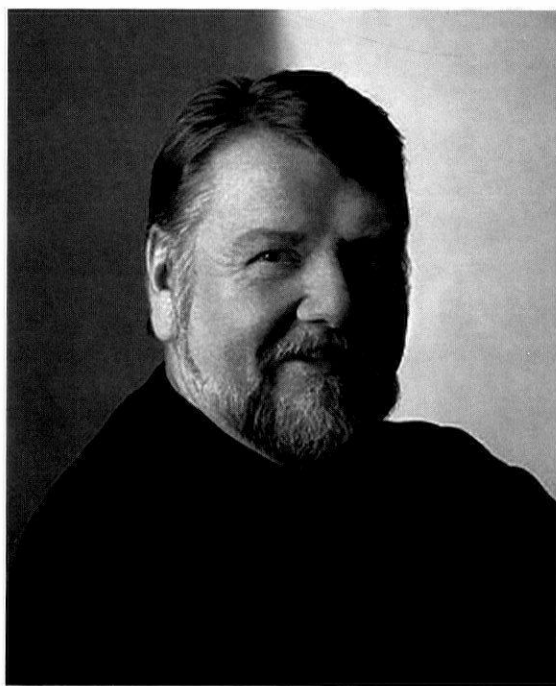


50th Anniversary Season  
2006-2007



**White Rock  
Concerts  
Presents**

**BEN HEPPNER, tenor**  
Craig Rutenberg, piano



*Friday, January 19, 2007*

Minister of Canadian Heritage  
and Status of Women



Ministre du Patrimoine canadien  
et de la Condition féminine

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5



**W**elcome to White Rock Concerts.

**F**or a half a century, the White Rock Concerts Society has presented some of the world's greatest music performed by talented musicians from across the country and around the world. Now a time-honoured tradition, the Concerts are a prime example of the power of music to inspire us, bring us together, and improve the quality of life in our communities.

**A**s Minister of Canadian Heritage and Status of Women, I would like to offer congratulations on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Concerts. I wish the Society continued success in making quality musical performances accessible to audiences in White Rock, South Surrey, and the surrounding area.

**E**njoy the concerts!

Beverley J. Oda

**Canada**

## **Our Next concert**

### **WINTER WINDS [*A Few More....*]**

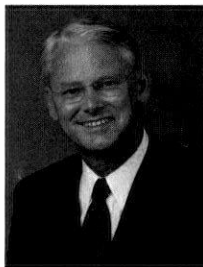
featuring

**Guy Few, trumpet, Francois Houle, clarinet, George Zukerman, bassoon**

Borealis String Quartet, Jane Hayes, piano, Wilmer Fawcett, bass and Graham Boyle, percussion

*Music of Casella, Martinu, Revueltas, Glinka, Schmeltzer and Prokofiev*

**FRIDAY FEBRUARY 09, 2007**



January 2007

*A Message from the Premier*

As Premier of the Province of British Columbia, it gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the White Rock Concert Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

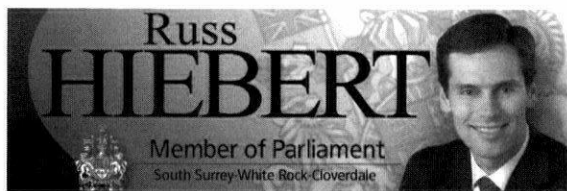
This year's concert series promises to be another successful and entertaining event in the series' fifty-year history. People of all ages will be delighted with a recital by Canada's acclaimed tenor, Mr. Ben Heppner. His presence is a great way to highlight this milestone anniversary and is a testament to the reputation of White Rock Concerts.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the organizers, sponsors, staff and volunteers who make this event possible. Their time, effort and passion for music will be thoroughly enjoyed by performers and audience alike.

Please accept my best wishes for a great concert in this significant anniversary year.

