

# Edmonton Verdi Festival

*Celebrating the*  
**200th**

*Anniversary of the birth of Giuseppe Verdi*

1813 - 2013



Portrait of Giuseppe Verdi by Giovanni Boldini, 1886.  
National Gallery of Modern Art, Rome.

## Viva Verdi Gala Concert

*Winspear Centre for Music - 11 October 2013*

Brought to you by:

**The National Congress of Italian Canadians, Edmonton District (NCIC)  
and Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES)**







**Message from the  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta**



As Her Majesty, the Queen's representative in Alberta it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the *Viva Verdi Concert* in celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the composer's birth.

Congratulations to the understandably proud members of Edmonton's Italian Community who have dedicated themselves to organizing a world class festival to celebrate the life and music of Verdi which has included both local and international talent. This festival represents a wonderful opportunity for all Albertans to explore the rich musical heritage of Verdi that will continue to be enjoyed for generations to come.

Thank you to everyone involved in making the Verdi Festival a success. Her Honour and I look forward to this evening's concert and the opportunity to meet some of you. Best wishes to all.

Donald S. Ethell, OC, OMM, AOE, MSC, CD, LLD  
Lieutenant Governor of Alberta

**October 11, 2013**



Premier of Alberta

Office of the Premier, 307 Legislature Building, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada



## Message from Honourable Alison M. Redford, QC Premier of Alberta

*On behalf of the Government of Alberta, it is my great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Edmonton Verdi Festival.*

*Like nothing else, music demonstrates the importance of culture in our lives. Giuseppe Verdi gave us some of the most stirring, dramatic, graceful, magisterial and beautiful music ever written. Whatever its mood or tempo, his work remains as astonishingly alive as the day he wrote it.*

*The men and women of Alberta's Italian-Canadian community have always shared their cultural legacy with a degree of pride and generosity that has inspired admiration among Albertans of every cultural background. In celebrating the life of Giuseppe Verdi, the Edmonton Verdi Festival reminds us all that there is no better reason to celebrate than life itself.*

*My thanks to all the sponsors, volunteers, organizers and supporters of the National Congress of Italian-Canadians, Edmonton District, and the Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society for all your hard work in putting together this gala and series of musical events to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of composer Giuseppe Verdi.*

*Enjoy the evening!*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Alison Redford'.

Alison M. Redford, QC

May 24, 2013





*Consolato Generale d'Italia*  
VANCOUVER, CANADA

Vancouver, 4 giugno 2013

National Congress of Italian-Canadians  
c.a. Pres. Carlo Amodio

Associazione CIFES  
c.a. Pres. Antonella Ciancibello



**Oggetto:** Viva Verdi, Edmonton Verdi Festival 2013

Gentili Presidenti,

desidero ringraziarVi per l'impegno che avete profuso, anche tramite le associazioni che rappresentate, nell'organizzazione del Festival dedicato al 200mo anniversario della nascita di Giuseppe Verdi.

La complessità e la ricchezza del programma che avete allestito, peraltro senza far ricorso a finanziamenti pubblici, dimostrano ancora una volta lo spirito imprenditoriale e l'attaccamento alle proprie tradizioni che da sempre caratterizzano le comunità italiane residenti all'estero.

Rivolgo, pertanto, un particolare ringraziamento a tutti Voi ed alla comunità italiana di Edmonton per aver saputo così egregiamente celebrare questa importante ricorrenza per la cultura italiana. Sono altresì lieto di poterVi confermare il sostegno del Consolato Generale di Vancouver e dell'Istituto Italiano di Cultura alle iniziative ricomprese sotto l'Edmonton Verdi Festival. Tale sostegno si concretizzerà anche in un contributo finanziario, la cui entità sarò in grado di precisare nel corso delle prossime settimane.

E' con grande piacere, infine, che Vi confermo la mia partecipazione al Concerto di Gala che si terrà il prossimo 11 ottobre.

Cordiali saluti

  
Fabrizio Inserra  
Console Generale

1100-510 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6B 1L8  
Tel. (604) 684-7288 Fax (604) 685-4263  
e-mail: [consolato.vancouver@esteri.it](mailto:consolato.vancouver@esteri.it)



## **Message from His Worship Mayor Stephen Mandel**



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, Alberta's Capital City, I extend warm greetings to everyone attending the Appuntamenti Musicali Verdiani, Edmonton's Verdi Festival.

In celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Giuseppe Verdi, opera fans will experience a series of concerts showcasing selections of his work. His appeal is timeless, and his music is renewed by every generation. The music of Verdi is sure to capture the imaginations and hearts of audiences of all ages.

Thank you to the National Congress of Italian-Canadians, Edmonton District, (NCIC) and the Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES) for organizing this unique anniversary celebration. Your hard work and dedication helps enhance Edmonton's reputation as a culturally diverse city, with a vibrant arts community.

Enjoy the music!

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephen Mandel'.

Stephen Mandel  
Mayor

## Lynn Mandel

### Chief Honorary Patron, Edmonton Verdi Festival

The city of Edmonton prides itself on its cultural diversity and our Italian community, with its rich and productive historic past, is a major part of this colourful mosaic which makes our city great.

It is absolutely my pleasure to celebrate this rich historic past by recognizing the importance of the birth, 200 years ago, of one of the world's most famous composers, Giuseppe Verdi.

Verdi's music lives on today, as masterpieces that remind us of a difficult time in Italy's past...a time of struggle to gain independence from other ruling empires.

Having studied ballet for a good part of my life, I was exposed to the music of the classics as part of our education and training. Verdi was no stranger and became a favourite of mine and therefore a part of my life.

Our Edmonton Italian community should be an example for us all. While celebrating their heritage and the importance of Verdi, they enrich the lives of others by reaching out to everyone.

I feel that it is a privilege for me to be the honorary Patron for these festivities.

Congratulations to our Edmonton Italian Community.



Lynn Mandel



Photos by E.R. Cavaliere



# Viva Verdi Gala Concert

## Program

Calixa Laviolette	"O Canada"	Edmonton Youth Orchestra and Edmonton Opera Chorus
Goffredo Mameli	"L'Inno d'Italia"	Edmonton Youth Orchestra and Edmonton Opera Chorus
Giuseppe Verdi	"Overture," <i>Nabucco</i>	Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Va pensiero," <i>Nabucco</i>	Edmonton Youth Orchestra and Edmonton Opera Chorus
Giuseppe Verdi	Liszt Paraphrase from <i>Ernani</i>	Emilio De Mercato
Giuseppe Verdi	"La donna è mobile," <i>Rigoletto</i>	Robert Clark and Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Un dì, se ben rammentomi," <i>Rigoletto</i>	Cara Brown, Krista-Marie Lessard, Robert Clark and Bertrand Malo Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Un dì, se ben rammentomi" Liszt piano transcription	Emilio De Mercato
Giuseppe Verdi	"Noi siamo zingarelle, Di Madride noi siam matador!" <i>La Traviata</i>	Italian Appennini Folk Dancers, Edmonton Opera Chorus Edmonton Youth Orchestra

### Intermission – 15 minutes

Giuseppe Verdi	String Quartet in E Minor, 1 <sup>st</sup> Movement (Allegro) 3 <sup>rd</sup> Movement (Scherzo)	The Vaughan Quartet
Giuseppe Verdi	"Finale," <i>Don Carlo</i> Liszt/Emilio De Mercato paraphrase for two pianos	Emilio De Mercato, Stephanie Kwan
Giuseppe Verdi	"Stride la vampa," <i>Il Trovatore</i>	Krista-Marie Lessard Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Prelude," <i>La Traviata</i>	Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Brindisi," <i>La Traviata</i>	Edmonton Opera Chorus Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Addio del passato," <i>La Traviata</i>	Cara Brown Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Credo," <i>Otello</i>	Bertrand Malo Edmonton Youth Orchestra
Giuseppe Verdi	"Grand March," <i>Aida</i>	Edmonton Opera Chorus Edmonton Youth Orchestra



## About the Gala Concert

The Viva Verdi Gala Concert is the musical culmination of the Verdi Festival and features the Edmonton Youth Orchestra, Edmonton Opera Chorus, soloists and instrumentalists. The program focus is "Verdi's Greatest Works" – *I Capolavori Verdiani*. Favourite works from the Verdi repertoire were chosen by Edmonton Youth Orchestra Music Director Michael Massey and Artistic Director Emilio De Mercato with the assistance of former Edmonton Opera Artistic Administrator and Chorus Director Michael Spassov. Feature selections are from the operas *Ernani*, *Nabucco*, *Rigoletto*, *La Traviata*, *Don Carlo*, *Otello* and *Aida*.

Verdi performances make enormous demands on orchestra, soloists and chorus. The Edmonton Verdi Festival is delighted to feature the Edmonton Youth Orchestra Senior Orchestra under the baton of Maestro Massey and the Edmonton Opera Chorus and soloists prepared by Peter Dala. Since Verdi himself was a talented pianist, he would be delighted with the piano transcriptions played by pianists Emilio De Mercato and Stephanie Kwan. Two movements of the unique *Verdi Quartet* will be performed by the Vaughan String Quartet. In addition, the Italian Appennini Folk Dancers will be premiering to the "Matadors and Gypsies" chorus from *La Traviata*. We expect that audience members will leave the concert humming one of their favourite arias, such as the "Va pensiero" chorus of the Hebrew slaves from *Nabucco*, just as they did from Italian opera houses in Verdi's time!

The Edmonton Verdi Festival would like to acknowledge the work of Tim Yakimec, Edmonton Opera Interim Business Manager, who has kindly taken charge of stage direction for the concert and is assisted by Jessica Parr.

### Verdi Verità!

Verdi commenting on a vocal score of Richard Wagner's *Lohengrin*:

"Impression mediocre. Music beautiful, when it is clear and there is thought in it. The action, like the text, moves slowly. Hence boredom. Beautiful instrumental effects. Too many held notes, which makes for heaviness. Mediocre performance. Much verve but no poetry or refinement. In the difficult passages, always wretched."



