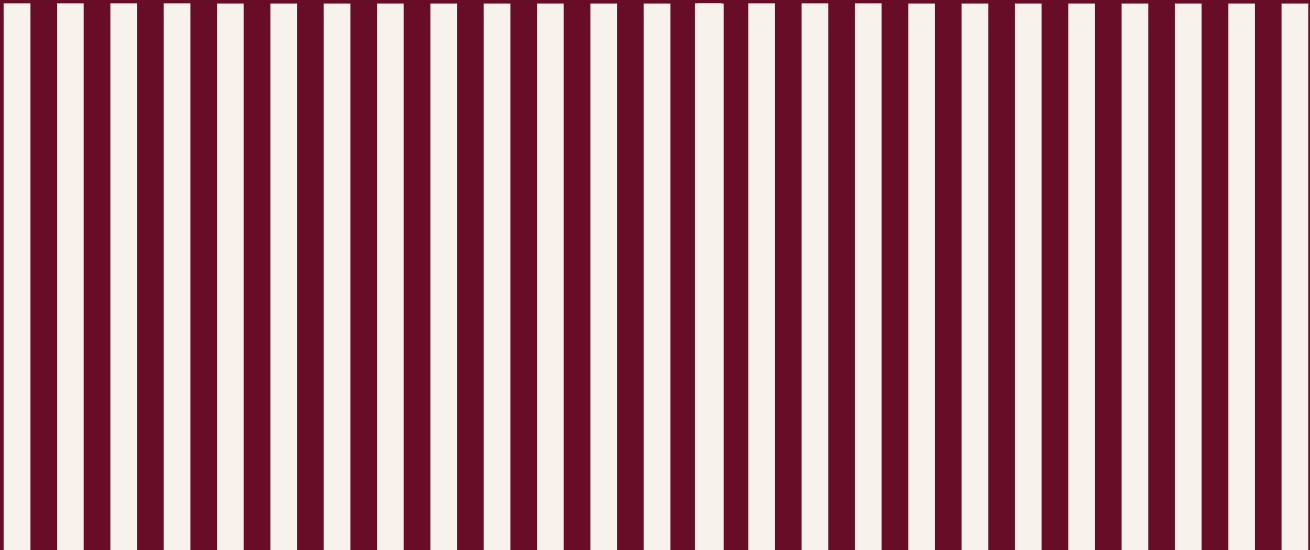


MUSETTA'S WALTZ

GALA EVENING PROGRAMME

MAY 1, 2026 | QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

vancouveropera



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We are deeply grateful to our dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteer leaders who have generously contributed their time on the gala committee to ensure tonight is an unforgettable experience.

GALA CO-CHAIRS

Isabelle Spothelfer
Bruce Munro Wright, OBC

GALA COMMITTEE

Jennifer Choi	Pierre Lebel
Shaun Dolman	Ivor Luk
Emma Irvine	Chloe Sauder
Elaina Kaounas	Susan Van der Flier



RAFFLE

MONTECRISTO

Enter to win a Stunning Diamond Pendant

Tu Sei by Montecristo Jewellers

Value: \$7,750 plus taxes

“Tu Sei” — Italian for “You Are” — is a handcrafted declaration of elegance. This breathtaking 19K white gold pendant is centred around a 0.71 ct round brilliant-cut diamond, graded Excellent in cut, polish, and symmetry by the Gemological Institute of America—the highest possible rating in every category. Surrounded by 22 pavé-set diamonds and suspended from an 18K white gold chain, this is a piece designed to be worn and treasured for a lifetime.

**TICKETS ARE \$100 AND ONLY 200 AVAILABLE
TICKETS ON SALE UNTIL 9PM**

**PURCHASE TICKETS IN PERSON WITH ANY VOLUNTEER
WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE GALA.**

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: MONTECRISTO JEWELLERS



Advance raffle sales are now open. Advance purchases can be made at secure.vancouveropera.ca/gala/montecristo-tu-sei-raffle

AUCTION LOT 1

VALUE: \$5,000

OPERA LOVER'S WEEKEND IN VICTORIA FOR 2

Enjoy the ultimate insider opera experience courtesy of our friends at Pacific Opera Victoria! Your trip begins with a breathtaking roundtrip flight for two aboard Helijet. Soar over the stunning West Coast en route to British Columbia's charming capital. Upon arrival, settle into the refined comfort at the Chateau Victoria where you will enjoy beautiful harbour views during your two night stay. Before you head to the Royal Theatre, the team from Pacific Opera Victoria will treat you to dinner at Chateau Victoria's rooftop restaurant, Vista 18. During the dinner you will gain insights into both the show you're about to see as well as the inner workings of the opera world.