Sincerely,

Gordon Campbell  
Premier



Dear Fellow Music Lover,

It gives me great pleasure to offer my congratulations on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of White Rock Concerts. Producing beautiful music for five decades is an incredible accomplishment.

And what better way to celebrate this Golden Anniversary than with the golden voice of legendary Canadian tenor Ben Heppner! I know that those in attendance will long cherish this special musical evening.

White Rock Concerts has made an important contribution to the cultural life of our community over the years and we are all deeply indebted to George Zukerman and his fellow organizers. I wish them all the best as we look forward to many more years of great music.

Sincerely,

Russ Hiebert, MP



## JUDY L. FORSTER

January, 2007



It is with much pleasure that I offer our City's congratulations to *White Rock Concerts* on this auspicious occasion celebrating your 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

White Rock Concerts has a long and proud history and the City of White Rock is most fortunate to have this exceptional group bringing internationally acclaimed artists and performances to its audiences. White Rock Concerts reputation for presenting world class entertainment is second to none and its continuing support for the advancement of Canadian artists is a tribute to its commitment to elevate Canadian talent on the world stage. We welcome special guest Mr. Ben Heppner and look forward to his engagement with anticipation and delight.

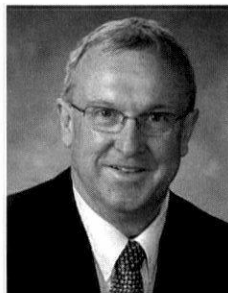
On behalf of my colleagues on Council and the citizens of White Rock, we extend our very best wishes on this outstanding milestone. We thank you for bringing international attention to our community, and look forward to many more years of musical enjoyment from White Rock Concerts.

Kindest regards,

Judy L. Forster,  
Mayor

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## Congratulations to White Rock Concerts Golden Anniversary



White Rock Concerts has grown with our community and together we celebrate our Golden Anniversary. The leadership of George Zukerman has insured that we have much to celebrate. Music can effect us physically, emotionally, intellectually and even spiritually. It is a method for establishing rapport. Rapport between artist and audience, between culture and community - at its best, and this anniversary season reflects the best, it frees the spirit and unites opposites, it creates harmony.

Artists and the arts need to be celebrated, to be recognized and to be remembered, your support helps to create a legacy, not just for today, but for all time. We are honoured by the contributions of the White Rock Concerts. They help to ensure a tolerant, civil and progressive society and they help to free our spirits while engaging our community in it's healthy growth.

Best Wishes

Gordon Hogg, MLA  
Surrey-White Rock

## A message from Ben Heppner:

What a delight it is for me to be back in my home province - even to have a chance to visit my home-town and family members who still live up North!

But more than that, I particularly welcome the grand opportunity to be able to sing for British Columbians in some of the smaller cities around the province. Just because music lovers in distant parts of Canada live in smaller centres doesn't automatically mean that they should be cut-off from some of the opportunities which are taken for granted in the world's larger centres.

It will always hold a special place in my memory that listed in my 2007 calendar between the magnificent opera houses of Europe and the USA will be these concert engagements in Dawson Creek, Prince George, Kamloops, Vernon Kelowna, White Rock and Salt Spring.

It's great to be home again for a few days!

Ben Heppner

PS In order to fulfil the dates on this mini-tour, I'll be driving the Hart Highway and other Northern routes. Craig Rutenberg and my Personal Representative, Eldon McBride are in for the driving experience of their lives!