### Two Symphony Orchestras offering orchestral experience to young musicians

For further information  
or to book an  
audition appointment  
visit: [www.eyso.com](http://www.eyso.com)  
email: [eyo@shaw.ca](mailto:eyo@shaw.ca)  
Tel: 780 436 7932

# EYO

EDMONTON  
YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Music Director: Michael Massey

### Upcoming performances of the Senior & Intermediate Youth Orchestras at The Winspear Centre

**Sunday Nov 24 at 2pm**

**North American Journey**

*Danse Villageoise*, Claude Champagne • *Serenade op. 35*, Howard Hanson  
*Huapango*, Jose Moncayo • *Jubilee Overture*, Malcolm Forsyth  
*Tender Land Suite*, Aaron Copland • *Sensemaya*, Silvestre Revueltas

**Sunday Feb 23 at 2pm**

*King Stephen Overture*, Ludwig van Beethoven  
from "*Songs of a Wayfarer*", Gustav Mahler • "*Blumine*", Gustav Mahler  
*Symphony no. 1 "The Titan"*, Gustav Mahler

**Sunday May 4 at 2pm**

*Featuring the winners of the  
33rd Annual Northern Alberta Concerto Competition*

Tickets: \$15 Adults • \$10 Seniors/Students  
Tix on the Square 780 420 1757 • EYO 780 436 7932 • At the door

**Auditions May 2014**

All instruments for musicians 11–24 years of age

## Viva Verdi Gala Concert Hosts

### Stacey Brotzel

Stacey's sixth grade teacher Ms. Clement wrote these prophetic words on one of her assignments: "Great story, maybe one day you will be a journalist." Now a veteran news anchor and reporter with a keen sense of what Edmontonians want in their morning news, Brotzel has developed her craft working for a variety of local television stations throughout western Canada. A graduate of NAIT, Brotzel has covered the Edmonton news beat since 1997. Her commitment to viewers is evident in her observation: "We'll not only let our viewers know what happened while they were sleeping, but hopefully they'll leave the house with a smile on their face as well." Stacey is Co-Host on CTV Morning Live (5:30 to 9:00 am).



Stacey Brotzel's participation as the co-host of the Viva Verdi Gala Concert is made possible by CTV.

### Orest Soltykevych

Born and raised in Edmonton, Orest fell in love with classical music during his studies at the University of Alberta in music education. He then began his career teaching junior high band, and currently works as an educator. Orest founded the Ukrainian Male Chorus in 1984, and is its current conductor. He has sung with the Richard Eaton Singers and Da Camera Singers, and is currently a member of Kappella Kyrie. His passion is choral music, which he feels is one of man's greatest accomplishments - celebrating the beauty of the human voice in harmony with other singers! Orest is the host of the Saturday and Sunday Breakfast show on CKUA (6 to 9 am).



Orest Soltykevych's participation as the co-host of the Viva Verdi Gala Concert is made possible by CKUA.

## EDMONTON OPERA Salute to 50 *Edmonton Opera Chorus in concert*

McDougall United Church  
Saturday, November 23, 2013 » 7:30PM  
TICKETS: GENERAL \$30 • SUBSCRIBERS \$25  
[edmontonopera.com](http://edmontonopera.com) • 780.429.1000



**EXPERIENCE OPERA'S MOST POWERFUL MUSIC!**



# Viva Verdi Gala Concert Performers

## Michael Massey

Michael Massey was born in England and emigrated to Canada in 1957. His early piano studies with Jean-Pierre Vetter in Edmonton were the prime influence in his development as a musician. Later studies at the University of Alberta earned him a Bachelor of Music degree and the gold medal in piano performance of the Western Board of Music. Following his graduation, he spent two years studying at the Geneva Conservatory where he was unanimously awarded the "Premier Prix de Virtuosit  " and performed as soloist with L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande. Massey's activities as a musician are many and varied. He has performed as a soloist and chamber musician throughout Canada, England and Scotland and has performed on numerous occasions on CBC radio and television. He appears as guest conductor locally and abroad.

Since 1977, he has been Music Director of the Edmonton Youth Orchestra programme. In 1978 he started the Intermediate

Orchestra that continues to provide orchestral experience for younger players before moving to the Senior Orchestra. In 1980 Massey started the Northern Alberta Concerto Competition where such artists as Michael Rose, Amanda Forsyth, Jens Lindemann and Angela Cheng performed their first concertos with the EYO. This competition continues to provide valuable performing experience for young soloists. In 2002, for his contribution to the cultural life of the city, Massey was inducted into the Edmonton Cultural Hall of Fame as an Artist-BUILDER and also received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal.



## The Edmonton Youth Orchestra

The Edmonton Youth Orchestra Association, formed in 1952, supports two nationally renowned symphony orchestras: *The Intermediate Youth Orchestra*, and *The Senior Youth Orchestra*. Through these two orchestras, the EYO's music program, one of the finest in Canada, provides the highest possible standard of orchestral training and experience to over 150 music students from age 11 to 24. The EYO experience has a profound and lasting impact on the lives of EYO graduates.



## Edmonton Senior Youth Orchestra

November 25, 2012



60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Some become music teachers, members of professional orchestras, or soloists. All are motivated students sharing a love of music. Their program includes regular weekly rehearsals from September through May; concert performances for each orchestra; weekend workshops; scholarships; and a concerto competition jointly sponsored by the EYO and the Alberta Registered Music Teachers' Association. Players for both orchestras are selected by competitive auditions held each May.

## The Edmonton Opera Chorus



Now entering its 50th anniversary season, the Edmonton Opera chorus is made up of approximately 60 talented Edmonton singers with a variety of training backgrounds and experience, including community singers, aspiring professionals and vocal students. The EO chorus' 2013/14 season will feature appearances in Edmonton Opera's productions of *Die Fledermaus* and *Madama Butterfly*. A central and thrilling component of the operatic art form, the Edmonton Opera chorus performs alongside the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, as well as world-class singers, conductors and directors. To celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> season of performances, they have developed the "50 Days of Music" musical outreach and community engagement initiative and will be performing in a range of venues.

### Tim Yakimec, Edmonton Opera Interim Business Manager/Director of Production

Tim Yakimec's long association with Edmonton Opera began in the early 1980s when he took part in three productions as a chorus member for the 1983 season. Even before that, he spent a summer with a team of university students developing curriculum materials for the Opera in Schools program. After his Education degree was completed, he spent a few years teaching in rural Alberta but soon found himself back in Edmonton being involved in theatre while teaching part time and substitute teaching. Yakimec was Administrator and a driving force behind the Leave it to Jane Theatre for over 20 years. He began stage managing for Edmonton Opera in 1996 and helped oversee 35 productions on the Jubilee stage before becoming Director of Production in 2008. He recently



stepped in as Interim Business Manager for the company, and looks forward to an exciting season with Edmonton Opera and is delighted that the company is able to collaborate on celebrating the wonderful music of Verdi!

### Peter Dala, Edmonton Opera, Chorus Director

Born in Toronto, Peter Dala studied piano and conducting at England's Royal College of Music. While in London, he worked at the Royal Ballet School as a pianist. This led, in 1984, to his engagement as conductor and pianist of the Basel Ballet in Switzerland. In 1987, Dala worked at the Zurich Opera conducting his first opera and, in 1988, joined the Hungarian State Opera where he conducted opera and ballet performances. In 1994, Dala joined Edmonton Opera as Chorus Director/Repetiteur. He made his Canadian conducting debut with Edmonton Opera in Gounod's *Romeo and Juliette* (1997) becoming resident conductor in 2002, a post he held until 2012. In 2001, he was invited to conduct Alberta Ballet's *Nutcracker* tour, and was appointed Music Director in October 2005. Upcoming performances include Alberta Ballet's *Madame Butterfly* and Edmonton Opera's *Die Fledermaus*.



## Verdi Verità!

Liszt made a number of transcriptions of Verdi's works for piano including: concert paraphrase on *Ernani* (1847); a transcription of the "Salve Maria" from *I Lombardi* (1848); a concert paraphrase of the quartet "Bella figlia dell'amore"



from *Rigoletto* (1859) and the same year a paraphrase of the "Miserere" from *Il Trovatore*; "Coro di festa e marcia funebre" from *Don Carlo* (1867-68); "Danza sacra e duetto finale" from *Aida* (1871-79); "Agnus" from the *Requiem Mass* (1877); and a fantasy "Reminiscences de Boccanegra" from *Simon Boccanegra* (1882).



**Emilio De Mercato, Pianist, Edmonton Verdi Festival Artistic Director**

Emilio De Mercato, Artistic Director of the Edmonton Verdi Festival, studied at the Conservatorio di Musica Giuseppe Verdi in Milan, Italy achieving the diploma in piano and composition. He pursued performance studies at the Accademia di Alto Perfezionamento Musicale in Seveso



(Milan) and the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Bern, Switzerland. Since his debut in 1999, he has performed at the Giuseppe Verdi Concert Hall in Milan. In 2007, he founded the concert series Musica in Cripta in Italy. In 2008, he founded the Art of Sounds International School of Music in Italy and, in 2010, the Art of Sounds Music Association. His compositions are published by Sonitus. He has been instrumental in developing the range of performances in the six-month Edmonton Verdi Festival as well as performing solo piano transcriptions, and four-handed and twin piano works with his wife pianist Stephanie Kwan.

