

**The *Amabile* Boys & Men's Choirs of London, Canada  
and Special Guest Artists**

*present*

*In Remembrance:*

**SERVICE, SACRIFICE AND A SOLDIER BEAR NAMED  
WINNIE**



**Running Time: 1:01:32**

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October 15, 2020



**Amabile Choirs of London, Canada**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of City Council, let me welcome you to this exciting artistic season as we celebrate the 36th Anniversary of Amabile Choirs of London, Canada. Today is a celebration of their hard work and commitment to create a wonderful experience for audiences and the communities in which they perform.

Arts and culture are the foundation of liveable communities, and they play a dynamic role in the quality of life we enjoy in our neighbourhoods. I commend you for providing an enriched and diverse musical experience, especially in the face of challenging circumstances imposed on us by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Let me express my gratitude to Amabile Choirs of London for offering children, youth and adults an opportunity to develop their musical talents. It provides these talented singers a chance to pursue the choral arts as singers, conductors, accompanists, composers, and educators -- nationally and internationally.

To the staff and Board of Directors -- you are positive and inspiring role models for young people wanting to share their talents and their passion for music. Thank you for your dedication in promoting a friendly and harmonious environment. It makes a significant contribution to the wellbeing of our city.

Best wishes for a memorable and successful show.

Kind regards,

Ed Holder  
Mayor, City of London

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For the past 15 years, St Peter's Cathedral Basilica in downtown London, Ontario  
and the *Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs* have partnered

to present a concert of *Remembrance*  
for the City of London and surrounding community –  
to honour and remember the many military and support personnel  
who have given their lives so that we may live in freedom and peace.  
Each year, about 800 audience members have joined the parish and the choirs in  
remembering our lost loved ones; and each year we present a different story of  
service, bravery and sacrifice in song and story.

For the 120 boys and men who participate in this concert each year,  
it is a treasured time of reflection and gratitude  
– their favourite and most anticipated concert of the season.

With the onset of the pandemic and the necessity to stay isolated, we worried that  
our annual tradition might have to be cancelled; however, with the assistance and  
support of many individuals who were motivated to ensure that we shouldn't  
forget, we are pleased to bring you a new *In Remembrance*  
story from World War I.

And rather than only sharing it with our local community, we are pleased to share  
this truly Canadian story with the world.

We trust that you will find comfort and reflection in this program and we thank  
you for joining us.

**LEST WE FORGET**





# SERVICE, SACRIFICE AND A SOLDIER BEAR NAMED WINNIE

## THE STORY

With a script crafted by Dr. Carol Beynon and Mark Payne, the incredible artistry of HOP Multimedia Studios, and based on research gathered from Canadian military history, this presentation pays tribute in story and song to the courage and sacrifice of the more than 600,000 Canadian soldiers who have died in wars to protect our freedom. This story recounts vignettes of Canada's participation in World War I through the eyes of a father and child.

When the Great War broke out in 1914 only 50 years had passed since Confederation, and Canada as a nation, was in its infancy – a vast country with only 8 million people spread across 10 million km. And yet 7% of the population served the war effort in some form or another. Our Canadian military made a significant difference in the outcome of the War.

Today, we meet Major Harry Colbourne, a veterinarian from Winnipeg, who was conscripted at the age of 27 to care for the army's thousands of horses shipped overseas to war. On his journey to the front, Harry happened upon and adopted an orphan bear cub that he named Winnipeg Bear, or Winnie, for short. Winnie's travels took her from her birthplace near White River, Ontario to the Valcartier Training Camp in Quebec, across the Atlantic Ocean to the training camp on the Salisbury Plain in England and finally to the London Zoological Society. Winnie's escapades provided a wonderful source of morale for her regiment during training.

*Service, Sacrifice and a Soldier Bear Named Winnie* shows how Winnie helped the people, especially the children of London experience some comfort during and after the war, and how she supported the wounded veterans in mind and body who returned home damaged after the war was over.

It is after the war that she meets a little boy named Christopher Robin Milne, who immortalized our favourite bear as Winnie-the-Pooh. A.A. Milne's stories of the *Hundred Acre Wood* reflect deeper meanings than simple children's stories. Milne returned from the war suffering from PTSD and these stories had multiple meanings – providing a sense of safety and security for his young son, some therapeutic value from the horrific experiences of war, and as a subtle anti-war message.



