

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A perfect balance of comedy and tragedy, Mozart's classic opera *Don Giovanni* gets a contemporary staging in Halifax November 19th

Halifax, Nova Scotia (November 13, 2017): An opera in two acts with music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and Italian libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte, *Don Giovanni* is among opera's greatest works. Mozart and da Ponte's second collaboration has become a standard of the operatic repertoire, and a fruitful subject for writers and philosophers. It is based on the legends of Don Juan, a fictional libertine and seducer. The opera was originally premiered by the Prague Italian opera at the National Theater of Bohemia 230 years ago this month.

"With this work Mozart broke the boundaries of opera," says Cecilia Concerts Executive Director Gregory Morris. "Mozart's *Don Giovanni* was the equivalent of a viral hit in its day. It was highly influential, it inspired the Romantics, it inspired a period of great poetry. We are thrilled to be bringing a contemporary production of this work to Halifax audiences."

Cecilia Concerts' modern staging of this classic opera, directed by popular Canadian director Oriol Tomas, takes place on Sunday, November 19th at 7pm at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, 6199 Chebucto Road in Halifax. The opera stars some of Canada's best young operatic talent including soprano Odéi Bilodeau; bass Scott Brooks; soprano Susan Elizabeth Brown; tenor Sebastian Haboczki; soprano Cécile Muhire; baritone Geoffroy Salvas; baritone Dominic Veilleux; with accompanying pianist Richard Coburn.

Tickets for the opera are available online (\$30 Adult, \$20 Senior, \$15 Student, \$10 Child) at ceciliaconcerts.ca, by phone at 902-423-0143, and at the door while they last.

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About Cecilia Concerts

Cecilia Concerts presents local, national and international classical music in a series of concerts throughout the year. For 29 years, they have presented the best in classical music experiences for Halifax audiences in a welcoming atmosphere, and at accessible ticket prices. The organization has supported and presented works by many emerging and established musicians over the years including: Grammy Award-winning soprano Suzie LeBlanc, tenor Ben Heppner, Violinist Philippe Djokic and pianist Lynn Stodola; Pianist/Composer/Conductor Dinuk Wijeratne; Composer/Musician/Broadcaster Peter Togni; Belgian medieval vocal ensemble Psallentes; Composer/Pianist Peter Allen; flautist Marina Piccinini, Grammy Award-winning composer Paul Halley; Belgian cello octet Ô-CELLI; YAS Quartet with violinist Artem Kolesov; pianist Jane Coop; and opera/musical theatre star Rebecca Caine.

Cecilia Concerts operates with support from the Department of Canadian Heritage, Arts Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Support4Culture, the city of Halifax, ArtsVest – Business for the Arts, and Music Nova Scotia. 2017/18 Season Sponsors include Scotiabank, Premier Suites Atlantic, Jules Chamberlain of Red Door Realty and The Craig Foundation. Cecilia Concerts 2017/18 Musician-In-Residence Program supporters are the RBC Foundation and Backun Musical Services. Cecilia Concerts operates also with the support of many generous donors and partners.

For further information or to book an artist interview or media appearance (French or English) please contact:

Gregory Morris

Executive Director

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For high-resolution artist photography please visit: ceciliaconcerts.ca/media