**Stephanie Kwan, Pianist, Edmonton Verdi Festival Artistic Committee**

Stephanie Kwan is active as an organizer, teacher, performer and collaborator. She holds a Master of Music Degree from the University of Ottawa, Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Alberta, and the Associate Royal Conservatory of Toronto Diploma in Piano Performance. She has pursued diploma courses in piano performance and vocal piano accompaniment in both Paris and Italy. For many years, Kwan has organized concert initiatives for several Rotary Clubs across Canada and in Hong Kong. In 2007, she was awarded the Rotary Ottawa-West Plaque for her dedication. In Italy, she has appeared in concerts including the benefit concert, Concerto Comitato Verri. She is a founder with her husband Emilio de Mercato of the Art of Sounds Music Association in Italy. She has performed extensively in various Edmonton Verdi Festival events



**Cara Brown, Soprano**

Cara Brown made her operatic debut singing Despina in a concert version of *Così fan tutte* with the Opera Project. She has continued to perform in recitals and operas across Western Canada, including performing Micaëla in *Carmen* (Vancouver Island Opera), Nedda in *Pagliacci* (Mercury Opera) and Contessa in *Le nozze di Figaro* in Rome, Italy, with Operafestival di Roma. Brown has graced the stage numerous times with Opera NUOVA performing the roles of the Dew Fairy and the Sandman in *Hänsel and Gretel*. She has also appeared as a featured guest performer with Vancouver Island Opera, Red Deer Symphony Orchestra and Calgary Opera Company, where she returned and sang the role of Micaëla in a concert version of *Carmen*. Most recently with Edmonton Opera, she made her role and company debut in *Aida*, as the High Priestess, and thereafter was a feature soloist in the Valentine's Gala.

**Robert Clark, Tenor**

An alumnus of Calgary Opera's Emerging Artists Development Program, Clark made his mainstage debut as Normanno in *Lucia di Lammermoor* with Calgary Opera. Other credits include Al in *The Barber of Seville*, Sam in Kurt Weill's *Street Scene*, the Teapot, the Old Man and the Frog in Ravel's *L'enfant et les sortilèges* and Bénédict in Berlioz's *Béatrice et Bénédict*. Recent engagements include Beppe in *Pagliacci* with Edmonton Opera, Flask and Ahab (cover) in the Canadian premiere of *Moby Dick* with Calgary Opera, Jaquino in *Fidelio* with Edmonton Opera, Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* with Highlands Opera Studio, Macduff in *Macbeth* with Pacific Opera Victoria and Roderigo in *Otello* with Calgary Opera. Clark was also the cover for Charlie in Pacific Opera Victoria's world premiere of *Mary's Wedding*.



# EDMONTON OPERA

# SALOME

SCANDALOUS, SEDUCTIVE  
& **SHOCKING**

RICHARD STRAUSS' PSYCHOLOGICAL  
THRILLER BASED ON THE PLAY BY  
& **OSCAR WILDE**

JUBILEE AUDITORIUM » OCTOBER 26 • 29 • 31

**edmontonopera.com** • 780.429.1000

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
SPECIAL OFFER

Main floor tickets  
from **\$40**





### Krista-Marie Lessard, Mezzo-soprano

Saskatchewan-born mezzo-soprano Krista-Marie Lessard studied at the University of Alberta. She has performed the roles of the Witch in the University of Alberta's production of *Hänsel and Gretel* by Engelbert Humperdinck and Amastre in Handel's *Xerxes*. Lessard is a member of the Edmonton Opera Chorus and has performed in many concerts and recitals in Canada. Her wide variety of repertoire contains opera, art song, lieder, sacred, spirituals and musical theatre. She is currently studying with Denice Bennett at the Alberta College Conservatory of Music MacEwan University.



### Bertrand Malo

A native of Joliette, Quebec, bass baritone Bertrand Malo graduated from McGill University in 2002 with a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance. In 1999, he won the first prize in his category at the National Association of Teacher of Singing competition in Potsdam, New York. He has performed for Opera McGill, Edmonton Opera and Opera Rimouski in Quebec, and with various ensembles and orchestras. He has sung in productions such as *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*, *Christopher Sly*, *Don Giovanni*, *Fidelio* and *Le Nozze di Figaro*. In the concert arena, he appeared as a guest soloist in performances such as *Seven Last Words of Christ* by T. Dubois, Canada/France national anthems at Brive La Gaillarde (France), *Requiem* by G. Fauré and at the Vermont International Opera Festival (VIOF) galas.



### Italian Appennini Dancers

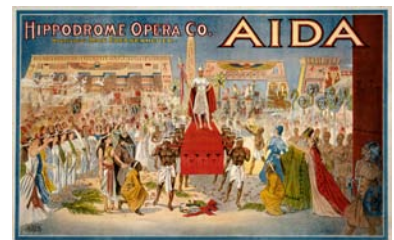
The Italian Appennini Dancers were founded in 1978 by the late Sabatino Roncucci with the purpose of displaying Italian culture through folk dance. Their name comes from the



Appennini mountain range that extends from northern to southern Italy; thus, they represent all regions of Italy. Their folk style is highly distinctive and specialized, and is tailored to dances that represent the different Italian regions. Their performance schedule is varied including the Servus Heritage Festival, Santa Maria Goretti Festival, Sorrentino's Garlic Festival, senior and extended care centres, Edmonton Folk Arts Council events, Family Day and Canada Day celebrations, Festival of Trees, and other community events. The group has also travelled outside Alberta to perform in Toronto and Montreal, in various US cities and numerous cities in Italy. The dancers and their families also volunteer throughout the year with many organizations. In the past, they have fed the poor in cold, rainy weather and have made lunches and donated mitts and coats to the poor in downtown Edmonton. The Italian Appennini dancers have been performing for over 35 years

### Verdi Verità!

Although Verdi did not attend the premiere of *Aida* in Cairo, he was most dissatisfied with the fact that the audience consisted of invited dignitaries, politicians and critics, but no members of the general public. He therefore considered the Italian (and European) premiere, held at La Scala, Milan on 8 February 1872, and a performance in which he was heavily involved at every stage, to be its real premiere.



Poster for a 1908 production in Cleveland.

## The Vaughan Quartet

The Vaughan String Quartet, an Edmonton-based chamber group, was formed by two Brazilians and two Italians. They focus on the performance of pieces that are not well-known. The Quartet's debut concert was on March 24, 2013 at Robertson-Wesley United Church. The ensemble is named for English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, who inspired the musicians with his vibrant string quartets. Recently, they participated in QuartetFestWest having daily coaching with the Lafayette String Quartet, the Penderecki String Quartet, and renowned professor Gerald Stanick. Vaughan String Quartet members conduct a String Quartet Course at the Alberta College Conservatory of Music. Members are Vladimir Rufino (Violin 1), Mattia Berrini (Violin 2), Fabiola Amorim (Viola) and Silvia Buttiglione (Cello).

Vladimir Rufino received his Master of Music degree from Azusa Pacific University (USA), Artist Certificate from Azusa Pacific University (USA), and his Bachelor of Music degree from the Universidade Federal da Paraíba – UFPB (Brazil). He is guest second violin of the Enterprise Quartet, violin instructor at Visionary College, and is pursuing a Doctor of Music in Violin Performance at the University of Alberta. Mattia Berrini received his Diploma in 2010 from Pavia's Conservatory of Music and then pursued courses at the Artemusica Association (Vicenza) and Frassinoro (Modena). He has played for the European Union Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Milano Classica, Orchestra Sinfonica Giovanile del Piemonte and Orchestra Barocca di Cremona. In 2010, he joined the

Philharmonic Ensemble Orchestra of Japan during their Italian tour. Fabiola Amorim received her Master of Music degree from Azusa Pacific University (USA), Artist Certificate from Azusa Pacific University (USA), and Bachelor of Music degree from the Universidade Federal da Paraíba - UFPB (Brazil). As a chamber musician and orchestra member, she has performed in various countries. Amorim is a viola instructor at Alberta College Conservatory and is pursuing a Doctor of Music in Viola Performance at the University of Alberta. Silvia Buttiglione pursued cello studies at Conservatorio di Musica N. Paganini (Genoa) where she obtained a Diploma with Honours in 2000. She then studied at the Scuola di Alto Perfezionamento Musicale of Saluzzo and the Scuola di Musica of Fiesole (Firenze), and joined the Orchestra Giovanile Italiana. In 2004, she played around Europe to promote Genoa as European Capital of Culture. Since 2010, Buttiglione has played chamber music, principally with husband Mattia Berrini. During 2012, they participated in the Festival de Inverno in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



# Sunday Breakfast

with  
**Orest Soltykevych**  
**Sundays, 6 - 9 am**

Spend Sunday morning with Orest Soltykevych as he explores classical music, both sacred and secular, with an emphasis on early works written before 1800. Orest's knowledge and enthusiasm provide a rich context for the music you'll hear.



For a complete list of Alberta frequencies, broadcast schedule, and to listen on-line please visit:

Calgary 93.7 fm  
Edmonton 94.9 fm

www.ckua.com



# Viva Verdi Gala Concert Feature Article

## The Parallel Lives of Verdi and Wagner

By Peter McKenzie-Brown

Born a few months apart in 1813, German composer Richard Wagner (May 22) and Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi (October 9) were the greatest operatic composers of all time. They tower above all others except Mozart, whose output of great operas was unfortunately small.

Musically the two men were leagues apart, yet their lives and times were strangely parallel. They represented two powerful cultures. Italian culture had roots that drew from the traditions of Rome, the Catholic Church and the Renaissance; its cultural identity was well established. In the area of opera, its most popular musical entertainment, the emerging state sought perfection. In time, Verdi provided it.



Giuseppe Verdi by Étienne Carjat, 1876.

By contrast, the high culture of the German-speaking countries had mostly developed during the 18<sup>th</sup> century – first with the Baroque genius of Bach and Handel; later through the classicism of Gluck, Haydn and Mozart. With growing intellectual, diplomatic and economic influence, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the Germanic states sought a unique identity and unwittingly became centres of cultural revolution. Richard Wagner epitomized those developments. In many ways Italy and Germany had parallel national experiences during the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and each composer was closely associated with the political and cultural life of his country. Italy and Germany each achieved national unification only one year apart.

### The Story

From birth, the two men were different in almost every way. For example, Verdi began to show his musical genius as a boy, and received a solid musical education. By contrast, Wagner showed little interest in music until late in adolescence. However, he then advanced at breakneck speed – to a large extent self-taught. Consider even the geopolitical perspective. For much of Europe, the Napoleonic period marked the beginning of the end of aristocratic rule.

