





# An Evening with Audra McDonald

**CONCERT PROGRAM** 

2023/24 TSO.CA

Toronto Symphony Orchestra Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

**NOV 2** 

# Sewatokwa'tshera't

#### (The Dish With One Spoon)

The land we are gathered on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit River, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

We recognize that Toronto is within the territory governed by the Dish With One Spoon treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee, which bound them to share the territory and protect the land, and that subsequent Indigenous Nations and Peoples, and all newcomers, have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

As we enter our second century of sharing the healing power of art, we are grateful to live and make music on this land.

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#### Musicians of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra

Gustavo Gimeno MUSIC DIRECTOR

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Jonathan Crow CONCERTMASTER Tom Beck Concertmaster Chair Yolanda Bruno **Clare Semes** ASSOCIATE CONCERTMASTERS Etsuko Kimura+ Marc-André Savoie ASSISTANT CONCERTMASTERS Eri Kosaka PRINCIPAL, SECOND VIOLIN Kun Yan ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, SECOND VIOLIN Luri Lee ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL. SECOND VIOLIN Atis Bankas Christina (Jung Yun) Choi\* Sydney Chun\* Amanda Goodburn Bridget Hunt Amalia Joanou-Canzoneri Ah Young Kim Shane Kim\* Leslie Dawn Knowles Douglas Kwon Paul Meyer Sergei Nikonov Semyon Pertsovsky Peter Seminovs Mark Skazinetsky Jennifer Thompson Angelique Toews James Wallenberg Virginia Chen Wells

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PICCOLO

Camille Watts

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ENGLISH HORN

Cary Ebli

#### **CLARINETS**

Eric Abramovitz PRINCIPAL Sheryl L. & David W. Kerr Principal Clarinet Chair Miles Haskins ACTING ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL Joseph Orlowski

#### **BASS CLARINET**

Miles Haskins

#### BASSOONS

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#### CONTRABASSOON

Fraser Jackson

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Alison Yun-Fei Jiang RBC AFFILIATE COMPOSER







# Symphony Exploder

An immersive listening party

## Apr 5, 2024

Explore Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* presented by Gustavo Gimeno, your TSO, and Hrishikesh Hirway the visionary behind the groundbreaking *Song Exploder* podcast and Netflix series.

Step into this spectacular listening booth as Gimeno and Hirway deliver an indepth stageside conversation, followed by a heart pounding performance of the Stravinsky favourite.

JUST ANNOUNCED! Scan the QR code to learn more.



# An Evening with Audra McDonald

Audra McDonald, singer/actor Andy Einhorn, music director & conductor Jeremy Jordan, piano Gene Lewin, drums Mark Vanderpoel, bass

Artist will announce selections from the stage.

As a courtesy to musicians, guest artists, and fellow concertgoers, please silence your phones and put them away during the performance.

The photographing or sound recording of this concert or possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording is prohibited.

Program

Thursday, November 2, 2023 8:00pm

Audra McDonald appears through arrangement with Alec Treuhaft, LLC.

### About the Artist



#### Audra McDonald, singer/actor

Audra McDonald is unparalleled in the breadth and versatility of her artistry as both a singer and an actor. The winner of a record-breaking six Tony Awards, two Grammy Awards and an Emmy, in 2015 she was named one of *Time* magazine's 100 most influential people and received the National Medal of Arts—America's highest honor for achievement in the field—from President Barack Obama. In addition to her Tony-winning performances in *Carousel, Master Class, Ragtime, A Raisin in the Sun, The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*—the role that also served as the vehicle for her Olivier Award-nominated 2017 debut in London's West End—she has appeared on Broadway in *The Secret Garden; Marie Christine* (Tony

nomination); Henry IV; 110 in the Shade (Tony nomination); Shuffle Along, or, The Making of the Musical Sensation of 1921 and All That Followed; Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune (Tony nomination); and Ohio State Murders (Tony nomination).

On television, she was seen by millions as the Mother Abbess in NBC's *The Sound of Music Live!*, won an Emmy Award for her role as host of PBS's *Live From Lincoln Center*, and received Emmy nominations for *Wit*, *A Raisin in the Sun* and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*. Having played Dr. Naomi Bennett on Shonda Rhimes's *Private Practice* (ABC) and Liz Reddick (formerly Lawrence) on both *The Good Wife* (CBS) and *The Good Fight* (Paramount+), she may now be seen as Dorothy Scott on Julian Fellowes's *The Gilded Age* (HBO). On film, she has appeared in *Seven Servants*, *The Object of My Affection*, *Cradle Will Rock*, *It Runs in the Family*, *The Best Thief in the World*, *She Got Problems*, *Rampart*, *Ricki and the Flash*, Disney's live-action *Beauty and the Beast*, the movie-musical *Hello Again*, Cinergistik's documentary *Whitney Houston in Focus*, the Obamas' Higher Ground Productions' *Rustin* and MGM's Aretha Franklin biopic, *Respect*.