---

### *Where is Ben Heppner singing for the rest of this season?*

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Jan 4  | Dawson Creek, B.C., recital, <i>South Peace Regional Arts Council</i> |
| Jan 7  | Prince George, B.C., recital, <i>Prince George Symphony</i>           |
| Jan 10 | Kamloops, BC, B.C., recital, <i>Kamloops Symphony</i>                 |
| Jan 13 | Vernon, B.C., recital, <i>North Okanagan Community Concerts</i>       |
| Jan 16 | Kelowna, B.C., recital, <i>Kelowna Community Concerts</i>             |
| Jan 19 | White Rock, B.C., recital, <i>White Rock Concerts</i>                 |
| Jan 22 | Salt Spring Island, B.C., recital <i>Artspring</i>                    |

#### *followed by*

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Feb 3               | San Juan, Puerto Rico, <i>Orquesta Sinfónica de Puerto Rico</i> , Guillermo Figueroa, conductor, <b>Andrea Chénier</b> [concert version] |
| Feb 15/18           | Montréal, Québec, <i>Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal</i> , Kent Nagano, conductor, <b>Tristan and Isolde</b> [concert version]         |
| Mar 22-<br>Apr 18   | New York City, <i>Metropolitan Opera</i> , James Levine, conductor, <b>Andrea Chénier</b> [8 performances]                               |
| May 15 -<br>June 11 | Paris <i>Opera Bastille</i> , Opera National, Valery Gergiev, conductor, <b>Lohengrin</b> [8 performances]                               |
| June 20 -27         | Vienna, <i>Vienna State Opera</i> , Stefan Soltesz, conductor, <b>Lohengrin</b> [3 performances]   |

# BEN HEPPNER, tenor

Craig Rutenberg, piano

## Programme

### *Folk Songs*

The Plough Boy  
The Lincolnshire Poacher  
The Foggy, Foggy Dew  
The Salley Gardens  
Avenging and Bright

*Benjamin Britten [1913-1976]*

### *Songs of Northern European Composers*

*Piotr Ilych Tchaikovsky [1840-1893]*

To bilo ranneyu vesnoy. Op. 38, No. 2 [Text: Tolstoy]

*[It was in the Early Spring]*

Net, tol'ko tot, kto znal. Op. 6, No. 6 [Text: Goethe]

*[No! Only one who knows loneliness can understand!]*

Var det en dröm? [Text: Wecksell]

*[Was that a dream?]*

*Jan Sibelius [1865-1957]*

Flickan kom ifrån sin älsklings möte [Text: Runneberg]

*[The Girl returned from meeting her Lover...]*

Lauf der Welt [Text: Uhland]

*[The Way of the World]*

*Edvard Grieg [1843-1907]*

Ein Traum [Text: von Bodenstedt]

*[A Dream]*

## Intermission

**The World's Finest Pianos, available at;**

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**ABBOTSFORD** : 32451 S. Fraser Way (604)854-3338

**VICTORIA** : 2020 Blanshard Street (250)383-5222

**NANAIMO** : 6894 Island Hwy. North (250)390-2626

**[OPEN 7 DAYS : Mon. Tue. Wed. & Sat. 10am - 6pm | Thur. & Fri. 10am - 8pm | Sunday 12noon - 5pm]**

YAMAHA



### *Great Arias from Opera*

Winterstürme wichen dem Wonnemond [Die Walküre] **Richard Wagner [1813-1883]**  
*[Winter storms give way to Spring]*

Come un bel dì di maggio [Andrea Chénier] **Umberto Giordano [1867-1948]**  
*[Like a Lovely Day in May]*

Nessun Dorma [Turandot] **Giocomo Puccini [1858-1924]**  
*[Nobody sleeps]*

### *Parlour Songs*

Let My Song Fill Your Heart **Ernest Charles [1895-1984]**  
[The House On a Hill]

Serenade **Sigmund Romberg [1897-1951]**  
[The Student Prince]

Sylvia [Text: Scollard] **Oley Speaks [1874-1948]**

Be My Love **Nicholas Brodsky [1905-1958]**  
[The Toast of New Orleans]

*Ben Heppner appears through the courtesy of Columbia Artists Management, Inc. British Columbia Tour Coordinator: George Zukerman, Surrey, BC Manager: William Guerri, New York, NY Personal Assistant: Eldon McBride, Toronto, ON*

*The following CDs and DVDs will be available for purchase after tonight's concert. All prices include taxes.*