At the Royal Theatre, you will enjoy exceptional seats to your choice of opera: Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* or Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. Your premium seats will give you access to a pre-show drink and lobby chat offering rare behind-the-scenes insight into the production.

Before returning home, complete your cultural escape with a curated tour of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria with chief curator Steven McNeil followed by an elegant afternoon tea at the legendary Fairmont Empress—a timeless Victoria tradition.

**WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA, CHATEAU VICTORIA,
ART GALLERY OF GREATER VICTORIA, FAIRMONT EMPRESS AND HELIJET.**

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

IL TROVATORE | VERDI, October 16-24, 2026

HANSEL AND GRETEL | HUMPERDINCK, February 19-27, 2027

THE MAGIC FLUTE | MOZART, April 2-10, 2027

HELIJET: Travel must be redeemed & completed by May 30, 2027



AUCTION LOT 2

VALUE: \$3,600

JAMIE EVRARD

November Persimmons—Pale Grey, 2013

Oil on acrylic gesso

22 X 30 in

Donated by the Artist

Courtesy of Bau-Xi Gallery, Vancouver

Jamie Evrard creates lush floral, landscape and still-life paintings using oil paint, monotype and watercolours. She has been exploring floral subject matter for over forty years. Her masterful landscapes utilize decisive, economical strokes and rich colour to achieve depth, vitality and immersiveness. Evrard says of her work: "What most intrigues me as subject matter for my paintings are the most ordinary things: still life objects that I see around the house day after day but that resonate for me in their familiarity and rather unremarkable landscapes in which I can find a particular quiet, understated beauty and mystery. I paint to see what it is I am looking at. Making art is a way of taking possession, a way of finding out how things really are, or perhaps of making them as I would like them to be." Evrard's work is included in collections of the Canada Council Art Bank, Vancouver Art Gallery, Seattle Arts Commission Public Works Collection, Government of BC, Ministry of Culture Art Collection, Burnaby Art Gallery, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Simon Fraser University, Maltwood Art Museum and Gallery, University of Victoria, and The Claridge Collection, Montreal. Jamie Evrard received a B.A. in Art and Anthropology from Brown University and an M.A. and M.F.A. in studio art with a concentration in printmaking from the University of Iowa. She lives and works out of Vancouver, British Columbia.

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: JAMIE EVRARD



AUCTION LOT 3

VALUE: \$4,000

WHISKY TASTING FOR 8

A special evening with great company and exceptional whisky.

Bill and Jana Maclagan invite you and seven guests into their home for a private whisky tasting and dinner—a memorable evening in the company of two of Vancouver’s most beloved philanthropists.

Bill and Jana will welcome you into their home for an unforgettable evening. Bill will walk your group through a carefully assembled selection from his personal collection, spanning cult classics, international favourites, and a few insider finds that tend to surprise even seasoned enthusiasts. Expect the legendary Ardbeg Uigeadail, the exceptionally rare Caperdonich 1967, and the Maclagan 19—a very special pour that speaks for itself. Regardless of whether you are a seasoned whisky lover, or new to the world of whisky, there will be something for everyone and a chance to learn more about the art of whisky making.

Your group will then enjoy a five course sit-down dinner prepared by Jana. Each course will be paired with a whisky or wine pairing, depending on your preference.

Slàinte
(Cheers in Gaelic)

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: BILL & JANA MACLAGAN

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

For 8 guests
Dinner details confirmed with hosts in advance



AUCTION LOT 4

VALUE: PRICELESS

EXCLUSIVE BACKSTAGE OPERA EXPERIENCE & DINNER FOR 4

Step behind the scenes of a live opera performance—an experience so rare it has only been offered a handful of times in Vancouver Opera’s 66-season history, and never before at a gala.

For the first time ever, we are offering one exclusive package for 4 guests to our 2026–2027 season: an unforgettable backstage experience at a performance of *The Barber of Seville* or *La Traviata*. Two of your four guests will spend the first half of the performance where few are ever invited—side stage, steps away from the action. Meanwhile, the other two guests will take their premium seats in the house, taking in the full spectacle from the audience.

At intermission, the two groups will switch—so all four guests experience both sides of the curtain. Those who begin backstage will settle into their premium seats for the second act, while the other pair step into the wings to experience the live performance up close.

Following the performance, Vancouver Opera’s General Director, Tom Wright, will personally escort all four guests on a private tour of the theatre and to meet the performers.

Your unforgettable night will be complete with a chef’s tasting menu for 4 at Blue Water Café. Enjoy a multi-course menu crafted by 2019 Leadership Award Winner, Executive Chef Frank Pabst, using the freshest wild fish with emphasis on environmentally sound and sustainable harvest. Blue Water Cafe is housed in a handsome brick and beam heritage warehouse conversion in the heart of historic Yaletown.

