



For immediate release: Mar 26, 2014

## ***East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon***

Canadian Children's Opera Company to produce new children's opera based on Norwegian folk tale.

On May 30, 2014, the CCOC will premiere a new children's opera. From award-winning composer Dr. Norbert Palej and novelist K.T. Bryski comes a new telling of the classic Norwegian folk tale *East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon*. Four performances will take place at the Enwave Theatre – Harbourfront Centre, May 30 – June 1.

A young farm girl saves her starving family by befriending a mysterious bear and soon finds herself matching wits with the evil Queen of the Trolls. Will she save a prince from a fate worse than death?

All roles are performed by the 150 members of the Canadian Children's Opera Company, ages 3-19, accompanied by an eight-piece professional chamber orchestra conducted by CCOC Artistic Director Ann Cooper Gay. Stage direction is by the young Canadian star director Joel Ivany, Artistic Director of *Against the Grain Theatre*.

Music Director: Ann Cooper Gay  
Stage Director: Joel Ivany  
Set and Costume Designer: Laura Gardner  
Lighting Designer: Jason Hand  
Composer: Norbert Palej  
Librettist: K.T. Bryski

Tickets are on sale through Harbourfront Centre Box Office: 416-973-4000 or online at [http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/whatson/music.cfm?id=5773&festival\\_id=0](http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/whatson/music.cfm?id=5773&festival_id=0)

Adult: \$35, Seniors: \$20, Student/Child: \$15

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The **Canadian Children's Opera Company** was founded in 1968 and is the only permanent children's opera company in Canada. The company regularly develops, commissions, and produces new operas for performance by children. The Principal Chorus performs with the Canadian Opera Company, as well as collaborating with leading arts organizations including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the University of Toronto Faculty of Music, Luminato Festival, The Tenors, and Soundstreams Canada. The CCOC has also recorded five albums, and has been broadcast on CBC Radio 2. Their latest recording, the Juno-nominated *A Midwinter Night's Dream*, was released on the Centrediscs label, and features the CCOC-commissioned opera of the same name by Harry Somers. On their most recent international tour, the company won Second Place at the prestigious Summa Cum Laude Festival in Vienna, Austria. The company has two upcoming opera commissions: *East o' the Sun and West o' the Moon*, by Norbert Palej and K.T. Bryski will premiere at Harbourfront Centre in May 2014. *Alice's Wonderland*, by Errol Gay and Michael Patrick Albano, is based on Lewis Carroll's famous children's works, and will premiere in spring 2015. The CCOC's outreach activities are made possible by the financial support of BMO Financial Group, the Toronto Arts Council, and the Minstrel Foundation.

CCOC Photo Gallery: [http://www.canadianchildrensopera.com/photo\\_album.php](http://www.canadianchildrensopera.com/photo_album.php)

For more information, contact: [ken@canadianchildrensopera.com](mailto:ken@canadianchildrensopera.com)

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