

LUMINATO FESTIVAL TORONTO

MEDIA RELEASE

Luminato Announces 2020 Dates: June 11 – 28 Two Shows On Sale Now Name Change to Luminato Festival Toronto

February 26, 2020 (Toronto, Canada) – Luminato, Toronto’s international festival of arts and ideas and a highlight of Toronto’s summer calendar, will return June 11 – 28, 2020 with more than 40 free and ticketed events across the city and with a new name – Luminato Festival Toronto. The new name takes effect immediately and has been chosen to reflect the Festival’s successful 13-year history in Toronto and to reinforce Toronto and Canada as global destinations for world-class arts and culture.

Anthony Sargent, CEO of Luminato Festival Toronto said: "Luminato has always been proud to be Toronto’s international arts festival, but in this new name and logo we wanted to make that pride visible and explicit. Toronto is a profoundly inspiring and exciting world city and I am very happy we are now celebrating those qualities in our new logo – originally created by our friends at Pentagram UK and now evolved by our friends at Scott Thornley + Company (STC) – and will continue delivering them in our exciting 2020 program."

Mayor John Tory said: "I am delighted to see Toronto featured prominently in Luminato Festival Toronto’s new name. It shines a well-deserved spotlight on Toronto as one of the world’s most diverse and creative cities, home to trailblazing cultural organizations like Luminato Festival Toronto. Luminato works with artists from Canada and around the world to bring Toronto alive with unforgettable programming that challenges us and entertains us year after year."

In addition, Luminato Festival Toronto is thrilled to announce two spectacular international offerings to launch ticket sales today for the 2020 festival: *Requiem pour L.*, by Belgium’s fearless contemporary dance/theatre stalwarts les ballets C de la B, which opens the festival, and the Canadian premiere of the Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre’s renowned production of Chekhov’s *The Cherry Orchard*.

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Requiem pour L.

les ballets C de la B

Adapted from Mozart by Alain Platel and Fabrizio Casso

June 11 – 14, 2020 | Bluma Appel Theatre

Adapted from Mozart's final composition, long-time collaborators Alain Platel and Fabrizio Casso deliver a bold new interpretation of Mozart's *Requiem* that combines opera, jazz and popular African music, in an elegy to death that is at once joyful and sad, redemptive and uplifting. Fourteen musicians and singers from South Africa, the Congo and Europe accompany a video that captures L.'s passage through the final hours of her life. Accordion, electric guitar, bass, euphonium, percussion, and singers equally comfortable in popular and classical idioms, inhabit a set that alludes to memorials and burial grounds, but plays host to exhilarating song and dance. Masterfully combining forms and traditions, *Requiem pour L.* invites the audience to witness a new kind of mass, one that offers unforgettable and poignant moments of mourning supported by an exaltation of voices; an extravagant celebration at the moment of death, but a performance for the living. Luminato Festival Toronto was proud to present les ballets C de la B's *En avant, marche!* in 2017, and we are delighted to be bringing the company back to Toronto with this powerful work.

The Cherry Orchard

Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre

Written by Anton Chekhov

Presented by Show One Productions

June 24 & 25, 2020 | Elgin Theatre

The Canadian premiere of Moscow Pushkin Drama Theatre's *The Cherry Orchard*, presented by Show One Productions, is directed by Russian Canadian Vladimir Mirzoev and is as relevant today as it was when Anton Chekhov wrote it in 1903. With society on the edge, economies run amuck, and families in turmoil, what Mirzoev describes as a "comedy of catastrophes" conveys a society all too familiar to today's audience. This simple story of a family selling its beloved cherry orchard to pay off its debts, bursts with music, sexual energy and menace, and features performances by celebrated Russian screen and stage actors Victoria Isakova, Aleksander Petrov and Mikhail Zhigalov. Haunted by the all-too-real presence of their dead son, the family can't recognize their plight, and continues living in denial, while the world they know succumbs to so-called progress. *The Cherry Orchard* is Luminato Festival Toronto's fourth partnership with Show One Productions, following the popularity and admired success of *Uncle Vanya*, *Brodsky / Baryshnikov* and *Masquerade*.

Tickets and more Information

Tickets are on sale now by visiting the Luminato Festival Toronto website at luminatofestival.com, or by calling our Box Office at 416-368-4849, Monday through Friday 10am-5pm

Additional performance details are available at: luminatofestival.com

Production images are available for download at: luminatofestival.com/Media

Luminato Festival Toronto's full programming details will be announced April 21, 2020.

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Luminato is very grateful for the generous support from visionary individual, foundation, corporate and government supporters including:

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About Luminato Festival Toronto

Luminato Festival Toronto is Toronto's international arts festival dedicated to performance, media and visual arts, and programming that cuts across traditional artform boundaries. Luminato Festival Toronto works closely with Canadian artists to support the development and creation of distinctive new works, as well as presenting today's most exciting artists from around the world. The 2020 Festival will run from June 11 to June 28. For more information visit www.luminatofestival.com or follow us on Twitter: [@Luminato](https://twitter.com/Luminato) | Facebook: [LuminatoFestival](https://www.facebook.com/LuminatoFestival) | Instagram: [@LuminatoFestival](https://www.instagram.com/LuminatoFestival) | LinkedIn: [Luminato](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Luminato) | Youtube: [LuminatoEvents](https://www.youtube.com/LuminatoEvents)

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