



SingSong

Concert Fact Sheet



**Daniel
Bartholomew-Poyser**
Conductor

A message from the conductor

Welcome to SingSong!

Singing songs is something people do all over the world, no matter the culture, no matter the country. Whether it's country, rock, Broadway, rap or opera or something totally different, we all have a musical style that we love.

During SingSong you will sing songs from different styles, different traditions, and different languages, all the while enjoying the exciting sounds of your Toronto Symphony Orchestra!

But that's not all! Incredible soloists will round out the show, guiding you through the songs and thrilling you with their solo performances.

Prepare to sing and be surprised!

See you at SingSong!

Daniel

Concert Facts

When You Visit

Entering Roy Thomson Hall:

- All patrons will enter through the Simcoe Street doors.
- The lobby opens 60 minutes before the concert begins.
- For more detailed information and to help prepare for your visit, please see our venue guide.

Concessions & Coat Check:

- There are concessions in the lobby—you can buy snacks and drinks there!
- Roy Thomson Hall is now a cash-free venue that only accepts debit and credit cards, including major contactless and mobile payment methods, for a safe and speedy check out.
- If you have a reusable water bottle, you can fill it on-site in the lobby at one of the water fountains.
- There is a coat check at the hall. It opens when the lobby opens. It costs \$2 per item to use the coat check. You should bring a debit or credit card if you plan to use the coat check.

Washrooms:

- The washrooms are located toward the front of the building and are behind the large mirrored wall where you first entered. There are family and accessible washrooms on the Main Floor beside the elevator.
- An usher can direct you if you need assistance finding the washrooms.

Resource Tables:

- We will have a limited supply of sound-dampening headphones on-site to lend to you for free, but we recommend you bring your own if you have a pair at home.

Entering the Auditorium:

- The auditorium will open 60 minutes before the concert begins, at the same time that the lobby opens. This will give you plenty of time to find your seat.
- The ushers will help you to find your seat.
- The Main Floor of the auditorium will be open for this concert.

During the Concert:

- Lights over the audience will remain at approximately 50% brightness during the performance.
- The conductor will speak to the audience during the program.
- The concert begins at 11:00am and will be approximately one hour in length.
- You will be able to move around the auditorium and lobby during the concert.
- If you like, you can move to the back three rows of the Main Floor to get a different view, or for the sounds to be a little softer. If you need it to be even quieter, you can enjoy the concert from the lobby or from the tunnels—there is a screen in each tunnel where you can view the concert.
- If you need to use the Quiet Room, you can ask an usher to show you where it is.

Concert Facts

Things You Will Need to Pay for:

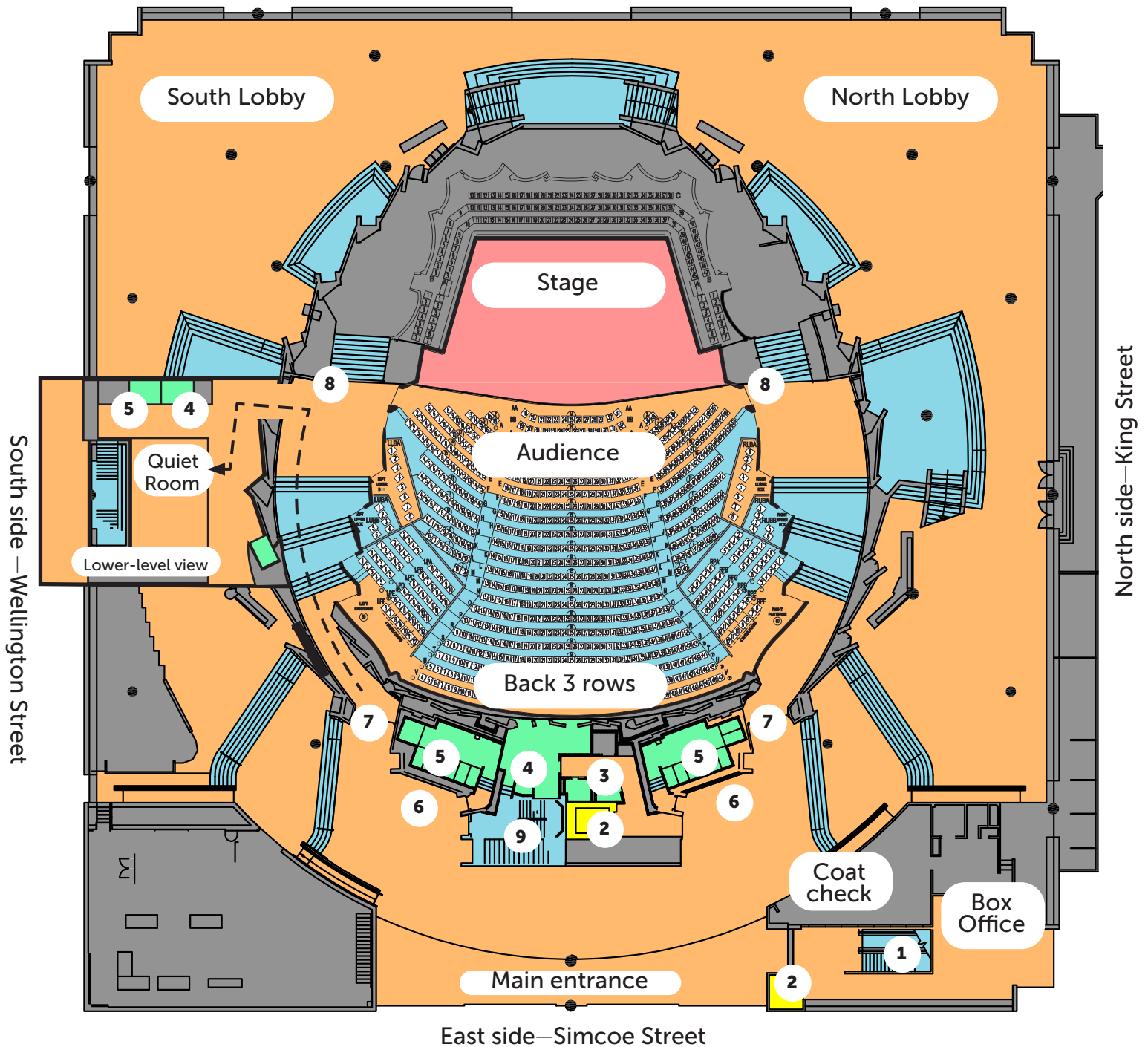
- Parking underneath Roy Thomson Hall, coat check, and concession snacks or drinks. If you do not need these services, you are not required to pay. Parking underneath Roy Thomson Hall costs \$8 per hour, or any part thereof, or \$16 for the day (weekend daily flat rate).