## **MUSIC PROGRAMME**

*(For access to the lyrics, please go to the end of the program)*

### **Aria**

**Flor Peeters**

*Hayden Beynon, trumpet & Gwyn Beynon, piano*

### **Soldier's Cry**

**Trent Worthington (CAN)**

*Amabile Young Men's Ensemble & Primus, Amabile Men's Choir  
Justin Zadorsky, solo*

### **Far Away**

**Tom Cully / Robert Prizeman**

*Amabile Treble Training & Amabile Treble Concert Virtual Choirs*

### **Canadian Railroad Trilogy**

**Gordon Lightfoot/arr. B Barber (CAN)**

*Brian Barber, vocal & guitar*

### **Letters for Home**

### **Movement 2 – The Trench**

**Peter Meechan**

*Encore, the Concert Band    Gwyn Beynon, conductor*

### **World War I Medley**

**arr. Mark Payne (CAN)**

**It's a Long Way to Tipperary**

**J. Judge/H. James**

**Over There**

**G. Cohan**

**Oh! How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning**

**I. Berlin**

*Amabile Young Men's Ensemble & Primus, Amabile Men's Choir*

### **Ave Maris Stella**

**Diane Loomer (CAN)**

*Primus, Amabile Men's Choir*

### **Reconciliation**

**Stephen Chatman (CAN)**

*Primus & Gwyn Beynon, trumpet*

### **In Flanders Fields**

**Alex Tilley (CAN)**

*Amabile Treble Concert Choir*



## **Act of Remembrance**

### **For the Fallen**

**Martin Sammes**

*They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.* *Laurence Binyon*  
*Amabile Young Men's Ensemble & Primus*

### **Last Post**

### **Moment of Silence**

### **Reveille**

### **Commitment**

*They were young, as we are young,  
They served, giving freely of themselves.  
To them, we pledge, amid the winds of time,  
To carry their torch and never forget.  
We will remember them.*

### **Prayer for Peace**

*Father James Mockler*

### **O Canada**

**Calixa Lavallee / arr. Mark Payne**

*Amabile Boys & Men's Virtual Choirs*

### **Pacem**

**Lee Dengler**

*May all in our world live in peace with goodwill all around  
Amabile Young Men's Ensemble & Primus – Virtual Choirs*

**This presentation has been produced on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lunaapeewak, and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1976 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. We respectfully acknowledge the longstanding relationships that Indigenous Nations have to this land, as they are the original caretakers. We acknowledge historical and ongoing injustices that Indigenous Peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) endure in Canada, and we accept responsibility to contribute toward revealing and correcting miseducation as well as renewing respectful relationships with Indigenous communities.**



## THE CAST

Father	Jack Spence
Son	Brent Spence
Singer	<b>Brian Barber</b>
Major Dr Harry Colebourn	<b>David Rogers</b>
Nurse Minnie	<b>Alexis Gordon</b>
Prime Minister Robert Borden & Trapper	George Jolink
Little Lucy	<b>Avery Payne</b>
Germaine	Rufaro Taruvinga
Commitment	Lydia Kendell
Prayer for Peace	<b>Fr Jim Mockler</b>
Colonel Currie	Mark Payne
Private Will Davies	Matthew Pironaggi
The Tippy Soldier	Jeff Holbrough
Sketches	<b>Maddison Bell</b>
ENCORE, the Concert Band	<b>Gwyn Beynon, Conductor</b>
Trumpet	Hayden Beynon

We express our deepest appreciation to those denoted in bold print  
for their generous contributions to this film as our special guest artists.





## ABOUT OUR CAST – Guest Artists

### **Alexis Gordon – Nurse Minnie**

Alexis is an alumna of the Amabile Youth Singers, Medway High School choirs, and an actor living in Stratford and London, Ontario, Canada. Currently, she plays the starring role in Emma Donoghue's *Room* (suspended during COVID19 but nominated for the Carol Bolt Award) and has performed with The Stratford Festival (*Coriolanus*, *Guys & Dolls*, *A Little Night Music*, *Carousel*) and The Shaw Festival (*Brigadoon*). She released her first CD, *Summertime*, in 2018.