#### **CDs (\$20 each)**

**Heppner /Wagner**  
**Ideale: Songs of Paolo Tosti**  
**My Secret Heart**  
**Airs Francais**

#### **DVDs**

**Fidelio (\$25, including taxes)**  
**Die Meistersinger (\$50)**  
**Tristan und Isolde (\$50)**



# BEN HEPPNER

## Tenor

Ben Heppner is recognized worldwide as the finest dramatic tenor before the public today. He excels in the most challenging roles, from Wagner's Tristan and Lohengrin to Verdi's Otello and Berlioz' Aeneas. He is acclaimed in music capitals around the world for his beautiful voice, intelligent musicianship, and sparkling dramatic sense. His performances on the opera stage, in concert with the world's leading orchestras, in the most prestigious recital venues, and on recordings have set new standards in his demanding repertoire.

Ben Heppner returns to the Metropolitan Opera at the beginning of the current season to sing Idomeneo, which was his debut role with the company in 1991. Later this season he can be heard at the Met in Andrea Chénier. Mr. Heppner makes twenty-five concert appearances throughout Europe and North America this season, beginning with his recital at Carnegie Hall. In Europe he sings Act III of Siegfried with the Hallé Orchestra in Manchester, England, and he tours with the Rotterdam Philharmonic throughout Germany to sing arias from Die Walküre and Siegfried. His other European appearances include concerts in Paris, Madrid, Bilbao, Dresden and Mannheim.

His January 2007 tour of seven small British Columbia towns is a result of his personal determination to sing in his home Province. He was born in BC, raised in Dawson Creek [one of the seven towns on the January schedule] and now lives in Toronto. The seven BC towns and cities on the current tour are Dawson Creek, Prince George, Kamloops, Vernon Kelowna, White Rock and Salt Spring Island.

In August 1998 Mr. Heppner sang his first performances of Tristan und Isolde in a new production for Seattle Opera. The international press was ablaze with accolades for "a Tristan for the new millennium." He subsequently sang this heroic role at the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Berlin State Opera, Salzburg Easter Festival, Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, and the Paris Opera. He has been associated with the Wagner repertoire since 1988, when he won the first Birgit Nilsson prize.

Mr. Heppner joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra as soloist in Mahler's Eighth Symphony for James Levine's first concerts as the Orchestra's Music Director. He has performed with the Berlin Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, Philharmonia Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, and Orchestre de la Suisse Romande. Conductors he has worked with include Sir Georg Solti, Claudio Abbado, Christian Thielemann, Sir Andrew Davis, Daniel Barenboim, Lorin Maazel, Sir Charles Mackerras, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Seiji Ozawa, Valery Gergiev, Esa-Pekka Salonen and Mstislav Rostropovich.

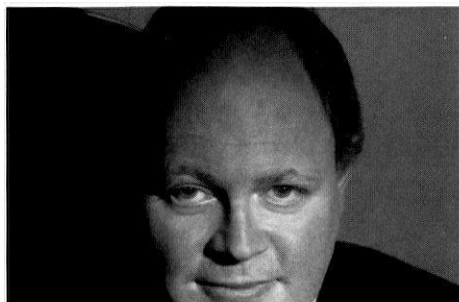
Ben Heppner can be heard on RCA Red Seal on several solo discs and he recently became an exclusive artist for Deutsche Grammophon; his current release is a disc of arias from Wagner's Die Walküre and Siegfried, which has been acclaimed by the international music press.


Mr. Heppner studied music at the University of British Columbia. He first gained national attention in 1979 as the winner of the Canadian Broadcasting Company Talent Festival. In December 1998 CBC television's Something Special featured Ben Heppner in an hour-long portrait of the artist. He is a 1988 winner of the Metropolitan Opera auditions and he received Grammy® Awards in 1998 for his recording of Die Meistersinger on London/Decca records and in 2001 for his recording of Les Troyens with the London Symphony Orchestra on LSOLive. Ben Heppner is an Officer of the Order of Canada. Please visit [www.benheppner.com](http://www.benheppner.com).