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: BLUE WATER CAFÉ

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE—QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

Available Dates include: Feb 18, 20, 21. Please note this experience is not available on opening night (Sat Feb 13, 2027)

LA TRAVIATA—QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

Available Dates include: Apr 29, May 1, 2. Please note this experience is not available on opening night (Fri Apr 24, 2027)

Blue Water Cafe: Valid Sunday through Thursday, excluding the month of December. Exclusive of other beverages and gratuity. Wine pairings not included

AUCTION LOT 5

VALUE: \$6,480

NORTHERN LIGHTS IN YELLOWKNIFE FOR 2

Witness the aurora borealis dance across the sky above Canada's spectacular North. This 5-day, 4-night adventure for two blends daytime tours with 3 unforgettable evening tours to view the Northern Lights—a true bucket-list experience. Based in downtown Yellowknife, you'll have the freedom to choose your own daytime adventures tailored to the season. Each evening, expert local guides will take you to the best aurora viewing locations, including an intimate cozy cabin experience with hot tea and fish chowder, and a breathtaking Skydome viewing under the open night sky. Return airport transfers and four nights in a comfortable downtown hotel accommodation are included. Choose between the warm fall days with fall colours and water adventures; or long winter nights with unique northern snow experiences.

FALL OPTION (AUGUST — OCTOBER) | WINTER OPTION (NOVEMBER — MARCH)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 4 hotel nights accommodation in downtown Yellowknife
- 1 night of aurora viewing at Cozy Cabin
- 1 night of Skydome aurora watching
- 1 night of aurora hunting by vehicle
- 2 daytime tours
- Transfers between Yellowknife airport and hotel
- Winter Package: Parka, snow pants, boots and gloves

TRIP START DATES

Fall 2026 | August 24, 28 /
September 7, 11, 21, 25 /October 5

Winter 2026/2027 | December 7, 14, 18, 21, 25,
28 / January 4, 8, 18, 22 /
February 1, 5, 8, 15, 19 / March 1, 5, 15, 19

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

Subject to availability at the time of redemption; booking to be finalized by June 30th, 2026.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, other than those mentioned
- Airfare
- Travel insurance

AUCTION LOT 5 CONT.

- **DAY 1**
Arrive in Yellowknife, meet your transfer representative, who will take you to your downtown hotel, and collect your winter clothing package. Optional aurora tour available if your flight arrives before 6pm (additional cost)
- **DAY 2**
Choose from a Yellowknife nature tour (Fall package), ice fishing demonstration (Winter package), Indigenous storytelling tour, or Yellowknife city tour by day; aurora hunting by vehicle with a local Indigenous guide at night
- **DAY 3**
See the landscape by helicopter tour, Great Slave Lake fishing trip, or boat tour by day (Fall Package); cozy cabin aurora experience at night or experience true Northern adventure with a traditional dogsled ride, snowshoeing tour, or drive the famous ice road on Great Slave Lake by day (Winter Package); cozy cabin aurora experience at night
- **DAY 4**
Explore the city independently and take in views from Pilot's Monument or escape the cold indoors in your free time—collect your above-the-60th-parallel certificate at the visitors centre or tour the Buffalo Airways hangar. Alternatively add on a guided experience (additional cost) such as a glassware etching workshop (Fall / Winter) or snowmobiling (Winter); Skydome Northern Lights viewing at night
- **DAY 5** Transfer to Yellowknife airport

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: FRESH TRACKS CANADA



AUCTION LOT 6

VALUE: PRICELESS

MONTREAL & OPERA WITH MAESTRO JACQUES LACOMBE FOR 2

Indulge in a refined cultural escape to one of Canada's most vibrant cities. Your weekend getaway will kick off in style with two nights at one of Montreal's most celebrated five-star hotels, Warwick Le Crystal, where floor-to-ceiling suites overlook the city skyline and Mont-Royal, only steps from world-class dining and the city's vibrant cultural core.

Before your Montreal Opera performance, Maestro Jacques Lacombe will treat you to lunch or dinner at one of his favourite restaurants, Toqué! A unique opportunity to be hosted by Jacques and to gain insider knowledge about the production you are about to see. Toqué! has been synonymous with Québec gastronomy for over thirty years with chef-owner Normand Laprise crafting extraordinary seasonal dishes from the finest local producers. A Forbes Travel Guide 4-Star recipient and one of the world's finest dining destinations, an evening at Toqué! is nothing short of unforgettable.

You and your guest will then enjoy a production from Montreal Opera with premium tickets to either Massenet's *Werther* or Puccini's *Turandot*. Your premium seats include a pre-performance cocktail, access to the donor lounge, a post-show drink and a rare opportunity to meet the artists after the show.

