



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

FRIDAYS @ 12:30 SERIES

Friday, October 19, 2018
12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall
Adrienne Pieczonka, *soprano*
Steven Philcox, *piano*

Cinq Mélodies Populaires Grecques

Le Réveil de la Mariée
Là-bas, vers l'église
Quel galant m'est comparable
Chanson des cueilleuses de lentisques
Tou gai!

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

Wesendonck Lieder

Der Engel
Stehe still!
Im Treibhaus
Schmerzen
Träume

Richard Wagner
(1813-1883)

Four Shakespeare Songs, Op. 31

Desdemona's Song
Under the Greenwood tree
Blow, blow thou winter wind
When birds do sing

Erich Wolfgang Korngold
(1897-1957)

Welcome to Homecoming and Music Building Grand Opening Weekend!

The celebrations continue all weekend with the following performance events. Join us!

Friday: Adrienne Pieczonka's Q&A and Masterclass at 2:30 p.m. (von Kuster Hall), and this evening's Wind Ensemble concert featuring the Symphonic Band as special guests at 8 p.m. (Paul Davenport Theatre)

Saturday: Brenda Rolfe Masterclass featuring Adrienne Pieczonka at 12 noon (von Kuster Hall), Alumni Choir Concert conducted by alumni Bob Anderson and Carol Beynon at 2:30 p.m. (Paul Davenport Theatre), and the official Grand Opening of our new Music Building at 4 p.m. (von Kuster Hall)

Sunday: Faculty Concert Series "Riddles and Waltzes" at 3 p.m. (von Kuster Hall)

For complete details visit music.uwo.ca/alumni/homecoming.html

THE ARTISTS

Internationally celebrated for her interpretations of Wagner, Strauss, Verdi and Puccini, Canadian soprano **Adrienne Pieczonka** has brought to life such powerful women as Senta, Chrysothemis, Sieglinde, the Marschallin, the Kaiserin, Tosca, Elisabetta, and Amelia on leading opera and concert stages in Europe, North America and Asia.

Adrienne's performances have taken her to New York's Metropolitan Opera, the Vienna Staatsoper, ROH Covent Garden, Paris, Berlin, Madrid, Munich, Frankfurt, Los Angeles and La Scala, as well as at some of Europe's finest summer festivals including Salzburg, Bayreuth, Glyndebourne and Aix-en-Provence under the direction of such conductors as James Levine, Riccardo Muti, Zubin Mehta, Sir Neville Marriner, Claudio Abbado, the late Richard Bradshaw, Lorin Maazel, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Anthony Pappano and the late Sir Georg Solti.

"Adrienne Pieczonka is a revelation, with a lavishly creamy voice capable of expressing all the emotions that Elektra forbids herself." — *Financial Times*

In 2016-2017, Adrienne reprised her highly acclaimed role of Chrysothemis in the late Patrice Chereau's production of Strauss's *Elektra* at the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona and the Staatsoper in Berlin. She also appeared as Leonora in Beethoven's *Fidelio* at the Metropolitan Opera in New York, as Amelia in *Verdi's Un Ballo in Maschera* with the Deutsche Oper in Berlin and the Staatsoper in Munich, and in the title role of Verdi's *Tosca* at the Vienna Staatsoper and the Canadian Opera Company in Toronto. In concert and recital Adrienne was heard in Strauss's *Four Last Songs* with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and in Schubert's great song cycle *Die Winterreise* with pianist Rachel Andrist at Toronto's Mazzeloni Hall. Adrienne's 2015-2016 season featured performances as Mme. Lidoine in *Dialogues des Carmélites* with the Nederlandse Oper in Amsterdam, Chrysothemis in Strauss's *Elektra* at the Metropolitan Opera in New York and at the Deutsche Oper in Berlin, where she also reprised another of her acclaimed roles, Tosca.

Adrienne began her career at the Canadian Opera Company in *Lady MacBeth of Mzensk* in 1988, returning to that company in 1994 to sing the role of Mimi in *La Bohème*. In 1989 she joined the Vienna Volksoper and established her home and career in Europe. In 1991 she became a member of the Vienna Staatsoper where she continues to enjoy great success. After living in London for some time, Adrienne returned to live in Toronto in 2005, where she continues to make her home.

Adrienne is an Officer of the Order of Canada, the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and was named a Kammersängerin by the Austrian government. In May 2013, she was named an Honourary Fellow of The Royal Conservatory of Music and in 2014 she received the Paul de Hueck and Norman Walford Career Achievement Award. Adrienne holds Honorary Doctorates from her alma mater, the University of Western Ontario, and McMaster University.

Pianist, **Steven Philcox**, is Associate Professor at the University of Toronto where he leads the Collaborative Piano Program. One of Canada's finest collaborators, he is a frequent partner of Canada's vocal elite and continues to perform in leading concert halls across North America. From 1999-2010, Mr. Philcox was répétiteur, assistant conductor, and orchestral continuo player with the Canadian Opera Company where he had the privilege of working on more than 35 productions. Increasingly recognized for his teaching, Mr. Philcox has given masterclasses throughout Canada and is regularly invited to mentor young artists at many of Canada's prestigious summer programs: Opera on the Avalon, Toronto Sumer Music, and Vancouver International Song Institute (VISI). He has also held teaching positions at the Banff Center's Twentieth Century Opera and Song Festival, the Chautauqua Summer Institute, the Center for Operatic Studies in Italy (COSI), and the Highlands Opera Studio in Haliburton, Ontario. Mr. Philcox' most recent endeavor is the Canadian Art Song Project (CASP) which he co-directs with tenor, Lawrence Wilford. CASP's mission is to foster the development of new song through an annual commission and its performance as well as providing opportunities for Canadian artists to program and advocate the wealth of riches in the existing song literature. A graduate of the University of British Columbia, Mr. Philcox pursued his love of vocal literature for two summers at the Music Academy of the West, Santa Barbara, California. Subsequently, he went on to receive his Master of Music Degree in Vocal Accompanying from the Manhattan School of Music.