### **David Rogers – Major Dr Harry Colebourn**

David is the Co-Artistic Director at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia. A director, writer, and designer, David has performed leading roles across North America including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Les Misérables*, *Tommy*, *Joseph...*, *The Music Man*, *Evita* and *Into the Woods* and has performed his one-man show *Broadway Heroes* to critical acclaim in venues across Canada. David was a featured vocalist in the Canadian premieres of *Kander and Ebb's The World Goes 'Round* and *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, as well as a guest soloist with several renowned symphony orchestras.

### **Brian Barber – Canadian Railroad Trilogy**

Brian is a Toronto-based freelance musician with over 20 years of experience performing in multiple genres of music as a singer, guitarist, pianist and has extensive experience as a music director and theatre performer. He holds a Master's degree in classical piano. He has been involved with several musical productions at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia and Drayton Entertainment as well as an entertainer in the cruise ship industry to Australia.

**Jesse Grandmont** is an exceptional artist who began playing violin at the age of 3. From classic to rock and everything in between, he is a most versatile musician on violin, vocals and acting. He is a regular cast member at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia and has received accolades for his production and performance of *Fiddler on the Loose*.

**Father James Mockler** has spent most of his career in London, Ontario where he currently serves as rector of St. Peter's Cathedral Basilica and is chaplain to the London District Catholic School Board, the London Police Service, the RCMP, and the Ontario Police College.

**Encore the Concert Band**, conducted by **Gwyn Beynon**, was established in 1994. It's 70 musicians represent all walks of life drawn from the London community at large. The programs contain, as often as possible, music composed by Canadian composers including composers and arrangers from the London area.



## **ABOUT OUR CAST – Amabile Boys & Men’s Choirs**

### **Hayden Beynon – Trumpet**

Hayden is a Grade 8 student at Oxbow Public School and joined the Amabile Treble Choirs when he was 6. Hayden is a member of the Ontario Junior Waterski program and is an avid hockey player with the Ilderton Jets. He has started his own company called Hayden’s Lawn Care & Maintenance and studies trumpet with his grandfather, Gwyn Beynon.

### **Jack Spence – Father**

Jack, a member of Primus, began singing with the Amabile Boys Choirs at age 10 and was named *Young Singer of the World* in a global competition at the Eisteddfodd in Llangollen, Wales. A talented singer and actor, he is a graduate of Western University and is an engineer with General Dynamics.

### **Brent Spence – Son**

Following in his family’s footsteps, Brent is 11 years old and has sung in the Amabile Treble Choirs for the past 3 years. He is a student in Grade 6 at Lester B Pearson School for the Arts in the Thames Valley School District.

### **George Jolink – Trapper and Prime Minister Robert Borden**

George a lifelong singer, joined the Amabile Choirs after retiring from a career in education as a teacher and Vice Principal. His other interests include theatre performance and artistic direction. George has performed at the McManus Studio Theatre and the Grand Theatre. Recently he received a Brickenden Award for his performance as Hector in “The History Boys” for Calithumpian Theatre. He is also actively involved at First St Andrews United Church in the choir and on the church Council.

### **Avery Payne – Little Lucy**

Avery is in Grade 7 at Orchard Park Public School. She is an avid rock climber, violinist, environmentalist, dancer, and master LEGO builder. Avery is so excited to be a part of In Remembrance.

### **Rufaro Taruvinga – Germaine**

Rufaro is 11 years old and in Grade 6 at St Mary’s Choir School and has been a member of Amabile for 3 years. He plays violin and piano and he loves video games and Formula 1 racing. He loves to sing. His favourite colours are purple and blue.

### **Matthew Pironaggi – Pte Will Davies**

Matthew has been a member of the Amabile Treble Concert Choir and Young Men’s Ensemble since Grade 8. Now, a Grade 12 Vocal Extension student at Catholic Central High School, Matthew is a member of several CCH choirs and has also performed in the High School Project.

### **Jeff Holbrough – The ‘Tippy’ Soldier**

Jeff, a member of Primus Amabile for 8 years, is currently principal of Westfield in the TVDSB. Last year, Jeff played the leading role, Sweeney Todd, in Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street at the McManus Theatre.



