



PRESS RELEASE

April 24, 2014.

LUNENBURG ACADEMY OF MUSIC PERFORMANCE ANNOUNCES 2014 SEASON

The Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (LAMP) announced, at a press conference held this morning in Lunenburg, the program for its inaugural season. To a full house of interested members of the community, Burt Wathen, Artistic Director of the LAMP, outlined the impressive line-up of world-renowned Canadian and international performers who will headline this year's season

The press conference was held in the Lunenburg Academy building which soon will be the home of LAMP. Mayor Rachel Bailey opened the proceedings and expressed the Town Council's support for the project. She welcomed LAMP as a tenant that will help to ensure a sustainable future for the Lunenburg Academy.

Mr. Peter Matthews, Secretary of the LAMP Board of Directors and Fundraising Chair spoke about the impressive financial support the project has been given by local business and industrial leaders, notably, High Liner Foods, Stellar Investments, Clearwater Seafoods The ABCO Group and Composites Atlantic. Mr. Matthews cited the importance of their three-year commitment as fundamental to the long-term viability of LAMP .

"On October 13, 2104 LAMP will open its doors to the world", said Mr. Wathen. "We are ready to light the LAMP!"

The semester will begin with the first annual, two-week Rossini Opera Academy (ROA) under the direction of Maestro Alberto Zedda. the world's foremost authority on the music of Rossini. Mr. Wathen said that he and Maestros Zedda had auditioned recently 140 young singers from 27 countries and four continents for fourteen positions available in the LAMP's Rossini Opera Academy. Mr. Wathen said that he was heartened that there had been so much international enthusiasm for the Lunenburg ROA.

The season will continue with a line-up of the finest and most sought-after Canadian and international performing artists. Mr. Wathen said that in putting together the program he had carefully chosen performers that would offer the students an eclectic and complete immersion in different styles of music from classical to jazz and from opera to contemporary.

The program will include the Gryphon trio, Juno winners and winners of Canada's prestigious \$50,000 Walter Carson prize, the prominent American jazz pianist Uri Caine, Canadian composer, producer and renowned jazz bassist Roberto Occhipinti and highly sought-after Irish-Canadian drummer, Mark Kelso. Mr. Wathen said he was especially pleased to announce the "return to their roots" of the internationally acclaimed flutist, composer and conductor Robert Aitken and Walter Delahunt, who will be the LAMPs' pianist- in-residence. Lastly, LAMP will introduce the Afiara Quartet, special guests of Bob Aitken and rising stars on the international music scene. LAMP will conclude its first session with an international string quartet competition, the winner of which will be offered a 22-week residency in Lunenburg.

For further information please contact Burt Wathen at 902-212-1669 or info@lampns.ca