

Expect Something Different!



Robert Cooper, C.M.
Artistic Director

Walter Mahabir
Apprentice Conductor

Edward Moroney
Accompanist

PRESS RELEASE

WELCOME CHRISTMAS

ORPHEUS CHOIR JOINS FORCES WITH HANNAFORD ST SILVER BAND AND SINGING SENSATION JACKIE RICHARDSON IN AN INSPIRATIONAL YULETIDE CELEBRATION

The Orpheus Choir of Toronto announces its next concert: **WELCOME CHRISTMAS**, on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, 7:30PM at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St.

Celebrating the season together in a third successful collaboration, the sparkling brass of the Hannaford St Silver Band and the resounding voices of the Orpheus Choir of Toronto join in sumptuous settings of favourite carols old and new. But that's not all! The joint forces of choir and band are delighted to welcome JUNO-nominated and Gemini award-winning singing sensation Jackie Richardson, Canada's reigning queen of jazz, blues, and gospel, as their featured guest.

Born in the USA, but raised in Toronto, **Jackie Richardson** has become one of Canada's most highly regarded stars of gospel, jazz, and blues, well known for her stage, screen, and studio work. She has starred opposite Christopher Reeve, Sidney Poitier, Jane Seymour and Kiefer Sutherland. Jackie has also performed or recorded with musicians such as Ray Charles, Celine Dion, Anne Murray, Maureen Forester, the Toronto Symphony, Nova Scotia Symphony, and the NAC Symphony. Ms. Richardson continues to perform on stage and screen throughout Canada and the United States.

Formed in 1983 by a group of professional musicians with a love of the brass band repertoire and ensemble playing, the **Hannaford Street Silver Band** is Toronto's award-winning professional brass band, and the only fully professional ensemble of its kind in North America. Through its artistic excellence and ongoing advocacy of this art form, the HSSB has had a local, provincial, national and international impact. In recognition of its accomplishments, in November of 2003, the HSSB was awarded its second Lieutenant Governor's Award for the Arts.

The Orpheus Choir of Toronto, now in its 52nd season, is enjoying a resurgence of audience attention and praise for its beauty of sound, innovative performances, creative programming, superb Sidgwick Scholars and its 'expect something different' experience.

WELCOME CHRISTMAS offers a festive evening of holiday classics, refreshing new carols and sing-a-long favourites that will be a highlight of this year's Christmas season.

Concert Tickets: \$40, \$30, \$10. Online: www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com; Phone: 416-530-4428

At the Door: Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St.

For more information: Lisa Griffiths, Managing Director: lisa.griffiths@orpheuschoirtoronto.com;

www.orpheuschoirtoronto.com

2015-2016 Concert Season Supported by:

Toronto Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts

BMO Financial Group, The Jackman Foundation

The **Orpheus Choir of Toronto** has earned a reputation as "one of Toronto's most distinguished and important choirs" (Larry Beckwith, WholeNote Magazine). Under the artistic leadership of Robert Cooper, the seventy-voice ensemble offers a sumptuous entertainment experience, in keeping with its mandate to celebrate life through the discovery and performance of fine choral music. Now in its 52nd season, the Orpheus choir continues to transform Canadian choral performance by championing new and little-known works by Canadian and international composers, and creating immersive presentations and experiences for Toronto audiences. In the last six years alone, the Choir has performed North American or World premieres of works by such composers as Ēriks Eišenvalds, Howard Goodall, Allan Bevan and Imant Raminsh. With a wide-ranging repertoire of music ranging from secular to sacred, time-honoured classics to experimental works, choral collaborations and forays into multimedia performances, it's only fitting that the Orpheus Choir's mantra is "Expect Something Different". There is truly something for everyone.