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## EDMONTON OPERA WILL REOPEN ON JAN. 30, 2021

For the first time in the company's history, Edmonton Opera has made the decision to delay its 57<sup>th</sup> season to ensure the safety of its artists and audiences.

"Despite the challenges of the past several months, we're committed to pulling out all the stops to bring opera-lovers three beautiful productions that showcase the very best voices that Canada has to offer," says Tim Yakimec, the company's General Director. "International travel may be on hold, but audiences can join us at the Jubilee to escape to sun-drenched southern Italy, romantic Paris or the drama of the Tower of London. We look forward to connecting with our audiences again and sharing the spark that only live theatre and music can provide."

The season will open on Jan. 30 with a new production of Mozart's charming romantic comedy, *Così fan tutte*, with ESO Assistant Conductor Cosette Justo Valdés leading the orchestra in her company debut. In March, Puccini's timeless love story *La Bohème* whisks audiences off to Paris with a production starring acclaimed soprano Miriam Khalil, who earned rave reviews for her interpretation of Mimì across Canada. The season closes with a Western Canadian premiere — Donizetti's rarely heard, Tudor-inspired tragedy *Anne Boleyn (Anna Bolena)* with celebrated soprano Tracy Cantin returning to portray one of history's most controversial queens.

"The safety of our audiences, artists, staff and volunteers is our priority," says Yakimec. Edmonton Opera is committed to following Alberta Health Service guidelines to develop necessary safety protocols. In the coming months, Edmonton Opera promises to keep the community up-to-date with any developments prior to opening night.

### **In the meantime...**

In addition to presenting operas at the Jubilee Auditorium, the company is committed to developing new videos for its popular Edmonton Opera at Home online content hub. Every week, audiences are treated to online videos featuring Kitchen Concerts with chorus members, Happy Hour with stars from the upcoming season, and interactive Do-It-Yourself Opera activities designed especially for elementary students and their parents learning from home. For more information please visit: [edmontonopera.com/operaathome](http://edmontonopera.com/operaathome).

"As a non-profit organization, Edmonton Opera has always counted on the support of our community", says Yakimec. "We thank all of our funders, sponsors, donors and audience members that have pledged their support to see us through these uncharted waters." To purchase a season ticket package or make a donation to support the future of live opera in Edmonton, visit us online at [edmontonopera.com](http://edmontonopera.com) or call 780.429.1000.

### **Media Availability**

Edmonton Opera's General Director, Tim Yakimec is available for interviews this week by phone or Zoom meeting.

For inquiries or to schedule an interview, please contact Cameron MacRae, Director of Marketing and Communications, at 780.984.3634 or [cameron.macrae@edmontonopera.com](mailto:cameron.macrae@edmontonopera.com)

# 57<sup>th</sup> SEASON

**PUCCINI**

## *La Bohème*

JANUARY 30, FEBRUARY 2 & 5, 2021

LOVE IS **EVERYTHING**

Follow the lives of struggling young artists as they search for connection and meaning in 19<sup>th</sup> century Paris. Seamlessly blending comedy and tragedy, Puccini's masterpiece continues to inspire audiences with some of the most beautiful music ever written.

Featuring lavish period costumes and scenery, this production will have you falling in love with the City of Lights again for the first time.

CONDUCTOR: **PETER DALA**  
DIRECTOR: **ALAIN GAUTHIER**



**ANDREW  
HAJI**  
RODOLPHO



**MIRIAM  
KHALIL**  
MIMI

**MOZART**

## *Così fan tutte*

THE SCHOOL FOR LOVERS

MARCH 13, 16 & 19, 2021

LOVE IS A **GAME**

Next winter, try your luck with Mozart's witty comedy *Così fan tutte*! Two sisters are put to the test when their fiancés play an elaborate prank to prove their faithfulness. Simultaneously hilarious and heartfelt, this romantic comedy will leave you guessing until the very end... will true love win? Let the games begin!

Don't miss this all-new production showcasing the incredible vocal talent of Canadian artists.

CONDUCTOR: **COSETTE JUSTO VALDÉS**  
DIRECTOR: **FRANÇOIS RACINE**



**JENNIFER  
TAVERNER**  
FIORDILIGI



**STEPHANIE  
TRITCHEW**  
DORABELLA



**CLARENCE  
FRAZER**  
GUGLIELMO



**ASITHA  
TENNEKON**  
FERRANDO

—WESTERN CANADIAN PREMIERE—

**DONIZETTI**

## *Anne Boleyn*

ANNA BOLENA

JUNE 25 & 27 (matinée), 2021

LOVE IS **POWER**

Experience the tragic fall of one of history's most powerful women — told through the thrilling vocal pyrotechnics of bel canto! Having yet to produce an heir to the throne, Queen Anne Boleyn is running out of time. Her ruthless husband, King Henry VIII, has grown impatient and his attention is wandering to Anne's lady-in-waiting, Jane Seymour. This Tudor tragedy has it all — scheming royals, scandalous accusations, and love triangles — culminating in a devastating finale in the Tower of London.

CONDUCTOR: **PETER DALA**  
DIRECTOR: **MICHAEL CAVANAGH**



**TRACY  
CANTIN**  
ANNE BOLEYN



**JOHN  
TESSIER**  
LORD PERCY



**CATHERINE  
DANIEL**  
JANE SEYMOUR