## ARTISTIC STAFF: AMABILE BOYS & MEN'S CHOIRS



Dr Carol Beynon is the founding co-artistic director of the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs of London, Canada and Professor emerita at the University of Western Ontario. At Western, she served as Associate Vice Provost of the School of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies, Dean of the Faculty of Education (Acting), and professor in choral music education. With the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs, she has conducted invited and reviewed performances and recordings for the International Choral Federation's World Symposium VI, the American Choral Directors' Association (Los Angeles), Choral Canada, and the International Society for Music Education with broadcasts on CBC, BBC, Minnesota Public Radio, Bravo TV and Czech National TV. The Men's Choirs are most recent winners of national choral competitions sponsored by Choral Canada. Carol's research focuses on intergenerational learning through singing, the impact of singing on people with Alzheimer's Disease, and gender issues in music education; she is the first author of the book *Learning to Teach* published by Pearson Canada (2001) and co-editor of *Critical Perspectives in Canadian Music Education* (2012). She has received several awards for outstanding teaching from the University Student Council and in 2007 was named the Woman of Excellence in Arts, Culture and Heritage in London, Ontario and community. In 2010, Carol was inducted into the "Wall of Fame" at the Don Wright Faculty of Music at the University of Western Ontario.



With a career spanning more than 25 years, Mark is at home performing in every musical genre. He has performed with orchestras and opera companies across Canada as conductor, pianist, singer, repetiteur, and chorus master. Currently, Mark is the resident Music Director for the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia, co-conductor of Primus: the Amabile Men's Choir, director and keyboards with True North Music, and CEO of HOP Studios. As a performer, his critically acclaimed one-man shows, "Simply Grand" and "I Love A Piano" have played consistently to sold out audiences. The depth of his abilities as a tenor soloist and musician – (piano, keyboards, accordion, harmonica, guitar, trumpet) enhances the depth of his abilities as a music director, arranger, conductor, opera vocal coach, and adjudicator. His uncanny ability to effortlessly adapt to different genres of music and styles, ranging from Broadway to classical to country to rock to jazz standards has afforded him the myriad of opportunities he has enjoyed throughout his career. Mark has performed great piano works, including Rachmaninoff's 2nd piano concerto, Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, and Beethoven's 1st Piano Concerto with several professional orchestras. In addition, he has worked with major north American opera houses (San Francisco Opera, Pacific Opera Victoria, Calgary, City Opera) as vocal coach, conductor and repetiteur. He has recorded multiple CDs, including "Simply Grand" and his most recent work, "Reflections". <https://markcpayne.com/home>





**LYDIA KENDALL**

Lydia holds a B.Mus. and B.Ed. in Music Education from Western and is department head of Music at Medway High School. She is co-conductor of the Amabile Treble Training Choir and a vibrant member of London's choral community.



**DON SILLS**

Don holds music education degrees from Western University and currently is teacher and conductor of the award-winning vocal and choral music program at Catholic Central High School in London, Ontario. Don has been a proud member of the Amabile family for 24 years.



**JOHN VERMUE**

John is a graduate of Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music, and Griffith University's Education program. He has taught music in multiple secondary schools and has a private voice studio. He currently teaches vocal and instrumental music at Saint André Bessette Secondary School. John is a proud founding member of Amabile.



**JEFF BEYNON**

Jeff is a founding member of Amabile and holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Western. Jeff is Principal of AB Lucas Secondary School and previously taught at Medway High School where he continued the traditions of choral excellence established by notable musicians, Alex Clark and Ken Fleet.



**ROSEMARY BANNERMAN**

Rosemary holds a Music Performance degree in pipe organ from Western and recently retired from teaching music with the TVDSB. Rosemary received the Thames Valley Award of Distinction in recognition of her work as an outstanding teacher.







TRISTIN HILL

Tristin holds a degree in business from Western University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant. As a member of the Amabile Choirs for 14 years and accompanist of the training choir for the past 9, Tristin recognizes the importance of a chorister's first few years within the organization and is grateful for the opportunity to work with Amabile's youngest and most energetic musicians.



DENISE JUNG

Denise holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in music from Western University. She has a diploma in Chamber Performance from Wilfrid Laurier University and a B.Ed. from the University of Toronto. She is currently the music director at Calvary United Church and an occasional teacher with the Thames Valley District School Board.