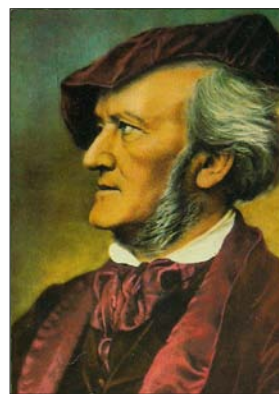
Verdi was born in the Duchy of Parma – now an Italian province, but at the time annexed to France as part of Napoleon's empire. The diminutive emperor came from nearby Corsica and many (perhaps most) Italians were French partisans. Verdi's family certainly fit this mold. Germans were more likely to hate the incursions of Imperial France. Wagner was born in Leipzig just months before Napoleon was handed a decisive defeat just outside that very city. Fought within miles of Wagner's birthplace when the future composer was just a few months old, the "Battle of Nations" led to the emperor's banishment to the small Tuscan island of Elba. The two men also experienced different fates in response to the

trans-European revolutions and rebellions of 1848–9. After those tectonic events, Verdi returned from Paris to Milan a national hero. Wagner was not so lucky. Because of his radical pamphleteering, he had to flee Saxony to Switzerland for 16 years as an outcast.

Although the two composers never met, there was rivalry between them. Wagner despised contemporary opera that diverged from his own ideas – especially if it were commercially successful, as Verdi's operas were. Later in life, he dismissed all Italian opera as "Donizetti and Company." There are no references to Verdi in Wagner's extensive writings or letters. There are two, however, in Cosima's detailed diaries. She wrote: "In the evening Verdi's *Requiem* about which it would certainly be best not to say anything." On the other occasion she recorded an incident in which Wagner mocked a Verdi theme he heard being sung on a canal in Venice. Even though Verdi's *Aida* had been musically influenced by Wagner, the composer went apoplectic when critics commented on his rival's influence. Moreover, in Verdi's later years an avant-garde group of Italian composers influenced by Wagner dismissed his work. Those many insults notwithstanding, Verdi called *Tristan und Isolde* "one of the greatest creations of the human spirit." Of his rival's life, however, he said "The great Wagner left much evil in his wake."

### The Musical Legacies

Just as their lives and personalities were strangely parallel but wildly different, so are their musical legacies. The two men went through three periods of composition which were roughly parallel in time. Each got better with age and experience. Each was a product of the prevailing Romanticism of the age. There the similarities end.



Richard Wagner.

Verdi's genius reflected cultural roots that went back to the Roman Empire and a sense of Catholicism as the true church. Wagner's genius seemed laden with the mythology of the peoples that brought down Rome, the Holy Roman Empire that succeeded them and the Reformation. Verdi refined and virtually perfected the operatic tradition that had developed in Italy and France. He relied heavily on his gift for creating melody as the basis of opera but also took full advantage of the expressive power of the

orchestra. Some of his many orchestral innovations are so closely identified with the composer that to this day other composers will not use them.

Verdi was one of the first composers to insist on patiently seeking out plots to suit his particular talents. Aware that dramatic expression was his strength, he worked closely

with his librettists – primarily Francesco Maria Piave, but later in life Arrigo Boito, who was a fine composer as well as a librettist. His aim was to make certain that the libretto had no unnecessary detail or superfluous participants. In his best operas, only characters brimming with passion and scenes rich in drama remained. Above all, Verdi was a dramatist of human passions. His music was so fittingly made for this purpose that even absurd plots made sense once he had developed their scores – *Il Trovatore*, for example. He was concerned with the human condition and the experiences of human life. His characters were vehicles for humanity – not for idealism or the expression of religious truths. His characterizations were superb, and every drama – melodrama, some critics would complain – was superbly crafted.



"Aida" in Paris - 1880. Giuseppe Verdi directs the Opera Orchestra.

successes with the work of William Shakespeare – *Macbeth*, *Otello*, and *Falstaff*. His dramatizations of dynamic relationships (often love triangles) are brilliant, although they sometimes lead to the suggestion that he was all about melodrama. This is not true. His operas have great depth. Aware that he was a musical descendant of the Renaissance composer Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, Verdi famously proposed that turning to the past is a way to progress. His respect for the past notwithstanding, Verdi pushed the limits of compositional colour in ways that are technically appreciated by specialists, but which audiences instinctively love. Four of his operas – *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Aida* and *Il Trovatore* – are among the 20 most popular in North America.

Set in historical periods, Verdi's stories were often based on historical events. He frequently adapted stage plays, achieving notable

"Verdi was one of the first composers to insist on patiently seeking out plots to suit his particular talents. Aware that dramatic expression was his strength, he worked closely with his librettists – primarily Francesco Maria Piave, but later in life Arrigo Boito, who was a fine composer as well as a librettist. His aim was to make certain that the libretto had no unnecessary detail or superfluous participants. In his best operas, only characters brimming with passion and scenes rich in drama remained."

None of Wagner's operas are on the most-popular list, yet his innovations fundamentally changed the art form. His greatest work drew from

## For the discerning reader

Order online at **AvenueEdmonton.com** or call **780-451-1379**



North European mythology and German philosophy rather than from history and real events. His extraordinary four-part, 17-hour *Der Ring des Nibelung* reflects a vision of the creation and development of the world itself. It virtually takes place outside of time. Part of the intent of this work was to create a foundation of myths for the gathering German culture and nation. His characterizations were idealizations rather than real people.

Wagner developed a compositional style in which the orchestra's role is equal to that of the singers. The orchestra's dramatic role includes its performance of leitmotifs – musical themes that announce specific characters, locales, and elements of the plot. Their complex musical development illuminates the progress of the drama. As an individual, Wagner was as complex as anyone who ever lived. For all his faults, he had stupendous power and inexhaustible vitality. Through his operas, theoretical essays and self-promotion, Wagner exerted a vast influence on the art of the 19th century. Because of its unprecedented exploration of emotional expression, his musical style is often considered the epitome of Romantic music. He introduced new ideas in harmony and musical form, including extreme chromaticism – the use of tonal discord to convey musical ideas. In *Tristan und Isolde*, he explored the limits of the traditional tonal system that gave keys and chords their identity.

#### *Bricks and Mortar*

Toward the end of their lives, each man left a bricks-and-mortar testament. In Wagner's case, it was the Bayreuther Festspielhaus. An opera house north of Bayreuth, Germany, this building is dedicated principally to the performance of Wagner's operas. It is the exclusive venue for the annual Bayreuth Festival, for which it was specifically conceived and built. Despite a prior falling out with Ludwig II of Bavaria, the king again came to Wagner's rescue and provided much of the funding for the project.

Since its opening in 1876, the Bayreuth Festival has become a socio-cultural phenomenon. A monument to his extraordinary vanity and conceit, only Wagner's operas may be performed at the Festspielhaus. Each year the festival is a great success.

Indebted as always, Wagner died of heart disease on February 13, 1883, in Venice. His biographer and a great admirer of his achievements was Ernest Newman. "He ended his stormy course with hardly a single friend," said he. "Followers he had in the last days, parasites he had in plenty, but no friends whose names rang through Europe as the old names had done. One by one he had used them all for his own purposes; one by one he had lost them by his unreasonableness and his egoism."

In that year Verdi was a wealthy man, and some of his greatest work was yet to come: *Otello* (1887) and *Falstaff* (1893). The former was perhaps his greatest tragedy. The latter was a comic masterpiece – only

"None of Wagner's operas are on the most-popular list, yet his innovations fundamentally changed the art form. His greatest work drew from North European mythology and German philosophy rather than from history and real events. His extraordinary four-part, 17-hour *Der Ring des Nibelung* reflects a vision of the creation and development of the world itself."

the second comic opera he composed, the first being the disastrous *Un Giorno di Regno*, which he was writing as his first wife died. In his later years, Verdi was a philanthropist of note. His bricks-and-mortar contribution to music was the Casa di Reposo per Musicisti – the Rest Home for Musicians – in Milan.

On hearing of his death, all of Italy mourned. Although he had a large home and estate near the town of Busseto, where he was born, Verdi and Giuseppina were re-interred on the grounds of the Casa when the home was completed, a month after his death. The occasion of their re-interment was a state ceremony. According to Osborne, "Two hundred thousand people lined the black-draped streets of Milan to say farewell to the greatest and most popular Italian of the nineteenth century."

#### *Editor's Note:*

*The above essay is based on a longer article and is reproduced with the permission of Peter McKenzie-Brown from his blog "Language Matters."*



## supporting and promoting edmonton's arts community

The Edmonton Arts Council is a not-for profit society and charitable organization that supports and promotes the arts community in Edmonton. The EAC provides grants to Edmonton festivals, arts organizations and individual projects, administers public art projects, and initiates projects and partnerships that increase the profile and involvement of the arts in all aspects of community life.

edmonton arts council

Prince of Wales Armouries, 2nd Floor,  
10440 108 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5H 3Z9  
780.424.2787 | [info@edmontonarts.ca](mailto:info@edmontonarts.ca)

[edmontonarts.ca](http://edmontonarts.ca)

## Verdi Student Art Projects

The Edmonton Verdi Festival Committee wanted to get children involved in the celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Verdi's birth to raise awareness of opera and also Italy's contributions to world culture. The Student Art Projects were

designed to do just that. The student artworks from both projects are being showcased at the *Viva Verdi* Gala Concert at the Winspear Centre on October 11 so look for them in the various lobbies.

### Colours of Verdi Student Art Project

Antonella- Ciancibello-Normey created the Colours of Verdi Art Project for her students aged 4 to 13 and held student art design workshops at the Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre on two Saturday afternoons (September 28<sup>th</sup> and

October 5<sup>th</sup>) from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. During these workshops the students worked with professional, landscape artist Marilyn Jeffery to develop their personal pieces inspired by the music of Verdi.

#### THE COLORS OF VERDI PROJECT



From Left to Right: Caterina Koziol, Giulia Koziol, Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, Gina Gallo, Natascia Ciancibello, Ida Bruno, Victor-Manuelle Rivas, Marilyn Jeffery, and Zachary Sholter.

**Ida Bruno** is 9 years old and very proud of her Italian heritage. She is a member of the Italian Appennini Dancers, an altar server at Santa Maria Goretti Parish and a student of the Dante Alighieri School of Italian Language and Culture.