McDonald is a Juilliard-trained soprano, whose opera credits include *La voix humaine* and *Send* at Houston Grand Opera, and *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* at Los Angeles Opera, where the resulting recording earned her two Grammy Awards. She has issued five solo albums on the Nonesuch label as well as *Sing Happy* with the New York Philharmonic on Decca Gold. She also maintains a major career as a concert artist, regularly appearing on the great stages of the world and with leading international orchestras. She is a founding member of Black Theatre United, board member of Covenant House International, and prominent advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights, whose favorite roles are those performed offstage, as an activist, wife to actor Will Swenson, and mother.

### About the Conductor



#### Andy Einhorn, music director & conductor

Leading Broadway music director and conductor, Andy Einhorn, most recently served as the music supervisor and musical director for the Broadway productions of *Hello, Dolly!* Starring Bette Midler (Grammy nom, OBCR) and *Carousel* starring Renée Fleming (Grammy nom, OBCR.) Einhorn's previous Broadway music directing and conducting credits include *Holiday Inn*, Woody Allen's *Bullets Over Broadway*, Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella, *Brief Encounter*, and *Sondheim on Sondheim*. Other Broadway work includes *Evita* and *The Light in the Piazza*.

Since 2011, Einhorn has served as music director and pianist for six-time Tony Award winner, Audra McDonald, performing with her at such prestigious orchestras and

venues including The New York Philharmonic, Boston Pops at Tanglewood, Philadelphia Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra at Blossom, Cincinnati Pops, Chicago Symphony at Ravinia, Los Angeles Opera, Carnegie Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall and a series of recorded concerts with Sydney Symphony at the Sydney Opera House in Australia. He most recently made his debut at New York City Center. They have recorded two albums together: "Sing Happy: Live with the New York Philharmonic" and "Go Back Home."

He served as the music director for HBO's Peabody Award winning documentary "Six by Sondheim" and music supervisor for Great Performances Peabody Award winning special "Broadway Musicals: A Jewish Legacy" on PBS. In 2019, Einhorn conducted Bette Midler and Marc Shaiman at the 2019 Academy Awards. He also music supervised and appeared on camera for the Emmy award winning performance of "Eat Sh\*t Bob" for HBO's LAST WEEK TONIGHT starring John Oliver. Upcoming film and TV projects include: Apple Plus' EXTRAPOLATIONS and CABRINI (producer Jonathan Sanger).

Recently, he has conducted concerts with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Detroit Symphony, Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Pacific Symphony, Cleveland Orchestra, and Aspen Music Festival. He is a guest faculty member at the Aspen Music Festival and is a regular music director and pianist for the 92nd St Y's Lyrics and Lyricists series.

Andy Einhorn is an honors graduate of Rice University in Houston, Texas.

# *Donor Feature* It runs in the TSO family



BARBARA MORAN **GREW UP IN A** MUSICAL HOUSEHOLD. Her father. Ken Godwin, played Horn in the Toronto Symphony Orchestra for 25 years, from 1946 to 1971. "There was always music in our house. Growing up, I heard my father practicing a lot, and he had a large collection of classical and opera recordings-on vinyl in those days—as well as Broadway show tunes."

Like many teenagers

Above: TSO Horn section, 1951/52, with Sir Ernest MacMillan (centre); Ken Godwin (furthest right)

Below: Barbara Moran



If you have a TSO story like Barbara's, we would love to hear from you at giving@TSO.CA.

If you would like to learn more about including the TSO in your estate plans, please contact Emelita Ervin, Senior Development Officer, Legacy Giving, at eervin@TSO.CA or 416.595.4259. in the 1960s, Barbara listened to pop music, and she was involved in annual musical theatre productions. In her thirties, she began to really appreciate classical music, including opera.

In June 1982, Barbara and her father were invited to the TSO's season-closing gala concert at Massey Hall. The concert was followed by a tour of the soon-to-be-opened Roy Thomson Hall and a dinner for current and former TSO musicians. "It was such a memorable evening in so many ways—from the Orchestra's breathtaking performance to observing the camaraderie between current and former musicians," recalls Barbara. "I felt that we were members of the TSO family."

Soon after, Barbara began attending TSO concerts regularly with friends and has been a subscriber ever since. "As an audience member, the arts have been an important part of my life, and for that reason, I am also a donor. A few years ago, I decided to include the TSO in my estate plans by making it one of the beneficiaries of a life insurance policy. It's my way of honouring my father and giving back to an organization that literally supported our family as we were growing up."

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## It's easy to give to the TSO.

Visit the Patron Services desk at TSO concerts, call **416.598.5311**, or check out **TSO.CA/Support** to learn more about donor benefits at each membership giving level.







# A Spoonful of Sugar with Ashley Brown

## Mar 5 & 6

Steven Reineke, conductor Ashley Brown, vocalist

A Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious waltz through Disney and Broadway classics with Broadway's original *Mary Poppins*.

### TSO.CA

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# **Great music** lives here.



We are proud to support the **Toronto Symphony Orchestra** and the performers that are captivating audiences with exciting, innovative, and entertaining productions. BMO is pleased to be the 2023/24 **Season Presenting Sponsor**.