### *Amabile* Boys & Men's Choirs: Singers

#### Treble Training Choir

Odie Bartlett	Stefan Cojocar	Devin Ebert	Lachlan Howard
Mason Larocque	Dylan Li	David Matusa	Max Mahabir

#### Treble Concert Choir

Hayden Beynon	Daniel Butler	Evan Conn	Sam Cronin
Evan Englert	Pierce Howard	Ian Kwon	Nolan McKee
Bryn Martinec	Adam Lynch-Woolgar	Ewan McNaught	Kashi Nair
Paxton Nair	Maximilian Pollanen	Andrew Richardson	Jacob Sills
Matteo Sills	Brent Spence	Rufaro Taruvinga	Benjamin Vanderveen
Javier Yáñez	Yifei Zhang		

#### Amabile Young Men's Ensemble

Sebastian Altamirano	Shaw Atherton	Cristian Bayona	Matthew Bermudez
Aslan Caron Horvath	Xavier Corneil	Liam Cronin	Olivier Hewitt
Ryan Krause	Matthew Landis	Ben Langille	Luke Lee Young
Laohnorian Madani	William Massey	Andrei Matusa	Erik Moeller
Matthew Pironaggi	James Quigley	Isaiah Sills	Thomas Smithson
Jacob Sullivan	Quinn Tufts	Christopher Vandenberg	
Max Webb Comor	Benjamin Yáñez	Nicholas Yáñez	Thomas Zadorsky



## **Primus**

Eaton Asher	Wade Baillie	Matthew Bermudez	Mark Bernat
Sheldon Bumstead	Kyle Canton	John Cookson	Christian D'Andrea
Blair Fantillo	Larry Farquharson	Adam Forristal	Kyle Graham
Adam Guthrie	Mike Hammond	Colin Hiemstra	Rob Hiemstra
Bruce Hewitt	Guillaume Hewitt	Jeff Holbrough	Andrew House
Aaron Humphrey	Michael Inman	Robert Inman	George Jolink
Ryan Krause	Aaron Lee	Luke Lee Young	Patrick Martin
Evans (Evo) Mbinji	Daniel Newton	Cameron Patterson	Owen Poel
S David Rosner	David Spence	Jack Spence	Jacob Sullivan
Mishaal Surti	Gabe Traczuk	Patrick Tyrrell	John Vermue
Andrew Wojcik	Thomas Samson-Williams		

## **About the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs**

The Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs, founded in 1990, draw singers from across southwestern Ontario and provide musical experiences of the highest level for male singers in the region. The focus is on character development and mentorship through singing and artistic excellence. There are 4 choirs in the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs, ranging from the Training Choir through to the adult men's choir. Trebles whose voices change have immediate access to the tenor-bass youth choir and opportunities to continue their vocal and musical education. The choirs are champions of music by Canadian composers and commission new pieces annually.

The focus of the **Amabile Treble Training Choir (TTC)** under the direction of **John Vermue and Lydia Kendell** is on learning to sing and play together as an ensemble as the boys gain experience singing and performing, while learning proper vocal technique, posture, breathing, tone production, how to read music, and basic music theory. They also study recorders with **Rosemary Bannerman** to support music literacy development. The TTC performs as part of our regular concert series and is often invited to perform for benefit concerts in the area.

Experienced singers with unchanged voices, ranging from 10 to 15 years old, are invited to become members of the **Amabile Treble Concert Choir (TCC)**. Mentored by the Amabile Young Men's Ensemble, and conducted by Amabile alumni, **Jeff Beynon and Don Sills**, the program consists of rehearsals and performances of the traditional boychoir repertoire and Grade 1 Theory & Rudiments. As well as singing on world stages, they have been guest performers with the Toronto International Film Festival, Orchestra London, the Windsor Symphony, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony. The choir has performed for such notable persons as Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Prime Minister of Canada, and has toured extensively over the years to Europe, Caribbean, and across Canada.



The **Amabile Young Men's Ensemble (AYME)** is made up of young men with changing voices up to the age of 19 under the direction of **Jeff Beynon, Don Sills, Carol Beynon and Mark Payne**. The AYME focuses on healthy vocal development during the changing voice period, and the young men are given an introduction to challenging male voice repertoire. The choir performs with, and is mentored by, Primus on a regular basis. Performing locally, nationally and internationally, they have been featured several times on CBC, Radio L'espace, French public television, and Czech Public Radio and were winners of the National Choral Canada Competition for Youth Choirs – Equal Voice Male in 2004, 2008, 2015 and 2017. Senior members of the AYME also sing with the senior members of AYS in the Amabile Chamber Choir.

