



# Media Release

For Immediate Release: March 9, 2007

## **"The Impresario" - Bound to Impress!**

On Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8pm the Peterborough Symphony Orchestra and Lyric Stage will proudly present **"The Impresario: An Evening of Mozart Magic."** The outstanding line up for 'The Impresario' includes both award winning world-renowned artists and up and coming operatic performers.

This Peterborough premiere divides the evening into two exciting segments: The first half is a concertante production of the one-act opera 'The Impresario' by W. A. Mozart taking you on an irreverent romp through the backstage of an 18<sup>th</sup> century opera house. The impressive talents of James Anderson, William Crane, Lindsay Hunt and Charlene Santoni will take the stage. Joining them in the second half are esteemed locals; Eleanor James, Father Paul Massel, Carrie Gray, Rachael Jewell, Heather Knechtel, and of course the world-renowned Donna Brown. With Eleanor James as Artistic Director, Michael Newnham once again works his magic as the Music Director for this fabulous event.

***Performing in 'The Impresario' are Charlene Santoni, James Anderson and:***

**Lindsay Hunt**, soprano, is quickly becoming recognized as one of Canada's most versatile and promising young artists. Lindsay recently made her debut performance with the Esprit Orchestra, and was featured in the Leith Summer Music Festival.

**William Crane**, tenor, has been involved in performing, directing and writing in numerous musical endeavours over the past 30 years in the Peterborough area. Most recently William just completed a run as musical director for the Showplace production of "Jerry's Girls".

Starting off with the overture to *Così fan tutte*, the second segment of the



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evening will present favourite arias from Mozart's best-loved operas such as *The Magic Flute*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Don Giovanni*, *La Clemenza di Tito*, and the *Abduction from the Seraglio*.

## *Performing Favourite Mozart Arias:*

**Donna Brown**, soprano, has taken to many of the world's great opera and concert stages, including Paris, London, Tokyo, Geneva, Vienna, and Rome. Donna has received critical acclaim for 11 of her roles, and has taken part in several 'world premiere' recordings.

**Carrie Gray** has just finished her first season with Toronto Opera Repertoire where she played the lead role in 'La Travailla', and will soon be performing the third act of 'la Boheme' as 'Mimi' and the Norma duet in mid-March. She is proud to perform with her daughter, Rachael Jewell in this concert.

**Heather Knechtel**, soprano, has performed extensively as a soloist across Canada and the United States. Heather began composing and performing in churches when she was just thirteen and since has trained with internationally renowned vocal instructors, appeared in numerous productions, and began her own music studio in the Kawartha Lakes Region.

**Eleanor James**, mezzo-soprano is Toronto-born, living in Indian River. Eleanor is the Artistic Director of Lyric Stage and has performed in two International Music Festivals'. She also dons the mantle of Artistic Director for this production.

**Rachael Jewell** began singing solo's at the age of nine in a choir when an anonymous donor came forward and financially encouraged her singing and piano playing abilities. She is currently attending Thomas A Stewart in Peterborough, in 12 grade.





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**Father Paul Massel**, Baritone, has appeared in the Tony award-winning Mikado, he has toured Europe and been on Broadway. In 1994 Paul completed a five-year running, Canadian production, of 'Phantom of the Opera' in the role of 'Andre' and appears in many other local projects.

Complete with dueling divas, crazy conductors and angling opera singers, The Impresario is the most-anticipated operatic production in Peterborough's history. This premiere joint venture between the Lyric Stage and Peterborough Symphony Orchestra is sure to be the most memorable night of 2007!

Available at \$45, 40 and \$38, call the Showplace Box office at 742-7469 for your tickets.

For more information, call 742-1992 or visit us at [www.thepso.org](http://www.thepso.org)

- 30 -