**Giulia Carmela Koziol** loves soccer and has played since the age of three. She is very active in dance and has studied tap, jazz, and ballet, and loves pop music. With her family, she has visited Italy twice.



**Natascia Alessandra Ciancibello** is in sixth grade and has enjoyed many pleasant travel experiences that have taken her with her family to Italy, the United States, across Canada. She has played soccer for many years, enjoys dance classes, gymnastics and arts and crafts.



**Victor-Manuelle Rivas** loves to play with his cousins and video games, spend time at the park, and watch movies with his mother and brother. Victor's favorite color is orange and he absolutely loves pizza.





**Gina Gallo** has many interests such as Italian dancing, Italian School and Recreation Academy. She enjoys drawing pictures and listening to music including that of her idol Taylor Swift. She has a twin brother, Nico, and a younger brother, Mateo.



**Caterina Angela Koziol** is very active in dance and has been seen dancing almost anywhere. This translates into her love of music, which includes having music on her ipod. She also loves Italy and has been there twice.



**Zachary Sholter** is in Grade 2 doing French Immersion. His many interests include dinosaurs, trains, rocks, and minerals, Skylanders, Ninjago and Lego. Zachary enjoys extracurricular activities including hockey, jiu-jitsu, swimming lessons, baseball, skiing, K4J, and piano lessons.



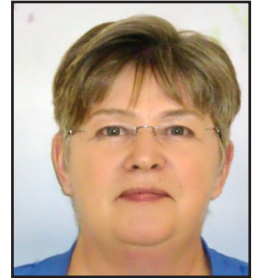
**Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, Co-chair Edmonton Verdi Festival**, has been teaching at the Faculty of Extension since 1990 and has established courses ranging from introductory to advanced language courses, to classes that showcased Italian literature, cinema and cuisine. She has also taught Italian language courses at both MacEwan University and at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology. She also teaches individuals and groups ranging from young children and adults in private classes. A hard-working community volunteer, Ciancibello-Normey is a founder a president of the Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES), which has been showcasing and promoting Italian culture for the past 20 years. This year, as the co-Chair of the Edmonton Verdi Festival, she



has committed to a 6-month calendar of celebratory events that commemorate the genius of the great 19th Century Romantic Composer. The Colours of Verdi Art Project will not only be seen at the Winspear but also from November 1-3 as part of the "20-Regions of Italy" Extravaganza Weekend: Encounters With Verdi.

**Marilynn Jeffery, Artist**

Having a lifelong fascination with art, Marilynn Jeffery took up painting in 2002. Through classes, workshops, and a lot of practice, she has added technique and discipline to her innate creativity. She also learned from reading books and communing with fellow artists. Jeffery paints almost daily getting inspiration from her surroundings as she continues on an evolving journey of exploration and learning. Often she studies the areas around her home as references for her landscapes. Recently she has begun sketching and painting outdoors excited by the natural beauty that surrounds her. Her choice of medium is oils and she loves the way brush strokes work in combination, creating effects that constantly delight and surprise her.



## Verdi Verità!

Verdi on the plight of La Scala in February, 1869:

"Orchestra and chorus divine. What fire and enthusiasm they all had. It's a shame, a shame that the government ruthlessly refuses

help to this art, and to this theatre which still has so many good aspects. You may ask why they cannot get on without government subsidy. It's not possible. La Scala Opera House has never been as well attended and as active as it is this year, but, despite this, if the management cannot achieve fifteen performances of *Forza* with nightly receipts of over 5,000 lire, they are lost. I don't believe it will be possible for them to give so many performances, so they will have to close the theatre with a deficit before the season is over. A shame, a shame!"



## *Le Forme ed i Colori di Verdi:* *The Shapes and Colours of Verdi Student Art Project*

Antonella Cortese, Director of the Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana Italian Pre-School program, undertook a project with her students working with artist Luciana Erregue-Sacchi. They decided on three musical selections from Verdi's opera's *La Forza del Destino* (Overture), *La Traviata* (Libiamo ne' lieti calici) and *Aida* (Triumphal March). The students watched videos of the pieces on You Tube. Each song chosen

varied in tempo so that it would solicit different colours and brush strokes. To begin, the children were able to decide how to divide up their individual canvas using masking tape. At this point, the music portion of the activity began. The project involved the children listening to each piece and thinking about the colour it "spoke" to them.



Adam Owczarek



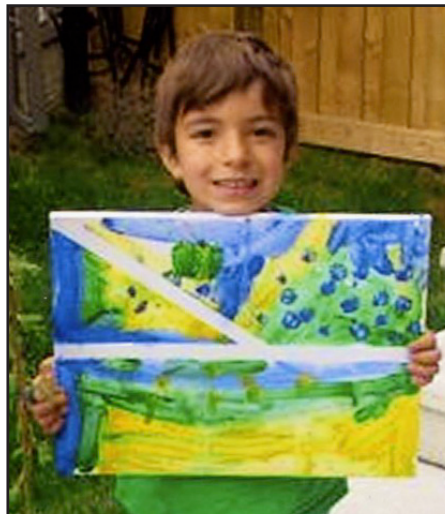
Benjamin Owczarek



Matteo Masia



Brighton Raimondi



Nicholas Bartlett



Emilia McCann





Annaliese Falsetti



Silvio Pino



Adaleine Magnan



Zachary DiBerardino



Maya Magnan

Each student got three colours to use in the painting. From there, the children listened again to the music with their eyes closed and then were asked to hold their brushes and make brush strokes in the air according to the music they heard. On the third hearing of the music, each child painted one section of the canvas for each piece they heard. The children ranged in age from three to five. The following participated: Annaliese Falsetti, Zachary and Marino DiBerardino, Adam and Benjamin Owczarek, Matteo Mannella, Gabriel Dempsey, Adaleine and Maya Magnan, Silvio Pino, Brighton Raimondi, Emila McCann and Matteo Masia. Teacher's Aides who assisted were Maria Bavaro and Enza Talarico.



Marc Ferraro





Gabriel Dempsey



Matteo Mannella

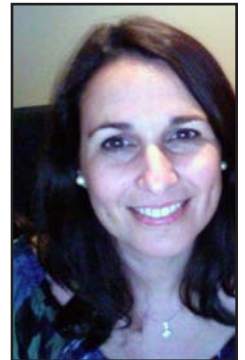


Marino DiBerardino

**Antonella Cortese** is the Director and teaches at the Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana— Italian Preschool, and holds a Doctorate of Education and Policy Studies from San Diego State University/Claremont Graduate University and a Master's Degree in Bilingual/Bicultural Education from Wayne State University. For over 15 years, she has taught Italian at the K-to-University level. Cortese also works with children for whom English is a second language during after-school hours and continues to do research in the area of language acquisition and language development.



**Luciana Erregue-Sacchi** studied law in her native Argentina and has a BA in History of Art, Design and Visual Culture from the University of Alberta and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in the same program. She has taught art to young children and adults as a Gallery Educator at the Art Gallery of Alberta and also as an Artist Educator at a number of local Edmonton schools. She ran the Belgravia School Art Club (2000-2005) and, since 2010, has been involved in the Belgravia Arts Park Project including installation of sculptures and creation of a natural amphitheatre for Belgravia Park.



**Maria Bavaro** is a teacher and has been working with the Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana, Italian Preschool since 2010. She came to Edmonton from Italy in 1977 and has been an active member since her arrival. Bavaro has also taught Italian at the Società Dante Alighieri School for over 15 years and also worked for and with the Santa Maria Goretti Parish.



**Enza Talarico** is a teacher's aide and has been working with the Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana - Italian Preschool since 2012. In 1975, at the age of nine, she moved to Canada from Italy with her family. She has been active in the Italian community for over 20 years, most notably with the Italian Appennini Dancers as a Board member and strong supporter.





## Featured Artist – Tony Van Lent

In early 2013, Antonella Ciacibello-Normey, Co-Chair, Edmonton Verdi Festival, requested the assistance of Chef Tony (Anthony Van Lent) of the Santa Maria Goretti



Community Centre to host some of the Verdi events. He gladly took on the task providing gourmet hors d'oeuvres that, by the way, did not include the proverbial shrimp tree with cocktail sauce, mini quiche and veg tray with dip, but did include

four paintings of Giuseppe Verdi depicted as the renowned composer of the age, landowner, pop culture icon and quintessential rock star of the Italian cultural world his time. All of this together with a grand piano and other cultural memorabilia that turned a blank stage into a visual tribute to Verdi.

"I hope that I have succeeded in portraying Verdi's personality in a way that is more than that of just a great historical, dead composer."

### Verdi Verità!

Verdi in a letter:

"...as far as dramatic effectiveness is concerned, it seems to me that the best material I have yet put to music (I'm not speaking of literary or poetic worth) is *Rigoletto*. It has the most powerful dramatic situations, and it has variety, vitality and pathos. All its dramatic developments result from the frivolous, licentious character of the Duke. Hence *Rigoletto's* fears, Gilda's passion, and so on, which give rise to many dramatic situations, including the scene of the quartet which, as far as effect is concerned, will always be one of the finest our theatres can boast."



Chef Tony was born in southern Alberta and grew up just outside Waterton Lakes National Park in the foothills with great expansive rocks compressed into blue-white mountains and vast uninterrupted skies and prairies. With no formal training in art and only the need to express himself and to question accepted religious norms, political views and preconceived ideas of beauty, he began to paint and create. He chose to become a chef as the next best creative outlet at hand and that involved his senses, style, taste and attitude. A Chef for more than 30 years, he now has the time to spend challenging himself to interpret his vision through brushes, acrylics and canvas. Van Lent acknowledges his indebtedness to Lucas Waldin's interpretation of Verdi's work and the opportunity that Antonella gave him to create and notes, "I hope that I have succeeded in portraying Verdi's personality in a way that is more than that of just a great historical, dead composer." Van Lent's works can be found at the Winspear Centre in the lobbies at various levels.



