

Visit the CANADIAN OPERA COMPANY with Toronto's Own David Devan



Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts; Frank Gehry-designed spiral staircase in the Walker Court of the Art Gallery of Ontario (courtesy Camille King)

May 18-21, 2018

Opera Philadelphia heads to Toronto, cultural capital of Ontario and home to both the Canadian Opera Company and our beloved David Devan, two of North America's top producers of world-class opera. The spring 2018 visit provides the opportunity to attend two stellar productions at the Four Seasons Centre. The weekend starts with Stravinsky's ***Nightingale and Other Short Fables***, led by Johannes Debus in a revival of the remarkable Robert Lepage production with an exceptional roster that includes, Jane Archibald in the title role, Owen McCausland, Christian Van Horn and Meredith Arwady. We conclude with Donizetti's ***Anna Bolena***, led by Opera Philadelphia's own Corrado Rovaris, who will conduct the sensational Sondra Radvanovsky in the title role. Eric Owens, Keri Alkema, Bruce Sledge and Allyson McHardy round out the cast. We look forward to a celebratory dinner with the Maestro and guests to bring our time together to a fitting conclusion.

Opera Philadelphia is coordinating this wonderful trip with our travel partner, New York based Act 1 Tours, an acknowledged leader in opera travel and musical themed benefactor

programs. Toronto native and Act 1 Tours Partner Jacqueline Sale enjoys close connections with the city and the COC. Together, with her husband and partner Christos Thrappas, they have created a weekend that will fully exhibit Toronto's music and culture, while providing tour administrative, management, and concierge services throughout.



Shangri-La Hotel lobby



Art Gallery of Ontario (courtesy JOH)

ITINERARY

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Independent arrival from Philadelphia through Pearson International YYZ and transfer to the Shangri-La.

In the early evening we meet to walk to the Toronto Dominion Centre's **Canoe** restaurant, dramatically situated on the 54th floor and one of Canada's finest. A private room is reserved for the party.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

This morning we meet our local historian and guide Bruce Bell, who will lead the group through the Distillery District, an inspired blend of Victorian Industrial architecture and 21st century design. Opened in 2003, this neighborhood is an internationally acclaimed village of one-of-a-kind stores, shops, galleries, studios, restaurants, cafes, theatres and more.

The afternoon is at leisure, affording time to refresh before the 4:30pm performance of Stravinsky's **Nightingale and Other Short Fables**.

The party will enjoy drinks during the performance this evening in the Henry N.R. Jackman Lounge, with views to the grounds of Osgoode Hall Law School. The party transfers to the **Spoke Club**, an arts and media urban gathering space located in a fine heritage building in Toronto's King West Village, where we will dine together. At the end of the evening, continue independently to enjoy the King West vibe before retiring.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

A private "early opening" tour inside the Art Gallery of Ontario, a city landmark with its striking 2008 Frank Gehry addition will introduce the highlights of its exceptional permanent collection of Canadian art and the Galleria Italia. Return to the hotel in time for an independent lunch and time to refresh before the 2:00pm performance of Donizetti's **Anna Bolena**. As a finale, we will toast our guest-of-honor, Corrado Rovaris, in a farewell to Toronto celebration dinner at **Michael's on Simcoe**, a contemporary restaurant that features authentic Italian cuisine, fresh seafood and steaks carefully aged on the premises in a custom-made Italian drying chamber.

MONDAY, MAY 21

Independent departures or extension.

INCLUSIONS

- Three nights Shangri-La Hotel
- Two COC performances, with first category seating
- **Canoe** and **Spoke Club** dinners
- Dinner at **Michael's on Simcoe**
- Guided walking tour
- Private "early opening" tour of the Art Gallery of Ontario
- Transfers as needed within the itinerary
- Services of Act 1 Tours' principal throughout

NOT INCLUDED:

- Airfares
- Airport transfers to/from hotels (arranged on request)
- Meals and personal expenses not part of the itinerary



Clockwise: Michael's on Simcoe; Canoe; Spoke Club

COST OF TOUR

\$2,900 per person double occupancy

\$3,650 person with single occupancy

Room upgrades and extra nights priced upon request

PAYMENT

A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is payable at registration to cover the advance costs of performances and non-cancelable hotel commitments. Final payment is due by March 18, 2018.

INSURANCE

Trip insurance is strongly advised to avoid financial loss should the need to cancel arise for insurable reasons. Act 1 Tours can arrange this coverage on your behalf and, with certain policies pre-existing medical conditions may be waived provided coverage is purchased within 15 days of the initial deposit. Act 1 Tours can advise on this coverage with AIG Travel Guard and arrange policies on each guest's behalf.

**For registration information please contact
Anna PENCHUK, Major Gifts Manager.**

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All travel arrangements provided by Act 1 Tours.