

Eclectic and exciting performers headline Community Concert line up

Fans of jazz, musical theatre, chamber music and all things Celtic will delight in the new season of concerts for the Kelowna Community Concert Association. Musicians, actors and dancers from across North America and Europe will enthrall audiences in the series of five concerts.

The Jon Gordon Jazz Quartet kicks off the series October 19. Winner of the prestigious Thelonious Monk Jazz competition, Jon has been called one of the greatest alto sax players ever. His quartet will bring a toe-tapping taste of the New York City jazz scene with standards they perform at venues like the Blue Note, Birdland and Village Vanguard.

The power of the human voice will be on display on December 12 with Background Vocals, an a cappella quintet from New York. This young group brings unique arrangements, tight harmonies and world-class beatboxing to pop, classical, electronic and original music. Winner of Steve Harvey's Sing Off in 2017, the group is known for their high energy and strong musicality.

A dozen of Ireland's finest dancers and musicians will present a spell-binding journey through Irish history on February 9 in "Oceans of Hope." This is the story of people moving across oceans in hopes of a better and brighter future. The music poignantly captures the struggles and dreams of people fighting for liberty, dignity and family.

Not one or two, but eight cellos will take to the stage March 28 to explore the musical spectrum from Tchaikovsky to Piazzolla to Nino Rota. Ô-Celli, the Belgium-based cello octet, brings together musicians who play in prominent European ensembles and orchestras. The audience will be enveloped in a complex, mellow resonance as Ô-Celli plays creatively arranged dance and cinema music and original compositions.

"You Could Drive a Person Crazy" features acclaimed Canadian musical theatre artists as they explore the ebbs and flows of relationships. Donna Fletcher (Rainbow Stage Wall of Fame), Paul Gatchell (Stratford, *Phantom of the Opera* and Broadway), Jamie McLennan (Calgary, Edmonton and Manitoba Operas), Donnalynn Grills (Rainbow Stage and Manitoba Opera) and collaborative artist Cary Denby will present the classic songs of Rodgers and Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Weber, Bosk and Harnick and Steven Sondheim. This musical theatre gem ends the season series April 29, 2019.

The Kelowna Community Concert Association is a non-profit organization run completely by volunteers. The series of five concerts is available only by purchasing an annual membership for \$90. There are a limited number of memberships available for the 2018-2019 series. To get in on this exciting series, call:

Deb Meldram, 250-765-3571 or Betty Skilbeck, 250-765-2835

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