



For Immediate Release
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MANITOBA OPERA PRESENTS
CANDIDE
IN CONCERT
A Sparkling Musical Comedy Classic
Saturday, February 28, 8 pm

“All is for the best in the best of all possible worlds.”
Or is it?

That’s what the innocent Candide and his friends are trying to discover as they optimistically set off on an incredible, but disaster-filled journey to experience the world.

Manitoba Opera presents Bernstein’s *Candide* in Concert, a politically incorrect satire based on Voltaire’s masterpiece, Saturday, February 28, beginning at 8 pm at the Centennial Concert Hall.

One of the best operettas of our time and considered to be his finest score, *Candide* was composed by American great, **Leonard Bernstein**. It stars a host of acclaimed Canadian artists and Manitoban singers. The major roles will be sung by **Tracy Dahl** (Cunegonde), **Stuart Howe** (Candide), **Theodore Baerg** (Dr. Pangloss/Narrator), **Lynne McMurtry** (The Old Lady), and **Lara Ciekiewicz** (Paquette). Multiple roles will be sung by **Kurt Lehmann**, **Doug MacNaughton**, **Victor Pankratz**, **Mel Braun**, **Derek Morphy**, **Sheldon Johnson**, and **Peter John Buchan**, with the **Manitoba Opera Chorus** and **Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra**, conducted by **Tadeusz Biernacki**.

Widely appealing with its tuneful overture and popular selections including “Glitter and Be Gay,” “I Am Easily Assimilated,” and “Make Our Garden Grow,” *Candide* will be sung in English.

Tickets are on sale now. Go to www.ticketmaster.ca; call 253-ARTS (2787); or visit a Ticketmaster outlet. Ticket prices: Adults - \$30 to \$104; Seniors/Students - \$30 to \$97; Children 12 and under - \$17.25 to \$54.25. (Prices include GST, the MCCH \$1.00 surcharge, and the Ticketmaster \$3.50 service charge.)

Please note: This presentation contains sexually suggestive references.

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2. *Manitoba Opera Candide in Concert, Feb. 28/09*

THE STORY

In beautiful Westphalia, Candide, his cousin, Cunegonde, her brother, Maximilian, and the maid, Paquette live a blissful life. Their teacher, Dr. Pangloss has instilled in them the notion that all events, even bad ones, are for the best.

Determined to follow his instructor's creed of mindless optimism, after being banished from his homeland, Candide embarks on his search for life's meaning and confronts arduous travel, grave misfortune, corrupt mankind, and merciless Nature. However, despite the changing tides of bliss and misery, optimism and pessimism, the hopeful Candide, along with his childhood love, Cunegonde, commit themselves to the pursuit of "universal good."

For more information on *Candide* in Concert, go to www.manitobaopera.mb.ca

PRODUCTION SPONSOR: INVESTORS GROUP



SPECIAL PRESENTATION: "A CANDIDE CONVERSATION" PANEL DISCUSSION
Sunday, February 22, 2 pm

Canadian Mennonite University, 500 Shaftesbury Blvd.
FREE ADMISSION

Discussion Topics: Voltaire, his time and his satirical look at optimism;
Bernstein, his time, and his motivation in composing *Candide*;
The music of *Candide*, exploring the cross-over between classical opera and Broadway.

Panelists: Gene Walz, Professor of Film, Faculty of Arts, University of Manitoba;
Anne Sechin, Professor of Translation, Faculty of Arts, St. Boniface College;
Tadeusz Biernacki, Conductor and Chorus Master, Manitoba Opera