## Craig Rutenberg, pianist

Pianist Craig Rutenberg has worked at the San Francisco Opera, Houston Grand Opera, Glynebourn Festival, Festival d'Aix-en-Provence, and l'Opéra Comique de Paris. He has been accompanist for Ben Heppner, Frederica von Stade, Eric Mills, Sumi Jo, Patricia Schuman, Olaf Bär, Stanford Olsen, Roberta Peters, and Régine Crespin and Thomas Hampson. Mr. Rutenberg has served as head of the music staff of the Metropolitan Opera and on the faculty of Yale University, and he currently holds an appointment as Music Supervisor of the Opera institute at Boston University, while remaining active in giving master classes at the Chautauqua Institute, the Santa Fe Opera, the Wolf Trap Opera, and L'Ecole Lyrique de la Bastille, Paris. Prior to launching his international career he studied with Pierre Bernac, Geoffrey Parsons, and John Wustman.

A large, high-contrast black and white profile photograph of Ben Heppner, facing left, wearing a dark jacket.

**ben heppner**  
ON 

Ben will be autographing copies of his CDs after the concert.



© Sebastian Hänel / DG

**ALSO AVAILABLE**



*Coast Capital Savings  
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White Rock Concerts  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

At Coast Capital Savings, we're here to help. Every year, we help the communities we live and work in with donations of money, time and resources. We do this not just because we believe in being good corporate citizens, but also because we believe in simply being good citizens.



*How can we help you?™*

*Congratulations*  
**to White Rock Concerts**

now entering a sixth decade as a vital and valued contributor to the musical scene and cultural life of the area.

The sterling tradition of bringing major musical artists to the Semiahmoo Peninsula is grandly exemplified by tonight's concert with Ben Heppner.

*Best wishes for continued  
success in the year's ahead*

THE PEACE ARCH  
**news**

## Message from the President

The first time that I saw Ben Heppner in concert was probably about 20 years ago, at the Orpheum with the Vancouver Opera orchestra. A young tenor came out on stage and delighted and amazed that audience and I have been an unabashed fan ever since. And it has been a dream to hear him again and again, but, Ben Heppner in White Rock ? To present him here in White Rock has been an impossible dream of mine for a while. Tonight, dreams come true.

It all started out with Loretta Bell-Hardy in Vernon. Nearly two years ago, she mused out loud, and our Artistic Director, George Zukerman, overheard her. Why not, after all? Vernon, Kelowna, White Rock - a small city mega tour for a Canadian mega-artist.

George went to work with management and with Mr. Heppner's personal representative. A great deal went on behind the scenes. I made a detour on my family European trip to meet Ben in London. It was clear that he wanted to return for such a tour to his home Province. Word quickly spread among smaller communities in BC....but Mr. Heppner only had so many days to spare between the great Opera houses of Europe and America.

Still, in the end White Rock has been joined by six others communities throughout BC - Prince George, Dawson Creek, Kamloops, Salt Spring Island as well as Kelowna and Vernon. 7 engagements in 21 days of magnificent touring across the width and breadth of our great Province.

You may hear Sheilagh Rogers talking about this "miracle tour" on "Sounds Like Canada". You may see it written up, in a sense of bemused amazement, in the Globe and Mail, Vancouver Sun or National Post. But Ben Heppner himself sums it all up in his message, elsewhere in this programme -

*"Just because music lovers in distant parts of Canada live in smaller centres doesn't automatically mean that they should be cut-off from some of the opportunities which are taken for granted in the world's larger centres."*

Welcome to this Highpoint of our 50th anniversary season!  
What a way to start a new Year!

**Rick Gambrel**  
President,  
White Rock Concerts



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# WHITE ROCK CONCERTS

## 50th Anniversary Season 2006-2007



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