

Concerts Held Over till Spring

If there is one thing learned through the last six months, it is the flexibility to adapt to uncertainty. The Kelowna Community Concert Association has adapted its 2020-2021 concert season to the new Covid-19 realities. The performances -- which range from Beatles to Ballet to Beethoven -- will now begin in March 2021 instead of the usual fall launch.

Music lovers in Kelowna have been presenting concerts featuring nationally and internationally renowned artists since 1934. The Kelowna Community Concert Association (KCCA), formally incorporated in 1985, has carried on this tradition. Through its more than 35 years, the Association has presented choirs, orchestras, ballet and folk dance troupes, chamber music and jazz ensembles, percussionists, vocal soloists, acrobats, and cabaret performances.

The 2020-2021 season (when it happens) promises a glittering array of live performances. With the continued uncertainty of Covid-19 restrictions, the revised schedule is tentative, but organizers are optimistic that performances can resume with mandated protocols. Membership has been limited this year to allow for physical distancing in the Community Theatre

The **Goh Ballet** will launch the season March 4 with a dazzling selection from well known works, such as the Nutcracker and Sleeping Beauty. This Vancouver-based ballet academy is recognized internationally for its high caliber of classical ballet training and performances.

The **Ulysses String Quartet** – with musicians from Canada, the United States and Taiwan -- will take to the stage Tuesday, April 13. These young musicians have distinguished themselves in several international competitions and are now Fellows of the Juilliard School in New York.

The flavour changes September 24 when the **BeatleManiacs** recreate the sound, look, energy and humour of the Beatles. These four lads, with the help of lighting, multimedia, visual effects and multiple wardrobe changes, will have the audience laughing, crying and even screaming for more.

It's back to the classics November 14, with **Young Beethoven**, a concert celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth. Eleven Vancouver musicians will perform works he composed as a young man, before he vaulted into the pantheon of musical giants.

Just in time for Christmas 2021, **The 5 Browns** on five grand pianos will enthrall and delight with their complex arrangements of classical, jazz and popular favorites. These five siblings are returning by popular demand.

The final concert from the 2019-2020 season is rescheduled to May 17, 2021. Chicago-based **Axiom Brass** performs an eclectic mix of jazz and Latin music, string quartet transcriptions and original compositions. They have won major chamber music competitions in Europe, Asia and North America.

The performers and the Concert Association are eager to proceed with the line-up. If the situation changes and the current schedule is not possible, the concerts will be rescheduled (again). Live performances are entertaining, enriching and therapeutic. An ideal antidote to troubling times.