**SOUTHSIDE**  
5028 104A ST  
(780) 989-4869

**LITTLE ITALY**  
10878 95 ST NW  
(780) 424-4869

**WEST END**  
17010 90TH AVE  
(780) 454-4869

**Party  
Party  
Party  
Trays**

**Italian Centre Shop**  
"The language of love  
is great food."

**Order Online**  
[www.ItalianCentre.ca/party-trays-cakes](http://www.ItalianCentre.ca/party-trays-cakes)

# Dress Verdi's Aida Contest: Verdi Festival Fashion Project

Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, Edmonton Verdi Festival Co-Chair conceptualized a fashion component of the Festival to recognize Edmonton's dynamic fashion community and devised a very special event – the Dress Verdi's Aida Contest. Entry into the competition was by invitation only and was limited to seven designers. The theme focused on the soprano arias from Verdi's renowned opera *Aida* and its central character the Nubian princess of the same name captured by Egyptian Captain Radames. As fate (and the opera plot) would have it, he falls hopelessly in love with Aida and saves her from a life of hard labor. Radames decides to include her as a handmaiden to Amneris, an Egyptian princess and his future bride. The opera is set against a backdrop of loyalty, betrayal and forbidden love and is a prime example of a classic love triangle in which these three people - Aida, Amneris and Radames - are forced to make difficult choices that forever alter the course of their personal history.

All seven local designers were tasked to create an artistic interpretation of the costume that would be worthy of the Verdian heroine Aida. The designers were given free reign and invited to let their imagination run wild! Dress Verdi's Aida Contest costumes will be showcased at the Edmonton Verdi Festival's two most distinguished events: Viva Verdi Gala Concert - Winspear Centre - October and Incontro con Verdi, CIFES: "20-Regions of Italy" Extravaganza Weekend - Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre - on Nov 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup>. The costumes are being displayed in the Winspear foyer on the evening of the Viva Verdi Gala Concert and attendees will be able to cast a secret ballot to select the winners during the intermission. Three prizes will be awarded at the end of the concert: 1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$1,500; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$1,000 and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$500.

Please observe the Dress Verdi's Aida Contest entries carefully and kindly cast your vote on your favorite three in order of preferences on the ballot card that you will receive with your programs as you enter the Winspear.

## Points of Interest:

- ° Grand opera in four acts by Giuseppe Verdi. Plot by Mariette Bey. Written in French prose by Camille du Locle. Translated into Italian verse by Antonio Ghislanzoni.
- ° Produced in Cairo, Egypt, December 24, 1871; La Scala, Milan under the composer's direction, February 8, 1872; Théâtre Italien, Paris, April 22, 1876; Covent Garden, London, June 22, 1876, Academy of Music, New York, November 26, 1873; Grand Opera, Paris, March 22, 1880, Metropolitan Opéra House, with Caruso, 1904.

## The Designers

### Lisa-Marie

Lisa-Marie was born and raised in the Edmonton area and attended the Fashion Design and Apparel Production Program at Marvel College. She has started her own label – Lisa-Marie Couture – which focuses on well-structured, form-fitting dresses, gowns, and jackets. She also designs classic business wear such as high-waisted wool skirts and blouses, as well as formal wear including grad, bridal and cocktail dresses. Lisa-Marie's style is classic and feminine yet fresh with the funky details she adds. She strongly promotes one-of-a-kind designs and uses her abilities to create specific garments to fulfill each client's needs.



### Kelsey McIntyre

After graduating at the top of her class from Marvel College in 2002, Kelsey apprenticed with Kathleen Todoruk. Initially, she focused on wedding dresses but demand grew for every-day outfits and the Serendipity Line was born. It captures a sense of romance and magic in intricately detailed garments. Kelsey has won WCFW Emerging Designer, 2006 and first place in the "Let Your Light Shine" competition in Kingsway Mall, 2009. Her work has appeared on the runway during Ottawa Fashion Week, PARKshow (Calgary), Western Canada Fashion Week (Edmonton), and at Montreal's TransCanada Fashion Show.





### Rebecka Pichoch

Rebecka Pichoch attended Marvel College in the Fashion and Apparel, Make Up and Hair Design programs graduating top in her class. The variety of her apprenticeships gave her the opportunity to master many different techniques. Her Fashion label My Secret features on trend and avant garde looks created for runway shows and photo shoots. She has won awards in the prestigious ABA hair competition in 2011, 2012 and 2013. In 2010, she was employed by Salon on 6th and promptly succeeded with her fashion-forward attitude. She continues to develop her image not only as a fashion designer but also as a hairstylist.



There is no doubt that when you peer into the looking glass at the glamorous wedding and formal designer gowns created by Melany Rowe, you are going to feel that you are a part of a Hollywood red carpet event. She has come into the industry with a bang with designs that are polished, pretty and, above all, glamorous. Intricate, hand-sewn beading, detailed floral techniques and feathers adorn her bridal and evening gowns and accessories. Her inspirations include fashion icons such as Alexander McQueen.

### Kathleen Todoruk

After graduating from the University of Alberta with a BSc degree in Home Economics, Kathleen Todoruk spent 12 years at Sig Plach Couture House doing custom work as well as ready-to-wear. The launch of Todoruk Couture has been the result of a twenty-year passion in design. The new atelier in the Mercer Warehouse is an intimate setting where clients are welcomed to review original sketches and choose among hundreds of imported textiles from around Europe. In October, she launched her Essential Couture Collection Fall 2013, which will be available in the atelier, which she believes is the perfect marriage of ready-to-wear and couture.



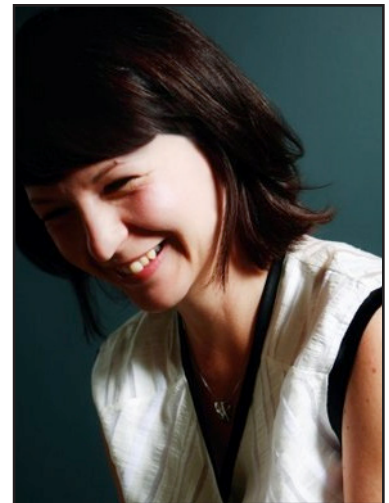
### Uta Pietsch

Uta Pietsch was raised in Alberta and attended the University of Alberta to learn the business, art and practice of design in a BSC program. She began a custom sewing business, Dress U Up Fashions, which later became Infinity Leather. Thirty years later, Uta has sewn every fabric known. Her special strengths lie in custom work for theatre, private individuals, bikers, leather enthusiasts and home decorators. While retired from the sewing life, she still undertakes projects for herself and friends. At present, she is working on starting an online business that focuses on quilt-like blankets made from her stash of interesting fabrics.



### Joanna Wala

Joanna Wala has been designing ever since she can remember. She studied Textiles, Clothing and Culture at the University of Alberta and, then, graduated in Fashion Design and Technology from Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Vancouver. She returned to Edmonton and launched her Sofiss Apparel label at Toronto Fashion week in 2004, a first for an Edmonton-based designer. Known for her extensive use of luxurious Italian fabrics, Joanna's collections impart a feminine spirit and an underlying hint of playfulness. In 2012, Joanna rebranded to create the Joanna Wala line and continuous to give today's woman something to embrace other than a T-shirts and jeans.



### Melany Rowe






## Overview: Edmonton Verdi Festival

The National Congress of Italian-Canadians, Edmonton District (NCIC) and The Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES) have joined together to create a series of events to celebrate the eminent composer's achievements. The Verdi Festival is the largest celebration of Verdi's life and work outside of Italy in 2013, both in length and content, running from June 2 to November 3, 2013. The Festival program is ambitious and the following performances were programmed:

- **Appuntamenti Musicali Verdiani** – these short concerts on four Sundays in June showcased Verdi's work in the context of Italy's strong opera tradition:
  - June 2, Italian Republic Day – Italian Cultural Centre
  - June 9 – Ital-Canadian Seniors Centre
  - June 16 – Giovanni Music, School of Music and Fine Art Gallery
  - June 23 – Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre
- **Verdi Festival Launch** – the formal launch was held Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at City Hall
- **Verdi per Tutti** – “Verdi and Italian Spirit” noon main-stage performance took place at Edmonton's SERVUS Heritage Festival on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup>
- **Verdi and Spoken Word** – The performance mixed Verdi arias with Verdi letters and poetry and took place at 12 noon and 7 pm at City Hall on Wednesday September 18<sup>th</sup>
- **Verdi and La Gioventu** – a performance event aimed at showcasing young talent took place on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, Theatre Hall, Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre
- **Viva Verdi** – a Gala Concert at the Winspear Centre, Friday evening October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm featuring the Edmonton Youth Orchestra, Edmonton Opera Chorus and featured soloists
- **Incontro con Verdi – CIFES “20-Regions of Italy Extravaganza” Mini-Conference** - an educational and celebratory event that will feature two Verdi experts - Renato Caravaglia, Director of the La Scala Museum in Milan, Italy; and Professor Philip Gossett, American Musicologist and Historian from the University of Chicago and La Sapienza in Italy. This takes place from November 1 - 3 at the Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre.



give the gift  
of dance

Mosaic III: Cavebeat  
February 22 & 23

Paquita vs. Carmen  
April 12 & 13

Timms Centre  
for the Arts

**TIX ON THE SQUARE**  
BOX OFFICE & MORE

tixonthesquare.ca  
780.420.1757

**citie  
ballet**

**art that *moves* • citieballet.ca**

## Edmonton Verdi Festival Donors and Sponsors

### AIDA - \$5,000 and up

CTV  
CKUA Radio Network  
Edmonton Arts Council  
Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre  
Santa Maria Goretti Parish  
The Edmonton Journal  
The Dianne & Irving Kipnes Foundation  
Giovanni Music and School of Music

### TROVATORE - \$2,500 - \$4,999

Avenue Magazine  
Dundee Development  
Ital-Canadian Seniors Association  
Italian Centre Shop  
M.A.P. Group of Companies

### FALSTAFF - \$1,000 - \$2,499

Abbey Lane Homes  
Anonymous Donations at Performances  
Councillor Tony Caterina  
Italian Appennini Folk Dancers  
Park Memorial  
Darcy Powlik  
Sorrentino's Restaurant Group  
Stan Russo Professional Corporation

### RIGOLETTO - \$500 - \$999

Carlo and Lina Amodio  
Peter Bruno  
Frank and Robyn Cavaliere  
Paul, Andrew and Sydney Cavaliere  
Adriana Davies  
Arthur and Francesca Lachance  
Robert, Antonella (Ciancibello) & Miranda Normey  
Silvano R. Vecchio Professional Corporation

### Verdi Verità!

The opera *Don Carlo* was first performed in French as *Don Carlos* at the Paris Opera on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 1867. It's said that the Empress Eugénie found it offensive while the critics saw the influences of Meyerbeer and Wagner in it. Verdi wrote in a letter: "I have read in Ricordi's *Gazetta* the account of what the leading French papers say of *Don Carlos*. In short, I am an almost perfect Wagnerian. But if the critics had only paid a little more attention they would have seen that there are the same aims in the trio in *Ernani*, in the sleep-walking scene in *Macbeth*, and in other pieces. But the question is not whether the music of *Don Carlos* belongs to a system, but whether it is good or bad. That question is clear and simple and, above all, legitimate."

