



Opera From Scratch

6 Composers + 6 Singers + 6 Mentors = 6 New Mini-Operas

Public Events Information

Saint Matthews United Church

1479 Barrington Street Halifax, Nova Scotia

Opera From Scratch Gala Concert

Sunday, August 19th, at 3pm

Donations at the door

Come hear 6 new world premiere mini operas about our history and culture by a talented group of composers and singers hailing from Canada, The USA, and Sweden.

Paul O'Regan Hall, Halifax Central Library

5440 Spring Garden Rd., Halifax, NS

What's Opera Doc?

Monday, August 13, at 2:00pm

Dalhousie University music professor Dr. Jennifer Bain will explore the elements that make opera different from other types of musical performance. Using audiovisual examples, Dr. Bain will take her audience on an historical highlights tour, from an early medieval proto-opera to a modern cartoon spoof, starring Bugs Bunny, titled *What's Opera Doc?*

The Art of Opera

Tuesday, August 14, at 2:00pm

Dalhousie University theatre professor Dr. Roberta Barker will present examples of how music, words, and theatre are combined to create one of the world's most complex art forms ... opera! What elements are necessary for a work to be called opera? This will be an informative and entertaining lecture guaranteed to stimulate a deeper appreciation of the art form.

Making Opera in the 21st Century

Thursday, August 16, at 2:00pm

Renowned Canadian opera composer James Rolfe will share his thoughts on the joys, challenges, and dangers of composing contemporary opera. Using excerpts from his vocal and dramatic works, Rolfe will talk about how he approaches writing for the voice, how he deals with the rhythmic peculiarities of the English language, how he finds suitably dramatic operatic stories, and much more.

The Opera From Scratch Masterclass Finale!

Friday, August 17, at 10:00am

This is the final masterclass of the Opera From Scratch workshop program. Join us as six singers and six composers take the final steps in the development of their six world premiere mini-operas about Nova Scotian culture and history. This masterclass will offer an inside view into the process of taking a new mini-opera from its first rehearsal on Monday, August 14, to its final public performance on **Sunday, August 19th, at 3:00 pm in Saint Matthew's United Church on Barrington Street in Halifax.**

Contemporary Opera Off the Hook

Friday, August 17, at 2:00pm

Soprano Janice Isabel Jackson has an international reputation as a brilliant interpreter of cutting edge contemporary music. In this lecture/recital, Ms. Jackson will talk about her work in the field of contemporary opera. Through demonstrations and video samples, she will guide you through her exacting process of taking new musical works from page to stage!

Masterclasses @ 5pm

***MacAloney Room 406, Dalhousie Arts Centre
6101 University Avenue, Halifax, NS***

Monday, August 13th - Jason Davis

Tuesday, August 14th - Janice Isabel Jackson

Wednesday, August 15th - Janice Isabel Jackson

Join us for 3 exciting masterclasses which highlight the evolution of each mini opera as the workshop unfolds!