Vancouver Opera's Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program presents

The Garden of Alice

as part of the VOICES Free Concert Series

FEBRUARY 26, 2025, VANCOUVER, B.C./ / Traditional territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations – Vancouver Opera presents an enchanting adaptation of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* with ***The Garden of Alice,*** performed by members of the Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program. From March 7 to 9, audiences can experience this unique production in Vancouver Opera's Martha Lou Henley Rehearsal Hall as part of the VOICES free concert series, supported by TD.

This one act opera by celebrated Canadian composer **Elizabeth Raum** reimagines Lewis Carroll's beloved *Alice in Wonderland* through a surreal and whimsical musical lens, and is a perfect showcase for the vibrant talents of Canada's next wave of opera **stars**.

"The VOICES concert series is dedicated to celebrating the human spirit through music, and the support of TD ensures that these concerts remain free and accessible to all," said Tom Wright, Vancouver Opera General Director. "These concerts give members of our Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program an incredible opportunity to perform in front of an intimate audience while engaging with contemporary work."

The Garden of Alice follows the curious and adventurous Alice as she tumbles down the rabbit hole into a whimsical world like no other. Along her journey, she encounters a host of eccentric characters—the mischievous Cheshire Cat, the frenzied White Rabbit, the enigmatic Caterpillar, and the formidable Queen of Hearts—each with their own peculiar logic and vivid personalities. The opera captures the essence of Alice's quest for self-discovery, as she navigates surreal landscapes filled with riddles, challenges, and lessons about identity and personal growth.

Elizabeth Raum's captivating score enhances the fantastical atmosphere, weaving playful melodies with dramatic undertones that mirror Alice's emotional journey. The opera's inventive musical language and imaginative staging breathe new life into Carroll's classic tale, making it both accessible and engaging for audiences of all ages. This production promises to be an unforgettable experience where reality bends, time shifts, and the boundaries of imagination are endlessly explored.

Members of the **Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program** are **Heidi Duncan**, soprano, **Simran Claire**, mezzo-soprano, **Danlie Rae Acebuque**, baritone, **Lyndon Ladeur**, tenor, **Derek Stanyer**, pianist, and **Tayte Mitchell**, director.

The VOICES concert series is free to attend, but registration is required to ensure your attendance due to limited space.

Event Details:
What: *The Garden of Alice*
When: March 7, 2025 at 7:30pm
March 8, 2025 at 2:00pm
March 9, 2025 at 2:00pm
Where: Martha Lou Henley Rehearsal Hall, 1955 McLean Drive
Tickets: Available online at https://www.vancouveropera.ca/whats-on/voices/the-garden-of-alice/

ABOUT THE YULANDA M. FARIS YOUNG ARTISTS PROGRAM
In 2012, Vancouver Opera launched the Yulanda M. Faris Young Artists Program. Made possible through a gift from the family of Yulanda M. Faris, the program engages, enriches, mentors and trains rising young Canadian opera artists and offers a bridge between formal academic educational programs and the professional world in a supportive and encouraging environment. It is led by Program Director Leslie Dala and Principal Coach Tina Chang, with invited guest opera professionals like Judith Forst OC OBC, Carol Isaac and Daniel Okulitch providing exceptional mentorship to participants. The Young Artists Program provides singers, pianists, and stage directors the opportunity to train with industry leaders through master classes, one-on-one coaching, and performance opportunities as part of a residency program.

ABOUT VANCOUVER OPERA
Vancouver Opera creates extraordinary experiences that engage, inspire and entertain through voice, music and theatre. Vancouver Opera is the second-largest professional opera company in Canada and is regarded worldwide for its fine mainstage productions, country-leading education programs and innovative community programs. Learn more at www.vancouveropera.ca.

Vancouver Opera has the continuing support of The Canada Council for the Arts, Government of Canada, the BC Arts Council and BC Provincial Government, the City of Vancouver Cultural Services and Vancouver Civic Theatres. Vancouver Opera's season sponsors are BMO, Mission Hill Family Estate, and the Alan and Gwendoline Pyatt Foundation.

Supported by TD, the pioneering VOICES concert series offers a vibrant array of free performances that embrace opera, music, theatre, and related art forms while creating a nurturing and inclusive environment in the heart of Vancouver.

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For more information, access to photo gallery and interviews, contact
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