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LONDON SYMPHONIA and THE McAULEY BOYS MAKE THE SEASON MERRY AND BRIGHT



Photo: Raymund Garcia

CHRISTMAS WITH THE McAULEY BOYS Saturday, December 9, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

LONDON, November 22, 2023 – London Symphonia’s upcoming concert, **Christmas With The McAuley Boys**, (Saturday, December 9 at Metropolitan United) will warm your heart and put you and your family in the festive spirit.

Conducted by Scott Good, London Symphonia’s Composer-In-Residence and curator of the program, the concert combines London’s legendary R&B quartet, The McAuley Boys, London Symphonia, and the choirs from Metropolitan United Church in an uplifting concert the whole community will enjoy.

“We are thrilled to present an unforgettable holiday concert that features a cross-genre blend of the tremendous musical talent here in London,” said Andrew Chung, Artistic Producer of London Symphonia. “Scott Good has artfully curated this program to include music that is uniquely familiar to each of us and also music that will open our ears to new and beautiful favourites for years to come.”

In addition to the smooth sweet R&B vocals of The McAuley Boys singing popular seasonal hits, in-person and livestream audiences will experience the joy and wonder of the holidays with music from *The Nutcracker*, *A Ceremony of Carols*, Eric Whitacre’s *Glow* and more performed by London Symphonia and the choirs of Metropolitan United Church.

“This concert brings together The McAuley Boys signature interpretations of seasonal

favourites such as Wonderful Christmas Time, Jingle Bell Rock, and O Holy Night, all newly arranged for orchestra, alongside choral masterpieces by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Benjamin Britten and Eric Whitacre,” said Scott Good. “The evening will close with a newly arranged version of the classic Hollies hit He Ain’t Heavy, He’s My Brother that is sure to lift everyone’s spirits!”

London Symphonia’s holiday concert has become a family tradition. The appearance of a surprise guest takes the family spirit to a new level.

“For some, our album Wonderful Christmas Time has been in their holiday playlist for over 25 years,” said Gary McAuley. “For those discovering it today, we hope our renditions fill their hearts with joy this holiday season! We look forward to sharing the stage with London Symphonia, and our special guests, for what should be one magical night!”

Concertgoers can choose to attend **Christmas With The McAuley Boys** in person or view the Livestream and then enjoy unlimited 4K HDR On Demand Access until December 30, 2023.

The 7:30 p.m. concerts can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium Seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand access plus processing fee and HST. Tickets are available online at londonsymphonia.ca.

LISTING INFORMATION

Christmas With The McAuley Boys

London Symphonia

Scott Good, guest conductor

Sat. Dec. 9 at 7:30 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Metropolitan United, 468 Wellington St, London, ON N6A 3P8

The concert can be heard in person or livestreamed online. In-person tickets are \$52 Regular seating, \$70 Premium seating, and \$50 for Livestream / On Demand Access plus fees and HST. Free tickets are available for Post Secondary, High School and Children aged 6 to 12. Compose Your Own subscriptions, Family-Flex Packs and tickets to individual concerts can be purchased online at londonsymphonia.ca.

London Symphonia is deeply grateful for the continued support of the London Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, and the Ontario Arts Council.

ABOUT THE McAULEY BOYS

The McAuley Boys is a R&B/Pop vocal group from London, Ontario with a recording and performance career that spans over three decades since the four brothers began singing at local events when they were kids. The McAuley Boys first full length CD Wonderful Christmas Time, released in 1995, became the second highest successful holiday album release behind Bryan Adams. Their first original studio album, In Another Lifetime received a JUNO nomination for Best Soul/R&B Album of the Year in 1997. The McAuley Boys’ third album, My Heaven, included two top selling singles, “My Heaven” and “By The Way”, that made it to the MuchMusic Playlist. They recently released their first single in 20 years, *I Can’t Wait To See You Smile*.

The McAuley Boys have performed with the likes of ‘The God Father of Soul’, James Brown, ‘The Queen of Soul’, Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, the Temptations and many others. Notable performances include singing the Canadian National Anthem at the 1997 Major League Baseball All-Star Game, performing on the ‘97 Juno Awards, and representing Canada as

music ambassadors at the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. In 2012, The McAuley Boys were awarded Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee Medal for their achievements in music and service to their community.

Each of the brothers has established a highly successful career. Randy and Mark are lawyers. Randy is a partner at Goodmans LLP in Toronto and Mark practices at Lerner LLP in London. George is Vice-Principal of Regina Mundi Catholic College in London. In March 2023, he received Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal for his achievements in music and his anti-racism work in the community. Gary continues to produce music and is an entrepreneur actively involved with several tech and music start-ups.

ABOUT SCOTT GOOD

Scott Good is a composer, conductor, concert designer and trombonist whose music is driven by the desire to create beauty, evoke emotion, and play with groove. As Composer-In-Residence with London Symphonia (2015-present) and the Vancouver Symphony (2008-2011), he has composed numerous orchestral works and orchestral arrangements. He is currently collaborating with the R&B quartet, The McAuley Boys, to create a mixed program of pop-infused arrangements alongside classical masterpieces for a winter season spectacular with London Symphonia and choir. Upcoming projects for the orchestra include the premiere of Lasker-Schüler Songs for rising star soprano Midori Marsh and London Symphonia (2024), and two silent film scores: The Passion of Joan of Arc for a mixture of voices and period instruments to be premiered by Ensemble Caprice in Montreal in 2026, and a two-and-a-half hour score for large orchestra and chorus to the epic silent film classic Metropolis with the Kingston Symphony, celebrating the film's 100th anniversary (2027).

With a belief in the power of art to enable cathartic events, he has worked with a rich community of musicians, orchestras, ensembles, choreographers, actors, and artists to create intense, meaningful live performance experiences. His music has been described as "a kind of majestic bestial reality" (Globe and Mail), "gloriously cacophonous" (Ottawa Citizen), "sumptuously orchestrated" (Montreal Gazette), and "dynamic, vivid" (Winnipeg Free Press).

ABOUT LONDON SYMPHONIA

London Symphonia is a professional symphony orchestra committed to performing vibrant and bold musical experiences for London and the region. With a core of 30 players, our versatile group meets the community's needs for quality programming by presenting well-known symphonies, Canadian premieres, and collaborations with some of Canada's finest singer-songwriters. We deliver a rich, artistic experience by seeking out the most accomplished performers and conductors representing a blend of locally, nationally and internationally recognized talent. A registered charitable organization, we perform a number of outreach and music education engagements each season for students and seniors in our community.

Website: londonsymphonia.ca

Social media: Join the conversation on Facebook | Instagram | Twitter | YouTube

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