### TRAVIATA - \$100 - \$499

Domenico Andreana  
Jack Agrios  
Frank and Angela Cappellano  
Ernest and Rita Cavaliere  
Nicolina Ciancibello  
Dr. Marco Giuseppe Mannarino  
Luigi Zorzetto  
Giovanni Scivoletto  
John and Yvette Stroppa  
Pro Plumbing & Heating Ltd.  
Two Prince Holdings Ltd.  
Fiore and Giuseppina Vecchio  
Michael Vecchio

### OBERTO - \$25 - \$99

Tonia Cappellano  
Ernie and Nancy Cavaliere and Family  
Franca Cavaliere  
Nicola Cavaliere  
Jack Cavaliere  
Raffaella Cavaliere  
Xaviero Cavaliere  
Celestino, Elena and Natascia Ciancibello  
Maria D'Andrea  
Alberta Floreani  
Patricia Mis  
Roy Normey

### Verdi Verità!

Critics of the time disliked *Il Trovatore* because they believed that its score signalled the death of "bel canto." Verdi biographer Charles Osborne writes: "*Il Trovatore*'s muscular energy is compelling, its lyrical romanticism irresistible. Its covert temperamental reference to the turmoil and sadness of the composer's own life at the time of its composition is veiled but unmistakable. Above all, it is for its tuneful spontaneity and its sincerity of purpose that it continues to be one of Verdi's best-loved operas, and to symbolise that quintessential soul of Italy. The conductor Gianandrea Gavazzini has called *Il Trovatore*, 'the Italian St. Matthew Passion'."





## Villa Verdi

Giuseppe Verdi was born near the village of Le Roncole in the Italian province of Piacenza. This is the area that he remained close to for the rest of his life. He grew up in the town of Busseto travelling for musical studies to Milan. In 1848, he purchased land near the village of Sant'Agata in the comune of Villanova sull'Arda (less than two miles from Le Roncole). Verdi immediately began to build the "Villa Sant'Agata" and, in 1850, brought his mistress, the established Italian opera singer Giuseppina Strepponi, to live there with him. This caused an uproar in the very conservative, Catholic neighborhood. Not only did his parents object but also Antonio Barezzi, the father of his deceased wife Margherita and his patron. Verdi insisted that she be respected and no-one ever raised the issue with him again.

Verdi continued to increase his land holdings and ultimately finished the house in 1888. This was truly his base and Verdi, although he prided himself on being a "simple" landowner and farmer, was a wealthy and respected man as well as Italy's greatest living artist. The Villa represented his success and Verdi lived there when he was not travelling on business until his death in 1901.



Archivio Fotografico IBC, Regione Emilia-Romagna

In 1868, the couple assumed responsibility for a seven-year-old girl – Filomena Maria Verdi, the grand-daughter of Verdi's Uncle Marco. Though not formally adopted, she became their heir and after his death lived in the property as do her descendants. Today the "Villa Verdi" is a museum including much Verdi memorabilia including a death mask. Visitors can visit Giuseppina and Verdi's bedrooms as well as his study, and also tour the grounds.

## Ital-Canadian Seniors Association



The ITAL-CANADIAN SENIORS DROP-IN CENTRE, consists of a large hall for festivities, rented offices and an accommodating recreation area. The Centre is open to members and non-members alike from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM Monday through Friday, and 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Saturday and Sunday. In the recreation area, tables for card games are set up and three bocce courts are available for use.

Chef Shannon Ethier specializes in Italian, European and Canadian cuisine and welcomes menu-planning with clients to ensure that their needs are met.

9111 - 110 Avenue NW. Edmonton, Alberta. T5H 4J9  
780-424-1255 780-424-1039



## Acknowledgements

The Edmonton Verdi Festival wishes to thank individuals and organizations who have lent their facilities and/or talents to this musical bicentenary. These include:

- Edmonton Youth Orchestra and Music Director Michael Massey
- Edmonton Opera and Tim Yakimec, Edmonton Opera Interim Business Manager/Director of Production
- Peter Dala, Edmonton Opera, Chorus Director
- Jessica Parr, Edmonton Opera, Assistant Stage Manager
- Alberta College Conservatory of Music MacEwan University and Manager Brenda Philp
- Suzuki Charter School
- citie ballet and Artistic Director François Chevennement
- Giovanni Music, School of Music & Fine Art Gallery and Giovanni Scivoletto, CEO
- Italian Appennini Folk Dancers and Frances Pagnotta
- Italian Folk Choir and Director Rosanna Verdicchio
- SERVUS Heritage Festival
- Italian Cultural Centre
- Ital-Canadian Seniors Centre

- Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre
- Panorama Italiano Television Program and Frank Cappellano
- Tony De Rose and Italianissimo Radio Program
- Francesco Sorgiovanni and Maria Mauro of Ciao Italia - World FM

### The Organizing Organizations

#### *The National Congress of Italian Canadians*

The NCIC is a national organization incorporated in 1974 in Ontario and Quebec that seeks to promote and share Italian culture, language and traditions in the Canadian context. The NCIC Edmonton District was founded in 1979. Over the years, this organization has been instrumental in realizing a number of community projects serving Edmonton and region. These include donation of the waterfall in the Shaw Conference Centre on the occasion of the City of Edmonton's seventy-fifth birthday; the construction of Piazza Italia Seniors Residence; and the donation of a monument to the Province of Alberta on the occasion of its one hundredth anniversary. Other initiatives include



*Now Bringing Art & Music Together in  
one convenient location*



**GIOVANNI MUSIC**  
& SCHOOL OF MUSIC



*Giovanni*  
FINE ART GALLERY

giovannimusic.ca    780.944.9090    10528 Mayfield Road

**G**iovanni Music and School of Music has been helping Edmontonians cultivate their love of music for the last 40 years. Over time, it has become the largest piano dealer in Alberta including Yamaha Acoustic Grand and Upright pianos, and Clavinova and Modus Digital Pianos. Exclusive to Giovanni Music for the last decade is the Yamaha Disklavier Hybrid Piano series. The most recent addition is the prestigious Bosendorfer line of grand pianos.

Rock, blues, jazz and country have always had their roots at Giovanni Music. Having been a Fender Guitar dealer since the early 1970's, Giovanni's continues to have brands in their store that are synonymous with quality: now with over 12 lines of acoustic guitars and 6 lines of electric guitars.

The Giovanni School of Music has grown into a facility with group and private lessons for ages from two years to 102. The school offers the world-famous Yamaha Junior Music Course, as well as private music lessons from beginner to advanced teachings in Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Voice and more.

Since opening their new facility on Mayfield Road in 2010, Giovanni Music has grown to be the largest music centre in the city encompassing 24,000 square feet of musical awesomeness, including its own 190-seat recital hall. Keep track of Giovanni Music on Facebook and sign up for their E-Newsletter simply by going to [www.giovannimusic.ca](http://www.giovannimusic.ca).

supporting the creation of *Il Congresso Newspaper*, supporting a long-term plan to send deserving students of the Italian language to Italy. The Congress programs the Italian pavilion at Edmonton's Heritage Days Festival and also provides financial support to a range of Italian organizations on an annual basis. It also provided financial support to the Heritage Community Foundation to create the Celebrating Alberta's Italian Community website, which is part of the Alberta Online Encyclopedia.

*The Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES)*

CIFES is dedicated to planning and promoting balanced, mutually respectful and dynamic relations between families and members of the Italian-Canadian and greater Edmonton communities through events aimed at offering rare opportunities to truly appreciate and celebrate Italian culture. CIFES constantly strives to create, plan and bring to fruition initiatives that reflect its vision. CIFES delivers events of an inclusive nature promoting both family and community. The cultural events are infused with core values that are shared by members of the executive who strive for excellence and aim to do our



families, community and city proud.

*Festival Executive Committee*

- Carlo Amodio, Co-Chair, Edmonton Verdi Festival, President, National Congress of Italian Canadians, Edmonton District (NCIC)
- Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, Co-Chair, Edmonton Verdi Festival, President, The Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Society (CIFES)
- Adriana A. Davies, CM, PhD, Chair, Program & Communications Committee
- Emilio De Mercato, Artistic Director
- Peter Bruno, Co-Treasurer and John Stroppa, Co-Treasurer
- Lina Filomena-Melchionna, Vice-President, NCIC

*Artistic Committee*

Adriana (Albi) Davies, CM, Ph D, Program and Communications Chair, Edmonton Verdi Festival  
 Emilio DeMercato, Artistic Director, Edmonton Verdi Festival  
 Mattia Berrini, Violinist  
 Stephanie Kwan, Pianist  
 Silvia Buttiglione, Cellist

# Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre



Santa Maria Goretti Centre is nestled in the heart of the Italian community, on the west side of Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium. This hidden gem, a top banquet facility, can make your wedding, banquet, or meeting a fabulous affair.

Santa Maria Goretti Centre has four banquet halls — the Main Hall, Theatre Hall, Centre Hall, and Club Room — as well as the Bridal Room and five meeting rooms.