Round out your stay with a visit to the Musée des beaux-arts, one of Montreal's most treasured cultural institutions whose collection spans thousands of years of art history—from Old Masters and Impressionist masterworks to decorative arts, fashion, and Indigenous heritage.

WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: THE OPÉRA DE MONTRÉAL, JACQUES LACOMBE, WARWICK LE CRYSTAL AND MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS.

THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES: Access to the pre-performance opening night cocktail, intermission in the donors' lounge, and a post-show drink with the opportunity to meet the artists. Plus two night accommodation at Sofitel Montreal.

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

MONTREAL OPERA DATES: *Turandot* on Saturday, September 26, 2026 | *Werther* on Saturday, November 21, 2026
Tickets must be booked by September 1, 2026. Dinner with Jacques is dependent on his schedule and if he is working (Werther in November).



AUCTION LOT 7

VALUE: PRICELESS

VANCOUVER ART GALLERY PRIVATE VAULT TOUR FOR 8 & DINNER

Nothing goes better together than fine-dining, fine art, and great friends. Yourself and 7 friends will love this unforgettable night out filled with dinner at Bacchus Restaurant & Lounge combined with an unforgettable art history experience at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

Your evening begins with a behind-the-scenes tour of the Vancouver Art Gallery catacombs and gallery archives. Led by a Vancouver Art Gallery curator, you and your guests will descend into the basement and enter the catacombs where you will learn more about the history and see the old jail cells of the former courthouse building that was on site before the Gallery. You will also see the artist archives where decades of artist-related files and correspondence are kept, not to mention the incredible collection of art, including priceless works from Emily Carr, Jean-Paul Riopelle, Lawren Harris, Cindy Sherman, Beau Dick, Jeff Wall, and Stan Douglas, just to name a few.

Round out your evening with dinner just across the street at Bacchus Restaurant & Lounge, located inside the iconic Wedgewood Hotel & Spa—a distinguished Relais & Châteaux property. This Michelin-Recommended restaurant enchants with its warm Venetian-inspired décor, original artwork, and impeccable service, earning its place as one of Vancouver's most celebrated dining destinations.

WITH THANKS TO: THE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY, ISABELLE & PASCAL SPOTHELFER AND BACCHUS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

VANCOUVER ART GALLERY

- Mutually agreeable date
- Tours are one hour long and run after business hours (approx. 5:30pm)
- Maximum group size is 8

BACCHUS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

- \$800 gift certificate
- Black out dates apply
- Gratuities not included



AUCTION LOT 8

VALUE: PRICELESS

OPERA HOME CONCERT WITH LESLIE DALA, JUDITH FORST & BRUCE MUNRO WRIGHT

Gather your closest friends, clients or colleagues for an extraordinary night of art, opera and hospitality in one of Vancouver's most distinctive private homes. The evening can be customized to whatever style or size group you would like.

Hosted by Maestro Leslie Dala, legendary mezzo Judith Forst, OBC, OC and Bruce Munro Wright, OBC—this is truly a once in a lifetime experience.

Your private concert will take place at “Choklii”, the residence of collector, philanthropist and past Vancouver Opera Board Chair Bruce Munro Wright, OBC, designed by celebrated Canadian architect Arthur Erickson, OC. Bruce's home has been called a “Cathedral of Art” by the Vancouver Sun and is this year's winner of the “Sanctuary Award” from the Lifestyle Foundation. The evening's program features rising stars from Vancouver Opera's Young Artists Program led by Maestro Leslie Dala. An intimate performance that will not soon be forgotten.

To top everything off, Savoury Chef will help you build an evening menu for whatever style and size of event you prefer. Use your gift certificate towards a cocktail reception for a larger group or choose a more intimate sit down dinner experience. Savoury Chef will work with you every step of the way to create the perfect menu.

Enjoy wines from Montecristo's Poggio Torselli collection alongside a celebratory magnum of champagne donated by Bruce Munro Wright himself.

**WITH GENEROUS THANKS TO: BRUCE MUNRO WRIGHT,
SAVOURY CHEF, LESLIE DALA, JUDITH FORST**

THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES

- A magnum of Champagne provided by host Bruce Munro Wright.
- A \$2,500 gift certificate towards your catering with Savoury Chef. Savoury Chef will help create the perfect menu for whatever style and/or size event you like.
- Private Opera performance

RESTRICTIONS & DETAILS

- Mutually agreeable date required for venue availability and Judith Forst attendance.
- Savory Chef gift certificate redeemable for one event. Cannot be split.
- Rentals not included



MERCI

For Absentee Bidding or questions about
the Live Auction packages. Please email
gala@vancouveropera.ca

MUSETTA'S WALTZ

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