**Primus: Amabile Men's Choir (Primus)**, conducted by **Carol Beynon and Mark Payne**, is known for its deeply sonorous and rich sound that rewards listeners with a strong identity without sacrificing the sound of one uniform voice. Formed in the fall of 2000, Primus involves students and professionals in all walks of life who enjoy the pursuit of the choral art and the camaraderie that develops so naturally in male ensembles. The members act as active mentors to the high school choristers and boys in the treble choirs of the Amabile organization. The men also provide leadership development workshops on a regular basis for music educators, university music education classes, and students in schools, promoting the healthy benefits of being a male singer. In its short history, the choir has achieved an international reputation that places it in a leading position in the world of male choral singing. Primus was thrilled to be invited to perform for choral conductors at two of the world's largest conferences, the Sixth World Choral Symposium in Minneapolis (2002) and the national convention of the American Choral Directors Association in Los Angeles (2005). The men have also been honoured to act as choir-in-residence for the 1<sup>st</sup> World Festival of Singing for Men and Boys in Prague during 2004 and were again invited to co-host the event in the 2008 season. This role provided Primus with the opportunity to showcase a strong Canadian presence on the world stage. The choir has won the National Competition for Canadian Amateur Choirs, Equal Voice Male Category. Locally, Primus has performed with the renowned Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Autorickshaw, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and Orchestra London, and has been invited to perform at several national meetings of Choral Canada. The choir was also featured in the CBC Radio 1 documentary *Where Have All the Tenors Gone?*



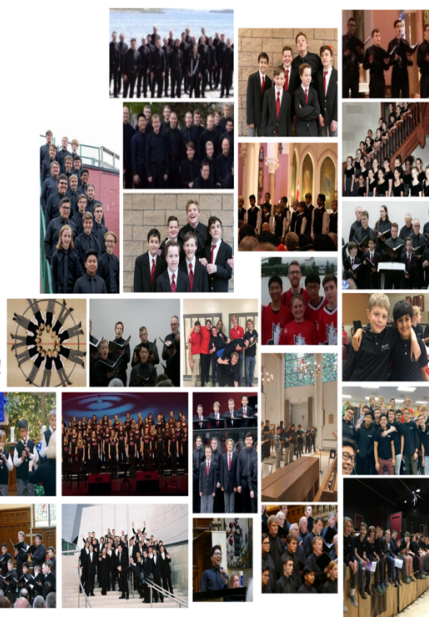
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to learn more.





## A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THE FOLLOWING

**We extend our sincere appreciation to the following volunteers who so graciously support the endeavours of the Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs and specifically this production. Please give a round of applause to:**

**Jean Miso** who has authored five books about our Canadian Armed Forces and graciously gave us permission to use many of her photos in this presentation and **Larry Farquharson** for support with images.

**Pat Morrison Multimedia** who generously loaned us the use of much media equipment to record portions of this program.

**Maddison Beauregard** who sketched the delightful pictures of Winnie the Pooh and friends. She grew up along the shores of Lake Huron where her interest for visual art, performance arts, and the odd sandcastle contest rose with the mesmerizing currents of the waves. A graduate of Wayne State University, she has since put her degree to work at the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia (VPP). Since the pandemic, Maddison wrote and illustrated a children's book entitled *Victoria's Playhouse*, which follows the story of a young girl discovering the magic of the theatre. The book is planned for release to children of all ages to enjoy this winter.

### *Amabile Boys & Men's Choirs Executive Committee*

George Jolink (Chair)	Dana Conn	Diane Canton	Ana Luisa Trejos
Erin Yáñez	Joanne Richardson	Bridget Corneil	Claudia Bayona
Colin Hiemstra			

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Mary Margaret Farrow  
Tristin Hill

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Genevieve Samuels	Allan Zhang	Brandon Dickson	

### Choir Representatives:

Amanda Palmer	Gerhard DeRubeis	George Jolink	Dana Conn
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### Administrative Staff:

Wade Baillie	Samantha Long
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**We extend sincere appreciation to the following for their support of our organization. Another round of applause for:**





thank you

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to all of our donors and sponsors  
for their support.

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Email [maddisonbellart@gmail.com](mailto:maddisonbellart@gmail.com)  
for information on the book release.

