

# OPERA ATELIER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 5, 2020

## **Opera Atelier presents *Together/Apart*: A Virtual Showcase from Around the Globe**

***All-star program features Soprano Measha Brueggergosman, Broadway sensation Laird Mackintosh, Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt, and many more***

**Toronto, ON** -- Opera Atelier is thrilled to announce *Together/Apart* - a one-hour virtual showcase of music and dance to connect, uplift, and inspire - featuring an all-star line-up of Opera Atelier's longstanding and audience-favourite artists from around the globe, **Wednesday, May 20 at 8pm EST, streaming at [OperaAtelier.com](https://www.operaatelier.com)**. All 14 artists on the program have personally curated their performance selections with an eye to sharing the joy and power of the creative experience during this extraordinary time.

"The arts provide a powerful source of emotional and spiritual support in times of crisis," says **Marshall Pynkoski C.M., Co-Artistic Director, Opera Atelier**. "Opera Atelier realizes just how vulnerable people are when separated from the artists they love, just when they need them the most. And while nothing can replicate the vigour of a live performance, our hope is to provide a virtual concert experience that connects and moves our beloved community situated around the world."

Programmed to appeal to the broadest audience possible, *Together/Apart's* luminary line-up will include **Soprano Measha Brueggergosman** singing Mozart, **Broadway star Laird Mackintosh** performing "Music of the Night" from *Phantom of the Opera*, **Mezzo-Soprano Wallis Giunta** singing "Non so più" from *The Marriage of Figaro*, and **Canadian pianist Angela Hewitt** performing Rameau dances. **Artist of Atelier Ballet Juri Hiraoka** will perform baroque choreography created specifically for this unifying event, **choreographed by Opera Atelier's Co-Artistic Director Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg**, and **Artist of Atelier Ballet Xi Yi** will showcase the spectacular Crane Dance, created for his graduate performance from the world famous Beijing Academy.

"Just like the best baroque theatre, we hope *Together/Apart* will move our audience with repertoire that is heartwarming, with themes that make them laugh, and with themes that reduce them (or as Cocteau would say; "enlarge them") to tears," explains Lajeunesse Zingg C.M.

Co-Artistic Directors Pynkoski and Lajeunesse Zingg will host Opera Atelier's virtual celebration from their own living room in Toronto - introducing and connecting audiences to the artists they love and admire. Audiences can also expect a special guest appearance by **Toronto's own Mayor John Tory**.

The complete line-up for *Together/Apart* will include:

1. Bass-Baritone **Douglas Williams** - Berlin
2. Mezzo-Soprano **Mireille Lebel** - Vancouver
3. Artist of Atelier Ballet **Xi Yi** - Toronto
4. Mezzo-Soprano **Wallis Giunta** - Leeds
5. Soprano **Meghan Lindsay** - Quebec
6. Mezzo-Soprano **Allyson McHardy** - Toronto
7. Artist of Atelier Ballet **Juri Hiraoka** - Toronto
8. Soprano **Melody Louledjian** - Marseilles
9. Baritone **Laird Mackintosh** - New York
10. Soprano **Measha Brueggergosman** - Nova Scotia
11. Violinist/Composer **Edwin Huizinga** - California
12. Pianist **Angela Hewitt** - London
13. Tenor **Colin Ainsworth** - Toronto
14. Soprano **Karine White** - Toronto

Artistic Directors - Marshall Pynkoski and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg

Art Director - Gerard Gauci

Video Editor - Marcel Canzona

*Together/Apart* Music Director - Christopher Bagan

**'Together/Apart: Opera Atelier's Virtual Showcase from Around the Globe'** will premiere Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at **8pm EST**. It will be streamed for free at [OperaAtelier.com](https://www.operaatelier.com)

### **About Opera Atelier ([OperaAtelier.com](https://www.operaatelier.com))**

Established in 1985, Opera Atelier is Canada's premier period opera/ballet company, specializing in producing opera, ballet, and drama from the 17th and 18th centuries. While drawing upon the aesthetics and ideals of the period, Opera Atelier goes beyond "reconstruction" and infuses each production with an inventive theatricality that resonates with modern audiences. These productions feature soloists of international acclaim, period ballet, original instruments, elaborate stage decor, intricate costumes, and an imaginative energy that sets Opera Atelier apart. Founding Co-Artistic Directors Marshall Pynkoski C.M. and Jeannette Lajeunesse Zingg C.M. were both awarded the Order of Canada for their contributions to opera and ballet, and were recently both named Officers of the Order of Arts and Letters (Officiers dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres) from the French Republic.

Opera Atelier has been acclaimed throughout Canada, and tours on a regular basis to the Royal Opera House in Versailles. The company has also performed at the Glimmerglass Festival in New York, Salzburg Festival, the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, and La Scala in Milan. Opera Atelier has collaborated with some of early music's most distinguished artists including Andrew Parrott, Trevor Pinnock, Hervé Niquet, Marc Minkowski and many others.

Through historically informed performance practice, Opera Atelier allows audiences to experience the continuum of musical form; hearing and seeing great works in the ways these works might have first resonated. In inspired programming, Opera Atelier creates art that speaks to the here and now; finding fresh relevance for society in evergreen creations. Through impassioned outreach and audience development, Opera Atelier aims to secure a future by ensuring opera has a place in the hearts and lives of the upcoming generation.

**LISTING INFORMATION**

***Together/Apart: Opera Atelier's Virtual Showcase from Around the Globe***

**Date:**

Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 8pm EST

**Location:**

Streamed for free on the [Opera Atelier website](#)

**Info:**

[OperaAtelier.com](#) or follow Opera Atelier on social media

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