Clyne, and Kelly Marie-Murphy are featured in the season.

Home for the Holidays with Your Phil

Audiences can celebrate the holiday season with a variety of enchanting performances, including the beloved Disney in Concert: The Muppets Christmas Carol, the uplifting A Choral Christmas, the heartwarming Chantal Kreviazuk: A Holiday Special, and popular Traditional Christmas, led once again by Resident Conductor Juliane Gallant. Holiday festivities conclude with the grand finale, Salute to Vienna, a perennial favourite that has been sold-out for over 20 years.

Beloved Films, Pops, and Family Favourites

There's something for everyone at the Phil this season with a diverse range of captivating performances such as Steve Hackman's Tchaikovsky X Drake, A Tribute to Pink Floyd, Sci-Fi Spectacular: Interstellar, Star Wars + Beyond, Pop Bangers: Harry Styles, Billie Eilish + More, Bond + Beyond to Simply the Best: The Music of Tina Turner, The Music of Abba with Rajaton, and a Night on Broadway with Ashley Brown. Children will enjoy the popular Symphony Sundays for Kids concerts including Babar the Elephant, The Hockey Sweater, The Unicorn's Birthday, and Paint Brush for Piccolo. Films with live orchestra include Disney Pixar's Coco in Concert, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix in Concert, Star Wars: Empire Strikes Back, and How to Train Your Dragon in Concert.

Exciting Partnerships

Music is all about collaboration and the Calgary Phil continues its longstanding partnership with One Yellow Rabbit for two concerts this season: Mozart's Birthday Party and Unplugged: Nirvana Reimagined will both be

part of the High-Performance Rodeo. The Phil also collaborates with Jones & Jones Group and Art Commons Presents for an all-new Bob Marley orchestral show, celebrating what would have been the legendary musician's 80th birthday, as well as Carnegie Hall Weill Music Institute for education concert Link Up: The Orchestra Sings. Plus, Calgary Phil's partnership with Tapestry Opera's Women in Musical Leadership program continues with the purpose of developing the next generation of women and non-binary conductors and music directors in Canada.

This season is made possible through the support of core funders, including the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra Foundation, Canada Council for the Arts, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, and Calgary Arts Development.

For more information on the 2024/2025 Season and a complete list of concerts, visit calgaryphil.com.

Media interviews and high-resolution images are available on request.

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About the Calgary Philharmonic

The Calgary Philharmonic has been a pillar of Calgary's vibrant arts scene since 1955 and in that time has grown to be one of Canada's most celebrated live music ensembles. Led by Music Director Rune Bergmann, the Orchestra presents a wide range of concerts, inspiring education programs, and reaches audiences worldwide through free and accessible digital programming. In addition to 66 full-time orchestra musicians, the Calgary Phil is one of two major symphony orchestras in Canada that has its own chorus of over 120 volunteer singers. In a typical season, the Calgary Phil welcomes over 100,000 visitors, connecting audiences to live music experiences, and serves the city of Calgary by fostering creativity and belonging. Your Phil. Your Music.