



Festival de la Voix with  
live concerts in public!

## Description

# Celebrating 9 seasons of outstanding musical artists with public performances

March 3, 2022

**Vox Aeterna** is proud to celebrate the ninth annual **Festival de la Voix**, promoting live music, Canadian composers and musicians, and professional and emerging artists in seven eclectic concerts and four exceptional workshops, as well as special presentations for high school music students.

Seven eclectic concerts and four exceptional workshops, plus special performances for high school music students.

Until to April 10 in the West Island (Dorval, Beaconsfield, Pointe-Claire, Hudson) and for the first time in Westmount, Festival de la Voix Founder and Artistic Director **Kerry-Anne Kutz** welcome people from all over the city to explore, enjoy and celebrate the beauty, versatility and power of music and the human voice.



Kerry-Anne Kutz

Kerry-Anne Kutz is ecstatic to bring performers and audiences together again, “Many of the invited festival guests have waited two years to perform live. This chance to prepare, to join musical colleagues, and to play their music is of utmost importance to our artists; to all artists,” she stated.

This year’s diverse mix of styles and voices includes shows like **CHORALISSIMO!** highlighting two superb choirs—**Le Chœur de chambre du Québec** directed by **Robert Ingari** and **Phoebus Men’s Choir** directed by **Roseline Blain**; the **Grand Concert** featuring mezzo-soprano **Florence Bourget** with harpist **Valérie Milot**, and **Sainte-Anne Singers & Philomela Singers** directed by **Margo Keenan**.



Ranee Lee

Also in concert, **Oliver Forest** and the authentic spiritual music of **Imani Gospel Singers; They Sing Everything!** with energetic, emerging talents singing Broadway, opera and pop; a show dedicated to seniors—**Dark Divas** by acclaimed vocalist, actor, songwriter **Ranee Lee** sharing songs from the great voices of the African American vocal tradition including Billie Holiday, Sarah Vaughan and Ella Fitzgerald; **Steel Rail** playing their special blend of folk grass music; and the **Concert Vox Aeterna** featuring soprano **Frédéricka Petit-Homme** and Montreal's first culturally diverse symphony orchestra, **Ensemble Obiora**, bringing a new voice to classical music in Canada. The festival also offers school concerts, an invaluable way to encourage children to engage with live performances. This year it's the musical ensemble of **Les Fusiliers de Mont-Royal**.

Kutz acknowledges how important it is to have so many culturally diverse singers and instrumentalists performing the music of such a wide variety of composers and world-renowned artists, "We are addressing a vital need to see diversity on stage. Ensemble Obiora, Ranee Lee, Imani Gospel Singers and our workshop clinician Dr. Claudel Callender are examples of the presence of the high calibre of black musicians in our community."



Imani Gospel Singers

## Ensemble Obiora

From **Brandyn Lewis**, artistic director of Ensemble Obiora, “We are thrilled to be making our first appearance at Festival de la Voix which always features such talented artists. This concert will provide an opportunity for us to expand our repertoire to include music for voice, and to program unfamiliar works by composers of colour whose contributions have gone unnoticed.”

## CHORALISSIMO!

**Robert Ingari** is the director of Le Choeur de chambre du Québec, part of this year’s CHORALISSIMO! concert, “The 17 members of the choir and pianist Carmen Picard are delighted to finally be able to share the stage together and impart our love for new music composed to beautiful French texts. Our evocative program, rich in colour and harmony, will showcase the talents of all our members, some of whom will also play an instrument on stage. Long live singing and long live Festival de la Voix!” he declared.

‘From March 19 to April 10, in the West Island (Dorval, Beaconsfield, Pointe-Claire, Lachine), and for the first time in Westmount.’

## Workshops

Outstanding workshops on offer this year are *Breath and the Basics of Good Singing* with **Dr. Claudel Callender** focusing on alignment, breath, vowels, phrasing and falsetto; *Acting and Physicalizing Text*, with Centaur Theatre





Artistic Director **Eda Holmes**, concentrating on portraying the lyrics in the song by exploring mental and physical flexibility, spontaneity, and the many emotions evoked; *Songwriting* with JUNO Award-winner **Connie Kaldor**, touching on the main elements of rhythm, melody and lyrics, and culminating with a new song; and *Advanced Choral Techniques* with choirmaster **Philippe Bourque** working on tone production, phrasing and performance practices for a number of chosen pieces. Workshop scholarships are available upon request to those in need, particularly teenagers and young adults who don't have the opportunity to study privately.

## 9th edition of Festival de la Voix

The Festival de la Voix is unique in offering concerts and workshops for people of all ages, from school age to senior citizens. The festival's mandate is to bring together diverse communities to celebrate music and the coming of spring.

Celebrating its 9th year, Festival de la Voix continues to offer concerts for all ages and tastes, as well as workshops and master classes, highlighting Canadian music and artists with outstanding performances.



Le chœur de-chambre du-Québec

Saturday, March 19 to Sunday, April 10, various times and locations  
(Dorval, Beaconsfield, Pointe-Claire, Hudson, Westmount)

Ticket prices for matinees and evening performances range from \$20 to \$30  
Complete program online [www.festivaldelavoix.com](http://www.festivaldelavoix.com)



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**Vox Aeterna** is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting music in communities; its main production is the Festival de la Voix de Montréal. Vox Aeterna offers performance opportunities for many young artists from Quebec and promotes Canadian music by encouraging emerging musicians. [www.festivaldelavoix.com](http://www.festivaldelavoix.com)



### Category

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