



Ottawa Choral Society Newsletter 2019-2020

August 25th edition

“Sumer’s end is acumen in” but it heralds the arrival of an exciting new choral season!

And what could possibly surpass a grander season opener than a pair of performances of Giuseppe Verdi’s majestic *Messa da Requiem* (aka **The Verdi Requiem**)? We’ve all been looking forward to returning to this epic sacred work that has been central throughout our lives in music — last week-end, somewhere in the vicinity of 160 choristers arrived back from vacations extra early to start preparing with a marathon 9 hours of exhilarating rehearsals with chorus master Jean-Sébastien Vallée.



VERDI REQUIEM

Giuseppe Verdi

Wednesday, September 11, Thursday, September 12 at 8:00 pm

Southam Hall, NAC

We invite you to join us to experience this immortal music filled with moments of complete terror and passages of sublime tenderness.

Who Will Share the Stage With Us?



The National Arts Centre Orchestra An All-Star Solo Quartet



Soprano Felicia Moore

Moore's voice [was] transfixing, marked by tonal brilliance and emotional eloquence.

Joshua Kosman, SF Gate



Mezzo-soprano Susan Platts

Platts's dark, fervent mezzo was perhaps the most superbly Mahlerian voice of the evening, emerging out of a full orchestra with a setting sun's warm glow.

Globe and Mail



Tenor Amitai Pati

A 2017 Adler Fellow in San Francisco Opera's prestigious Merola Program, Amitai Pati is one third of the phenomenal New Zealand-based Samoan trio Sol3 Mio



Bass-baritone Dashon Burton

Praised for his "nobility and rich tone," (The New York Times) and his "enormous, thrilling voice seemingly capable ... [of] raising the dead"

Wall Street Journal



Alexander Shelley conductor



Jean-Sébastien Vallée

chorus master

There is still time to subscribe

By purchasing your Verdi Requiem tickets through our Choral Society Box Office, you will be helping to support the choir. We have an inventory of excellent seats in the most desirable sections of Southam Hall to offer subscribers and single ticket purchasers.

**Please visit our [website](#) for full season concert details
You save with an OCS subscription package!**

HIGH SOCIETY subscription packages include all four season concerts: Verdi Requiem, Messiah, Annelies, Misa a Buenos Aires, and are available in four price categories:

FANFARE I subscription packages include the Verdi Requiem + 2 other concerts of your choice.

SENIORS (60+) **Save 20%** on the price of purchasing each concert individually.

NOT A SENIOR? You still save a generous **15%** !

Extra Value —The OCS does not collect HST or Handling Charges

Subscription sales will continue online until August 28th.

We hope to see you at the Verdi. Order NOW to be there to [order online](#)

Single tickets go on sale September 4th.

MEDIA TUNE-IN!

OCS Music Director Jean-Sébastien Vallée's charisma and exceptional training techniques are driving his recognition as one of today's choral superstars. His upcoming activities include a return to Carnegie Hall – with the music of Howard Goodall; concerts at the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest; a tour with the National Youth Choir of Canada; and lectures at the 12th World Symposium on Choral Music in New Zealand.

Meet him in Cyberspace and on the Air!

Jean-Sébastien Vallée chats with Artsfile editor and music commentator Peter Robb about Verdi's masterpiece and the OCS 2019-20 season highlights in next week's edition of Ottawa's top drawer arts blog. Be watching www.artsfile.ca

Love listening to Sunday morning's francophone classical music station Unique FM (94.5 FM) Jean-Sébastien Vallée drops into François Gauthier's studio next Sunday morning for a conversation about the spectacular new Ottawa Choral Society concert season.