"If you find yourself wondering about the wonders on our stage, well wander on my friend, it's time to flip the page!"





# A MESSAGE TO OUR THEATRE LOVERS



## From the Victoria Playhouse Petrolia

We want to reach out and let you know that you have been on our minds and in our hearts during this year of uncertainty.

With so many aspects of life on hold right now, many of us are looking forward to experiencing the thrill of live theatre together once again.

While our 2020 Season has been postponed until 2021, rest assured we have many surprises in store to stay connected with our beloved patrons.

Be sure to visit [thevpp.ca](http://thevpp.ca) and follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/VictoriaPlayhousePetrolia](https://facebook.com/VictoriaPlayhousePetrolia) to see our latest online content.

Stay well, healthy and inspired.

*-Co-Artistic Directors David Hogan, David Rogers and all the staff and artists at the VPP*



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## **Our Mission**

*Enriching our community, one voice at a time*

## **Vision**

- To foster health and well-being through choral music education and training, and the development of commitment, discipline and pride in individual and group achievement for children, youth, adults, and seniors.
- To strive for excellence and present performances at the highest artistic level of artistic.
- To embrace and celebrate our diverse cultural heritage through song of Canada's many people, including our Indigenous, Francophone, persons with disabilities, new Canadians, and our LGBTQ2+ communities.



## **Program Notes & Song Lyrics for In Remembrance**

### **Soldier's Cry**

**Trent Worthington (CAN)**

Talk of trouble is sent through the country and we need an army to fight for the right  
Young men enlist and are sent to the battle to fight the offender and help our allies  
And the young men cry, "Oh Canada, we'll gladly go and fight for thee."  
And the young men cry, "Oh Canada, we'll fight to keep you free."  
The battle's raging, gun fire is blazing, a tired young soldier is clinging to life  
He's ordered on and obeys by advancing no hope of returning from the enemy fire  
And the soldier cries, "Oh Canada, if it must be so, I'll die for thee."  
And the soldier cries, "Oh Canada, I'll die to keep you free."  
Far away we have seen a great danger and yet there's a danger much greater within  
The noise we make as we constantly bicker would hush not a whisper if we listen to hear...  
All the thousands cry, "Oh Canada, is that why we have died for thee?"  
And the soldiers cry, "Oh Canada, we died to keep you free."  
And we all miss Oh Canada, the land where we all used to be  
And we all are longing for Canada, the true north, strong and free  
And the soldier cries, "Oh Canada, be true and strong for me".

### **Far Away**

**Tom Cully / Robert Prizeman**

Wherever I go, far away and anywhere.  
Time after time, you always shine through dark of night, calling after me  
And wherever I climb, far away and anywhere  
You raise me high, beyond the sky through stormy night, lifting me above  
Whenever I cry, far away and anywhere  
You hear me call when shadows fall. your light of hope, showing me the way.  
And wherever I climb, far away and anywhere  
You raise me high, beyond the sky through stormy night, lifting me above.  
Far away beyond the sky





## Canadian Railroad Trilogy

Gordon Lightfoot/arr. B Barber (CAN)

There was a time in this fair land when the railroad did not run  
When the wild majestic mountains stood alone against the sun  
Long before the white man and long before the wheel  
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real

But time has no beginnings and hist'ry has no bounds  
As to this verdant country they came from all around  
They sailed upon her waterways and they walked the forests tall  
Built the mines the mills and the factories for the good of us all

And when the young man's fancy was turnin' to the spring  
The railroad men grew restless for to hear the hammers ring  
Their minds were overflowing with the visions of their day  
And many a fortune lost and won and many a debt to pay

For they looked in the future and what did they see  
They saw an iron road runnin' from sea to the sea  
Bringin' the goods to a young growin' land  
All up through the seaports and into their hands

Look away said they across this mighty land  
From the eastern shore to the western strand  
Bring in the workers and bring up the rails  
We gotta lay down the tracks and tear up the trails  
Open 'er heart let the life blood flow  
Gotta get on our way 'cause we're movin' too slow

Behind the blue Rockies the sun is declinin'  
The stars, they come stealin' at the close of the day  
Across the wide prairie our loved ones lie sleeping  
Beyond the dark oceans in a place far away

