



Canadian Children's Opera Company

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release: October 15, 2015

The Canadian Children's Opera Company Releases *LULLABIES* – a new multicultural CD

The Canadian Children's Opera Company (CCOC) is thrilled to announce the release of *Lullabies*, a 17-track CD of cradle songs in 12 different languages that will be gifted to new parents and their babies at Toronto hospitals and women's shelters. *Lullabies* is the sixth CD released by the CCOC, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018, including the 2007 Juno-nominated *A Midwinter Night's Dream*. The recording was conceived by parting Executive Artistic Director **Ann Cooper Gay** as a gift to the children and parents of the city and country where she led the organization for fifteen years.

This multicultural recording features 17 beautiful songs revering sleep in 12 different languages, including Zulu, Lakota, Arabic, Mandarin and Greek, reflecting the enormous cultural diversity of Toronto. The Principal and Youth Choruses perform, joined by chorister and alumni soloists Erin Cooper Gay, Jacoba Barber-Rozema, Iori Lewis, Georgia Perdikoulis, Charmaine Chang, and Julia Sebastien. Internationally-renowned Egyptian-Canadian singer *Maryem Tollar* also performs her original song *Walad ya Gamil* with the children, singing and playing the traditional *qanun*. Ann Cooper Gay conducts, with accompanists Gergely Szokolay and Errol Gay, Ken Hall, flute and Sonia Szokolay, violin. *Lullabies* will be gifted to new parents and their babies at various Toronto locations including hospitals, women's shelters and pediatrician's offices.

About the Canadian Children's Opera Company

Currently in its 48th season, the CCOC consists of six choruses for ages 3 to 19 and is the only permanent children's opera company in Canada. Led by newly appointed Artistic Director Dean Burry, Managing Director Ken Hall, and Music Director Teri Dunn, the company engages young people in the vibrant world of opera by offering intensive musical and dramatic training and numerous professional performing experiences. In addition to their own concerts and opera productions, members regularly perform with the Canadian Opera Company and other major professional organizations, record, and tour nationally and internationally. In June, 2016, the company will remount its celebrated 2004-commissioned operatic adaptation of *The Hobbit*.

For more information please contact:

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Charitable Number: 12978 2538 RR0001