

SOLO SOUTHERN ONTARIO
LYRIC **OPERA**

**10TH
ANNIVERSARY**

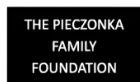
Gala

JOIN US FOR THE BEST OF OPERA!

22 APRIL 7:30PM
BURLINGTON PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE

MARIA VETERE, SOPRANO
ROMULO DELGADO, TENOR
SABATINO VACCA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
AND CONDUCTOR

ADULT CHORUS AND FULL ORCHESTRA



Photos and audio/video recording are not permitted during the concert.

PROGRAM

Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg Overture SOLO Orchestra	R. Wagner
Pace, pace from <i>La Forza del Destino</i> Maria Vetere	G. Verdi
Ô Souverain, ô Juge, ô Père from <i>Le Cid</i> Romulo Delgado	J. Massenet
Ballet Music, Vieni O Guerrier from <i>Aida</i> SOLO Chorus, Orchestra	G. Verdi
La Vergine Degli Angeli from <i>La Forza del Destino</i> Maria Vetere	G. Verdi
Core 'Ngrato Romulo Delgado	S. Cardillo arr. by S. Vacca
Act I Duet from <i>Tosca</i> Maria Vetere, Romulo Delgado	G. Puccini
<i>INTERMISSION</i>	
Vissi d'arte from <i>Tosca</i> Maria Vetere	G. Puccini
La fleur que tu m'avais jetée from <i>Carmen</i> Romulo Delgado	G. Bizet
Dies Irae from <i>Messa da Requiem</i> SOLO Chorus, Orchestra	G. Verdi
Act I Duet from <i>Madama Butterfly</i> Maria Vetere, Romulo Delgado	G. Puccini
Hymn to the Sun from <i>Iris</i> SOLO Chorus, Orchestra	P. Mascagni
Ecco l'orrido campo from <i>Un Ballo in Maschera</i> Maria Vetere	G. Verdi
Vesti la Giubba from <i>Pagliacci</i> Romulo Delgado	R. Leoncavallo
Act III Finale from <i>Turandot</i> Maria Vetere, SOLO Chorus	G. Puccini

MARIA VETERE, Soprano



Dr. Maria Vetere has performed on five continents in the most renowned performance venues, including Carnegie Hall. Reviewers have compared her “singing as combining the tonal beauty of Renata Tebaldi with just a touch of Maria Callas’ cutting edge” (The Philadelphia Local). “They were out in droves to see Maria Vetere as Tosca...the moment she stepped on stage, she inhabited the character physically and vocally in a way that was almost eerie. Her “Vissi D’arte” was a study in superb vocal technique with its sustained pianissimos and emotive phrasing,” (Opera Canada). “Vetere’s use of enchanting pianissimi to caress her abundance of meaning and beautiful vocal technique earned her raving applause,” (Opera Wire). Vetere specializes in the Verdian and Puccinian heroines, such as Tosca, Mimì (La Bohème), Violetta (La Traviata), Suor Angelica, Amelia (Simon Boccanegra), Desdemona (Otello), Leonora (Il Trovatore), and Turandot (Turandot). She has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the privilege of performing at Puccini’s villa, as granted by Puccini’s granddaughter, Simonetta. In 2021, she was inducted into the Niagara Falls Cultural Wall of Fame for her Global contributions in opera and the arts.

ROMULO DELGADO, Tenor



Romulo Delgado is an operatic tenor, composer, world music multi- instrumentalist, vocal coach and adjudicator. He was a region finalist at the Hans Gabor Belvedere International Opera competition in Vienna, Austria and trained in Toronto at the Royal Conservatory Music. His versatility as a performer has enchanted audiences all over North America and Europe. Also in demand as a concert tenor soloist, his concert oratorio repertoire includes Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9, Gounod’s St. Cecilia Mass, Dubois’ the seven last words of Christ, Mendelssohn’s Elijah, Handel’s Samson,

Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Handel's *Messiah*. As a composer, his oratorio: *The Cross of Christ* had its world premiere under the baton of maestro Denis Mastromonaco. It is based on the seven last words of Christ on the Cross and arranged for four soloists and orchestra. As a leading tenor, ultimately, what distinguishes Romulo's singing is that "striking, powerful and ingratiating lyric tenor sound with all the money notes!" (Opera Canada). Whether on the opera stage, or enchanting audiences with his passion for world music passion, "Romulo Delgado's free, vigorous, and lustrous tenor voice makes him one of Canada's most unique performing artists." (The Globe and Mail).