We are the navvies who work upon the railway  
Swingin' our hammers in the bright blazin' sun  
Livin' on stew and drinkin' bad whiskey  
Bendin' our old backs 'til the long days are done  
Layin' down track and buildin' the bridges  
Bendin' our old backs 'til the railroad is done

So over the mountains and over the plains  
Into the muskeg and into the rain





Up the St. Lawrence all the way to Gaspé  
Swingin' our hammers and drawin' our pay  
Drivin' 'em in and tyin' 'em down  
Away to the bunkhouse and into the town  
A dollar a day and a place for my head  
A drink to the livin' and a toast to the dead

Oh the song of the future has been sung. All the battles have been won  
O'er the mountain tops we stand. All the world at our command  
We have opened up the soil with our teardrops and our toil

For there was a time in this fair land when the railroad did not run  
When the wild majestic mountains stood alone against the sun  
Long before the white man and long before the wheel  
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real  
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real  
And many are the dead men too silent to be real

**Letters for Home    Movement 2 – The Trench    Peter Meechan**

*Letters for Home is a three-movement work, specifically concerned with the First World War. Each of the work's movements broadly outlines emotions that would form part of any soldiers lives during any war – and as such, performances of this work can easily be adapted to reflect other wars both modern and historical. (excerpt from the composer's website)*

In this show, Encore the Concert Bands, conducted by Gwyn Beynon, plays the second movement, *The Trench*. This music combines bravado in the percussion opening with the whole band coming together as one – as a unit, before again we hear fear and trepidation in the brass, once more failing to reach a resolution. Perhaps the thoughts of the soldier are interrupted as the percussion once more calls the men to arms. The movement ends with several abrupt and loud canon shots in the percussion woven into the magic of video.



## World War I Medley

arr. Mark Payne (CAN)

### It's a Long Way to Tipperary

J. Judge/H. James

It's a long way to Tipperary. It's a long way to go.  
It's a long way to Tipperary to the sweetest girl I know!  
Goodbye Piccadilly. Farewell Leicester Square.  
It's a long long way to Tipperary but my heart's right there.

### Over There

G. Cohan

*Johnnie, get your gun, take it on the run  
Hear them calling, you and me, every son of liberty  
Hurry right away. No delay, go today  
Make your daddy glad to have had such a lad  
Tell your sweetheart not to pine to be proud her boy's in line*

Over there, over there, send the word over there  
That the Yanks are comin'. The drums rum-tumming everywhere  
So prepare, say a prayer, send the word to beware  
We'll be over, we're coming over and we won't come back till it's over, over there.

### Oh! How I Hate to Get Up in the Morning I. Berlin

Oh! how I hate to get up in the morning, Oh! how I'd love to remain in bed;  
For the hardest blow of all, is to hear the bugler call;  
you gotta get up, you gotta get up, you gotta get up this morning!  
  
Someday I'm going to murder the bugler; someday they're going to find him dead;  
I'll amputate his reveille, and step upon it heavily,  
And spend the rest of my life in bed.  
  
A bugler in the army is the luckiest of men,  
He wakes the boys at five and then goes back to bed again;  
He doesn't have to blow again until the afternoon,  
If evr'y thing goes well with me I'll be a bugler soon.

### Ave Maris Stella

Diane Loomer (CAN)

*From the Abbey of St Cecilia in the 9<sup>th</sup> Century – known as the Sailors' Hymn*

Hail, star of the sea. Establish us in peace.  
Loosen the chains of sinners, give light to the blind.



Drive away our ills, obtain for us all good things. Amen.

**Reconciliation**

**Stephen Chatman (CAN)**

Word over all. Beautiful as the sky.  
Beautiful that war and all its deeds of carnage must in time be utterly lost.  
That the hands of the sisters; sisters Death and Night  
Softly wash again, and ever again this soiled world.  
For my enemy is dead. A man divine as myself is dead.  
I look where he lies, white-faced and still in the coffin.  
I draw near and bend down and touch lightly with my lips  
The white face in the coffin.

**In Flanders Fields**

**John McRae/Alex Tilley (CAN)**

*In Flanders Fields*

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields*

*Punch  
Dec 8-1915*

*John McRae*

**For the Fallen**

**Laurence Binyon/Martin Sammes**

*They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

**Pacem**

**Lee Dengler**

May all in our world live in peace with goodwill all around us.