Fun Facts

Did you know:

- The Toronto Symphony Orchestra was founded in 1922. The first concert performed by the Orchestra was in April 1923 at Massey Hall. Today's concert is at Roy Thomson Hall.
- Roy Thomson Hall was designed by architect Arthur Erickson and opened in 1982. You can hear more about the building in our self-guided tour: [TSO.ca/rth-tour](https://www.tso.ca/rth-tour)
- The hall is mostly concrete, steel, and glass. If you look up, you will see that the ceiling and some of the walls are glass. The glass pieces in the ceiling and roof are all different sizes—can you find two that are similar or look the same?
- The lobby is square, but the auditorium is round, which means that parts of the lobby are larger than others. Have you seen a circle inside a square before?

Main Floor Map



Legend

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Subway PATH | 7. Doors to the hall |
| 2. Elevators | 8. TV screens |
| 3. Accessible washrooms | 9. Stairs to access washrooms in between floors |
| 4. Men's washrooms | |
| 5. Women's washrooms | |
| 6. Sensory stations | |

To access the Quiet Room, please use the south tunnel.

Repertoire Notes

SingSong is all about singing songs together! In this show, you will hear songs performed by our soloists. In most songs, you will also be invited to sing-along, as indicated below. You are welcome to sing the chorus, or even the whole song if you know it! For the best experience, we recommend that you listen to the music ahead of time and practice singing the choruses before you attend.

1. Lavallé

"O Canada"

[Audience sing-along]

- As soon as this music starts, everyone around you who is able to stand will rise to sing our national anthem.
- Our soloists, Midori Marsh and Todd Jang will be singing along with you!
- What more can we say, this is the national anthem that every Canadian knows!

2. Bizet

"Les Toréadors"

from *Carmen* Suite No. 1

Libretto by Henri Meilhac and Ludovic Halévy

[Audience sing-along]

- This song is sung in French by our baritone soloist, Todd Jang, but you are welcome to sing the chorus.
- This song is moderately fast and cheerful, with a lush melody that will sweep you along with excitement.
- Chorus:
*Toréador, en garde,
Toréador! Toréador!
Et songe bien, oui,
songe en combattant
Qu'un oeil noir te regarde,
Et que l'amour t'attend,
Toréador,
l'amour, l'amour t'attend!*

3. Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez/ arr. Larry Moore

"Let It Go"

from *Frozen*

[Audience sing-along]

- This song is for you! Feel free to sing all the lyrics, if you know them.
- We'll be performing a string orchestra arrangement of the popular song you know and love, so it won't sound exactly the same as the original.

4. Mozart

Queen of the Night aria

from *The Magic Flute*

- This song will be sung in German by our soprano soloist, Midori Marsh.
- This is a difficult song to sing and it requires an enormous amount of range and skill. Prepare to be amazed by our soloist! You will hear a huge range of notes sung rapidly, sometimes with great leaps in between.