SABATINO VACCA, Founder, Artistic Director, Conductor



Sabatino Vacca is the Founder, Artistic Director, Conductor and Chorus Master of the Southern Ontario Lyric Opera (SOLO). He saw the need for a regional company after the end of Opera Hamilton, and founded SOLO in 2015. Sabatino oversees SOLO's concert budgets, mainstage opera productions, fundraising, and grant writing.

He has also been the Music Director of the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra since 2007. Sabatino has conducted orchestras in the Czech Republic, Symphony Hamilton, the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony, the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra, the Brampton Symphony Orchestra, the Rose Orchestra, the Huronia Symphony Orchestra, and the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Orchestra. He conducted *Cavalleria Rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, and *Tosca* for Opera Bel Canto. Sabatino has a Post-Graduate Diploma in Opera Performance from the University of Toronto and a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Montreal. Sabatino is the recipient of the *Spirit of Ontario* Award for the Arts by the National Congress of Italian Canadians and was recently inducted into the Alumni Gallery at McMaster University, where he completed his undergraduate degree in music.

Orchestra

Flute	Rodney Gray, Máté Szigeti
Piccolo/Flute	Jennifer Bell
Oboe	Islay-May Renwick, Beth Stephens
English Horn	Beth Stephens
Clarinet	Cathy Gallagher, Carmen Gassi
Bassoon	Kira Greenlees, Megan Morris
French Horn	Michael Rosenberger, Michael Hindrichs, Heath Allen, Peter MacDonald
Trumpet	Tim White, Bill Renwick
Trombone	Sharon St. Pierre, Ivan Tarnovetsky, Steven Butterworth
Tuba	David Pearson
Timpani	Ron Scott
Percussion	Jaclyn Cunneyworth
Harp	Siobhan Kerr
Violin I	Stephanie Numan Scholman**, Lucia Barcari, Halyna Dziuryn, Xiaoling Li, Cynthia Konopka, Renata Vidri
Violin II	Carmen Nemeth*, Sue Kitchen, George Cleland, Elizabeth Nasir
Viola	Valentina Tchaikovsky*, John Sanderson, Gordon Vanderwoude
Cello	Gordon Cleland*, Susan Naccache, Caron Allen
Double Bass	Denis Rondeau*, Roger Hollingworth

Chorus

Soprano — Lynne Atkinson, Pamela Blackwood-Marques,
Jessie-Ann Bradshaw, Janet Brown-McIsaac,
Michelle Cimiskey, Adella Donnelly, Kristy Kapturowski,
Lorna Langit-Blennerhassett, Sandra Litt, Amy Unwin Siebel
Mezzo-soprano — Sarah Ellis, Margaret Holmes, Monica Knott,
Carla Onorato, Diane Sandler, Kathy Winter
Tenor — Tony Di Benedetto, John Hicks, Peter Ipema,
Michael Nasato, Gerrit Seppenwoolde
Baritone/Bass — Anthony Bellissimo, Art Grierson,
Sam Hogeterp, Guy Mersereau, Raymond Mileski,
Michael Procher, Eric Vaicius, Martin Zimmer

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in-cite

verb: to stir, to encounter, or urge to action

The INCITE Foundation for the Arts is a non-profit organization formed to provide funding to charitable arts organizations in the Hamilton area. Strong cultural institutions are essential for the economic development and quality of life in any community. Hamilton's major music, art, and theatre institutions as well as dozens of smaller arts organizations need and deserve the support of our citizens. The INCITE Foundation has been funded with generous seed money from private sources. It is hoped that this initiative will incite Hamiltonians to raise the support of their cultural life.

As the soil, however fertile it might be, cannot be productive without cultivation, so the mind without culture can never produce good fruit. Albert Camus



Thank you to Burlington Arts and Culture Grant for supporting our "Opera in a Trunk" interactive educational program for elementary students.

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Thank you for joining us to celebrate Southern Ontario Lyric Opera's 10th Anniversary! We appreciate your support and interest. Special thanks to those who so kindly support SOLO financially.

As you know, opera is an expensive and complex art form. Ticket prices cover only a fraction of the cost of bringing opera to our community. If you would like to extend your support further, we invite you to visit our website and pledge your support by clicking on our 'Donate' link.

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*Let your **heart** sing with **SOLO!***

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