The Main Hall and the Theatre Hall are the two primary banquet halls. They can be joined to form one large hall or used separately.

Full banqueting services are offered and talented Chef Tony Van Lent can provide a range of menu options from Italian to European and North American cuisine. Sensitive décor makes special events unique and memorable.



To enquire about a booking, please contact Annette at (780) 426-5026  
 11050 - 90 Street NW  
 Edmonton, Alberta T5H 1S5



# Edmonton Verdi Festival Volunteers

## Organizing Committee

Carlo Amodio, Co-Chair  
Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, Co-Chair  
Adriana A. Davies, CM, PhD, Chair, Program and Communications Chair  
Emilio De Mercato, Artistic Director  
Peter Bruno, Co-Treasurer  
John Stroppa, Co-Treasurer  
Lina Amodio  
Clifford Barnett, I.S.P., ITCP  
Mattia Berrini  
Silvia Buttiglione  
Frank Cappellano  
Rita Cavaliere  
Rudy Cavaliere  
Antonella Cortese  
Lina Filomeno-Melchionna  
Stephanie Kwan  
Andrea Melchionna  
Ela Tuszynska  
Ron Ulrich

## National Congress of Italian Canadians (NCIC) Board

### *Executive*

Carlo Amodio, President  
Lina Filomeno-Melchionna, Vice-President  
Peter Bruno, Treasurer  
Jennifer De Stefanis-Dimas, Secretary  
Salvatore Amelio, Past-President

### *Directors*

Antonella Cortese  
Emilio De Mercato  
Luciana De Santis  
Giuseppe Sabiti  
Giuseppina Vecchio  
Massimo Verdicchio

## Print and Digital Materials

Editor: Adriana (Albi) Davies, CM, PhD  
Design, Page Layout & Photography: E. R. Cavaliere  
Text: Adriana (Albi) Davies, CM, PhD  
Feature Article: Peter McKenzie-Brown  
Webmaster: Clifford Barnett

## Celebrating Italian Families of Edmonton Board and Volunteers

### *Executive*

Antonella Ciancibello-Normey, President  
Caterina Sholter, Vice President  
John Stroppa, Treasurer  
Cherri Burdeyny, Secretary

### *Directors*

Karima Afchar  
Sandra Escoredo  
Alberta Floreani  
Holly Lomheim  
Matt Lomheim  
Yvette Stroppa

### *Youth Assistants*

Adriano Aschenbrenner  
Marco Aschenbrenner  
Marina Giovannoni  
Miranda Normey

### *Event Materials Designer*

Marcela Rojas-Schaeffer

### *Computer Related Materials*

Pam Vona

### *Floral Designer*

Elsie Morelli, Roma Flowers

## Partnerships

St. Michael's Health Care Group  
NAIT: School of Hospitality and Culinary Arts  
Alberta College Conservatory of Music MacEwan University

## Photographer/Videographer

Panorama Italiano, Carlo Amodio and Frank Cappellano

## Pianos and Piano Tuning

Giovanni Music, School of Music and Fine Art Gallery

## Italian Community Performing Organizations

Italian Appennini Dancers  
Italian Folk Choir



# Verdi in the heart of Edmonton!

## Help Bring Verdi To Edmonton!

The year 2013 is extremely important for lovers of opera. It is the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of great Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi. Members of Edmonton's Italian community did not want to see this anniversary pass by without celebrating his life and music. Help us to celebrate this important musical anniversary and Italian culture! Make a charitable donation to support an important legacy project - the commissioning of a life-size statue of Verdi to be erected in a prime location in the heart of Edmonton. Make this wonderful cultural endeavor that recognizes Verdi's contributions to world music and the contributions of Canadians of Italian descent to Edmonton a reality.

Please make a tax receiptable donation to the National Congress of Italian Canadians Edmonton District Charitable Foundation. To find out how to donate, visit: [www.verdifestivalledmonton.ca](http://www.verdifestivalledmonton.ca)

**Make 2014 the year that the Verdi Legacy Statue becomes a reality!**



Please note, the above statue is used only as an example. The actual design has not yet been selected.

Donors will be recognized on a Donor Wall at the Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre. While donations can occur after August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, this will be the cut-off date for names to appear on the Donor Wall.

## Santa Maria Goretti Italian Parish



Santa Maria Goretti Parish Feast Day.

Santa Maria Goretti Italian Parish is a city-wide Roman Catholic Parish in the City of Edmonton. Approximately 1,600 families are members of this dynamic parish.

The parish was established in 1958 for the Italian immigrants and their families; however, non-Italian families are very welcome to be part of this warm parish.

Santa Maria Goretti Parish puts on several special events and celebrations yearly. The parish celebrates First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Each summer, the Parish celebrates Santa Maria Goretti Feast Day. This is a day-long celebration beginning with a special Mass followed by lunch and activities for all ages throughout the day.

Pastor: Fr. James Chitteth, CFIC  
Office Administrator: Luis Untalan

9110 - 110 Avenue NW  
Edmonton, AB T5H 4A1  
(780) 422-8304









20 REGIONS OF ITALY  
EXTRAVAGANZA WEEKEND

# INCONTRO CON GIUSEPPE VERDI NOV 1-3 2013



ORGANIZED BY:



IN SUPPORT OF:



Come and celebrate INCONTRO CON GIUSEPPE VERDI, a 3-day Fundraiser event – at the Santa Maria Goretti Community Centre, filled with delicious food, wine, musical renditions by outstanding musicians & soloists, silent auction, raffle and of course a plethora of information on the man himself, VERDI!

Renowned scholars will join us during this exciting weekend. From one of the most renowned opera houses in the world, Teatro Alla Scala, Milan, Italy, comes **Renato Garavaglia**, Director of La Scala Museum who will speak on '**Verdi & La Scala**'; and, from Chicago, USA, **Philip Gossett**, Musicologist & Historian: retired post of Robert W. Reneker & distinguished author: Universities of Chicago & La Sapienza, Rome, who will speak on '**Verdi & il Risorgimento**.'

... Come out and enjoy their presentations on VERDI as they will expand your awareness and understanding of the intrigue that surrounds Verdi the man, the landowner, the composer, the patriot!

**Don't miss out. Tickets sell fast.**

Deadline to purchase tickets for the Saturday Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fundraiser Dinner Gala is October 28<sup>th</sup>

For more information visit [www.verdifestivaldмонтон.ca](http://www.verdifestivaldмонтон.ca)

## Guest lecturers



**Philip Gossett**  
Musicologist & Historian

Sun. Nov 3, 2:30pm-4pm Presentation

Philip Gossett is one of the world's foremost experts on opera. A music historian, Gossett specializes in 19th-century Italian opera, specifically the works of Rossini, Bellini, Donizetti and Verdi. Author of two books on Donizetti and of the recent Divas and Scholars: Performing Italian Opera (University of

Chicago Press, 2006), Gossett serves as general editor of The Works of Giuseppe Verdi and of The Critical Edition of the Works of Gioachino Rossini.

Among the operas he himself has edited or co-edited are Rossini's Tancredi, Ermione and Semiramide. He is currently working on Verdi's La Forza del Destino. In 1998 the Italian government awarded him its highest civilian honor, Cavaliere di Gran Croce. He most recently won

the Mellon Distinguished Achievement Award, an honor that carries with it a prize of \$1.5 million. Early in 2004, Newsday wrote of Gossett that "some encomiasts claim that soprano Maria Callas did as much for Italian opera as Toscanini or Verdi. Musicologist Philip Gossett arguably has done as much for Italian opera as any of those geniuses."



**Renato Garavaglia**  
Director of the Scala Museum

Sat. Nov 2, 10am-11:30am Presentation, followed by lunch

Renato Garavaglia was born in Inveruno (Milan) and undertook classical studies in Milan at the Manzoni Lyceum. From 1973 to 1984, he worked as a journalist for the Unità newspaper in Milan and served as editor responsible for national and local musical events. In November, 1984, he was

hired by the La Scala Theatre as editor-in-chief and also worked as the head of their press agency until 1993. From September 1993, he was the Head of Publications responsible for reviewing all books issued by La Scala including all programs for the performances and cultural events organized by the Theatre. Garavaglia is responsible for organizing all exhibits at the Theatre including ones on the history and performers. He curated an important exhibit on Maria Callas in 1997, 20 years after her death. Between 2004 and 2013, he was the curator of 10 exhibits, among which some of the most important were those on Callas, Herbert von Karajan, Mozart and one that celebrated the 100th anniversary of the La Scala Theatre. In March 2004, he was appointed Director of the La Scala Theatre Museum. In May 2006, Garavaglia was one of the international judges of the 7th Competition - "Bidu Sayao" - in Bélem, Brazil.

Garavaglia is the author of numerous historic and musicological articles for encyclopedias of music, recording and musicological magazines, and for exhibition catalogues. He has edited books on artists such as Massimo Mila at La Scala, Herbert von Karajan, two books dedicated to Gianandrea Gavazzeni, Giuseppe Sinopoli, Riccardo Muti, Giorgio Strehler, Victor de Sabata, Giuseppe Di Stefano, Giulietta Simionato, Maria Callas, Renata Tebaldi and Rudolf Nureyev. On the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Theatre, he edited the book Giuseppe Verdi and the Scala.

## Fee Schedule

DAY	ADULTS	6-12 yrs
Fri. Nov 1, 7pm-10pm (Music & Food Fair, NAIT)	\$60.00	\$40.00
Sat. Nov 2, 10am-1pm (Presentation & Lunch)	\$35.00	\$25.00
Sat. Nov 2, 6pm-midnight (Dinner Gala, Music & more)	\$65.00	\$46.00
Sun. Nov 3, 12:30pm-2:20pm (Lunch & Music)	\$30.00	\$20.00
Sun. Nov 3, 2:30pm-4pm (Presentation)	\$15.00	\$10.00
TOTAL	\$205.00	\$141.00
Children 5 yrs & under	FREE	
ENTIRE WEEKEND DISCOUNTED PACKAGE		
	\$190.00	\$130.00

To purchase tickets, please call John at 780-469-6133 or Alberta at 780-488-1146