5. Ibert

Flute Concerto, Mvt. I

- This is our first piece of instrumental music: there is no singing! It will feature our flute soloist: Yelin Youn.
- The music starts suddenly with a few very loud notes before the solo flute begins playing a flurry of dazzling and highly technical notes.
- As a concerto, the piece alternates between virtuosic passages on the flute, and louder sections where the entire orchestra plays.
- The music sometimes slows down, but mostly it is intense and feels in a hurry.
- Be aware: the final notes in the piece suddenly go from being from very, very soft (ppp) to very loud (ff).

Repertoire Notes

6. Cash/arr. Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser

"Ring of Fire"

[Audience sing-along]

- This country song will be sung in English by our baritone soloist, Todd Jang.
- The song famously begins with loud mariachi-style trumpets. Their fanfare returns multiple times throughout the piece.
- This tempo is upbeat tempo and the rhythm is lively.

7. Chen Ge Xin/arr. Che-Yi Lee

"Gong Xi Gong Xi"

[Audience sing-along]

- This is a traditional song often used to celebrate the Lunar New Year. It is sung in Mandarin.
- Although it is a festive favourite, it is sung in a minor (sad) key. When the composer originally wrote the song, he was happy about the arrival of a new year but sad that a war had occurred.
- Chorus:
*Gong xi, gong xi,
gong xi ni ya
Gong xi, gong xi,
gong xi ni*

8. Reena Esmail

"Ram Tori Maya"

[Audience sing-along]

- This song is sung in Hindi.
- The song has a complex time signature of 7/8. This means there are seven beats per measure, and each beat is an eighth note. Can you feel the difference?
- The mood of the song is peaceful and calming. The melody gently rises and falls over and over throughout the song.
- Chorus:

Ram tori maya, nach nachave

Ram tori maya, nach nachave

Nis din mera manva vyakul

Nis din mera manva vyakul

Sumirat sudhi nahi ave

Ram tori maya, nach nachave

9. Sugarhill Gang/arr. Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser

"Rapper's Delight"

- This will be an orchestral arrangement of Sugarhill Gang's "Rapper's Delight," so it won't sound exactly the same as the original.
- During this piece, the conductor will be turning around and rapping in English.

10. Beethoven

"Ode to Joy" from

Symphony No. 9

[Audience sing-along]

- This joyful and uplifting piece of music is one of the most famous of all time.
- Be aware: the excerpt begins with the horns playing a few notes very softly (pp). Next, the string instruments join them for a short crescendo, playing those notes louder and louder, until finally and suddenly the entire orchestra plays very loudly (ff) and the singing

Repertoire Notes

begins. It's a dramatic change in dynamics!

- The overall mood is majestic and celebratory. The message of the song is about universal peace and harmony.
- Chorus:

*Praise and joy immortal gladness,
gift to all eternally,
we give thanks for joy unbounding,
celebrate life's harmony.*

*Music's magic boldly sounding,
bring together friend and foe,
all unite in one true friendship,
sing with joy in lustrous glow.*

*Music's magic boldly sounding,
bring together friend and foe,
all unite in one true friendship,
sing with joy in lustrous glow.*

11. Puccini

Intermezzo from *Manon Lescaut*

- This is our second piece of instrumental music: there is no singing!
- This music is from the opera *Manon Lescaut*, which is a love story with a tragic ending. This intermezzo is played between Act II and Act III, and it hints at the story's sad ending.
- The composer Puccini masterfully use all of the sounds of the orchestra for maximum emotional impact. Even if you don't know the story of the opera, this is beautiful music that will make you feel something!

12. Various/arr. Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser "Name That Tune"

- During this part of the concert, the conductor will have the audience play a game: the orchestra will play a piece of music without telling you what it is, and you will have to guess the name of the song is!

12. Cohen/arr. Claude Lapalme

"Hallelujah"

[Audience sing-along]

- This is an orchestral arrangement of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah", so it won't sound exactly the same as the original.
- You are welcome to sing-along to the chorus, which is simply the word "Hallelujah" repeated multiple times.
- Overall, this song is soothing and melodic.

13. Beyoncé/arr. Daniel Bartholomew-Poyser "Love on Top"

[Audience sing-along]

- This is an orchestral arrangement of Beyoncé's "Love on Top," so it won't sound exactly the same as the original.
- This is an upbeat, high-energy song that will make you want to dance!
- It's also an uplifting song that literally takes you higher. The key modulates each time the chorus is repeated, allowing you to sing higher and higher notes (if you can!).



Have a Question?

Call: 416.598.3375
(Mon–Fri, 9:30am–5:00pm)

Email: contactus@TSO.CA

For more information:
[TSO.CA/Relaxed](https://www.tso.ca/Relaxed)