



OMAHA
SYMPHONY

Ankush Kumar Bahl, Music Director

program notes

2023/24 SEASON

Romantic Broadway

May 11-12, 2024

Holland Performing Arts Center

Ernest Richardson, conductor | Tiffany Haas, vocals | Michael McCorry Rose, vocals | Joshua Zecher-Ross, piano

Selections from *Guys and Dolls*

FRANK LOESSER

"Cheek to Cheek"

IRVIN BERLIN

"They Can't Take That Away from Me"

GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN

"This Can't Be Love - Almost Like Being in Love"

RICHARD RODGERS & LORENZ HART

Gershwin Medley

GEORGE GERSHWIN & IRA GERSHWIN

Overture to *Candide*

LEONARD BERNSTEIN

"The Girl in 14G"

JEANINE TESORI & DICK SCANLAN

"Popular" from *Wicked*

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

"With you - Gifts of Love"

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Rodgers & Hammerstein Medley

RICHARD RODGERS & OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

"Friendship"

COLE PORTER

"That Old Black Magic - Come Rain or Come Shine"

HAROLD ARLEN & JOHNNY MERCER

"It'll Be Me"

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

"Being Alive" from *Company*

STEPHEN SONDHEIM

The Phantom of the Opera

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

"Think of Me" from *The Phantom of the Opera*

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

"All I Ask of You" from *The Phantom of the Opera*

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

"You Matter to Me - One Second and a Million Miles"

SARA BAREILLES & JASON ROBERT BROWN

"A Million Dreams" from *The Greatest Showman*

BENJ PASEK & JUSTIN PAUL



Ernest Richardson, conductor

Ernest Richardson is in high demand as conductor, composer, arranger, organizational leader and inspirational speaker. His versatility finds him within one season conducting Stravinsky's Firebird Suite or Broadway artists in the works of Leonard Bernstein, a live-to-movie production of Harry Potter, facilitating strategic decision-making for leading arts organizations, or training young musicians for the passionate, persistent pursuit of perfection.

He has been at the forefront of symphonic video/live music productions, conducting live-to-movie scores of the Harry Potter series with CineConcerts, Indiana Jones, Jurassic Park, Back to the Future, Pirates of the Caribbean, Singin' in the Rain, Casablanca, Ratatouille, Star Trek (2009), the Charlie Chaplin silent film The Gold Rush, and Star Wars.

Richardson is presently the principal pops conductor and resident conductor of the [Omaha Symphony](#). Since 1993, he has laid the groundwork for and led in the development of the Omaha Symphony's vaunted education and community engagement programs. In addition to his artistic leadership in the creation of the annual beloved Christmas Celebration production and internationally performed "Only in Omaha" productions, he leads the successful Symphony Pops, Symphony Rocks and Movies Series. The highly successful Family Series was created under his artistic leadership, and he is one of the visionary forces behind the innovative Symphony Joslyn Series. As chief architect of the Omaha Symphony's education and community engagement programs, Richardson has been at the forefront of crafting the vision for the programs and their impact on the community. The pivotal point in his leadership can be traced to the first education report written in the beginning of his tenure with the Omaha Symphony. This report paved the way for the structure, function, and programming of the education department leading to innovations in all programming including the creation of Choral Collaborative, Celebrate Creativity, Music Alive!, the Family Series, and Mission: Imagination. Richardson conducts annually the 500-voice choir of Choral Collaborative with the Omaha Symphony.

Recent guest conducting engagements include the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and Des Moines Symphony in Star Wars: A New Hope in concert, Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra for the Happy Potter in Concert series, Houston Symphony in a performance with singer/songwriter Michael Cavanaugh, and the Florida Orchestra and Phoenix Symphony.

A recipient of the 2016 Nebraska Governor's Arts Award for Excellence in Arts Education, Richardson has encouraged and supported countless young musicians, including as the founding artistic director and CEO of the innovative Rocky Mountain Summer Conservatory. He also enjoys engaging with and training students in the Omaha Conservatory of Music Summer Institute.

Program Notes



Tiffany Haas, vocals

Tiffany Haas is a Broadway performer, concert vocalist, author, and speaker with a 15-year career performing on Broadway, national tours, symphony stages and regional theaters and teaching master classes throughout the country. Tiffany starred as Glinda in the Broadway production of *Wicked*. Prior to her role on Broadway, she starred as Glinda on the National Tour. She was the Dance Captain and Associate Choreographer for the Tony Award-winning musical *The Drowsy Chaperone* national tour. Tiffany has appeared at City

Center Encores!, Birdland, and Feinstein's/ 54 Below in New York City. She has starred in numerous regional theatre productions and performs regularly as a guest soloist with prestigious symphonies throughout the country. While receiving her BFA from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, she won the title of Miss Ohio and went on to compete in the Miss America Pageant. Having a passion for teaching, Tiffany is the artistic director for Destination Broadway, a Musical Theatre intensive for young aspiring performers to train closely with top professionals in the industry. She travels the country teaching master classes at universities and prestigious performing arts schools. Having a strong background in dance, Tiffany has been recognized on a national level for her choreography and has been named "Choreographer of Year" at numerous National Dance & Performing Arts Competitions several years in a row. Tiffany's book, *Waiting in the Wings: Launching Your Performing Career on Broadway and Beyond*, is available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.



Michael McCorry Rose, vocals

Michael McCorry Rose recently wrapped production on Universal Pictures' upcoming film adaptation of *Wicked* starring Ariana Grande and Cynthia Erivo, opening in theaters on Thanksgiving 2024. He appeared in the live-action film *Disenchanted* on Disney+ directed by Adam Shankman, and in Daniel Levine's film adaptation of *Snapshots*, which received a 2021 GRAMMY nomination. On Broadway he's appeared in the Tony Award-winning musical *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Wicked*, the First National Tour of *Anastasia* and the upcoming musical premiere of *The Queen of Versailles* starring Kristin Chenoweth.

Michael has appeared in concert at Jazz at Lincoln Center, the David Geffen Concert Hall, Symphony Space, Birdland, Feinstein's/54 Below and with symphony orchestras across the United States. His theatrical credits include roles at regional theaters such as The Paper Mill Playhouse, Williamstown Theater Festival, The Alliance Theater, Yale Repertory Theater, Primary Stages, Capital Repertory Theater, and Project Shaw.

Originally from San Diego, he holds a B.A. in Communication Studies from U.C.L.A. and continues to study acting at the Jen Waldman Studios and The Actor's Gym in New York.

Program Notes



Joshua Zecher-Ross, piano

Joshua Zecher-Ross has worked on hundreds of productions and performances in New York and around North America as a music supervisor and director, conductor, pianist, and arranger, and he is thrilled to be back in Omaha. Broadway: *Be More Chill*, *Once Upon a One More Time*, *Some Like it Hot*. Upcoming: *Queen of Versailles* (The Emerson Colonial, Boston). Recently: *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *A Christmas Carol* (Denver Center), *The Louder We Get* (Theatre Calgary). Other regional: Barrington Stage Company, Theatre Calgary, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis,

George Street Playhouse, Sharon Playhouse, and The Little Theatre on the Square (Sullivan, Illinois) where he also served as artistic director. Joshua is an instructor and the head of music for the musical theatre program at the NY Film Academy.

This printed program is a condensed version.

For more info about the orchestra, guest artists, and the full program notes, download the Omaha Symphony app or scan this QR code with your mobile device.

*program subject to change

