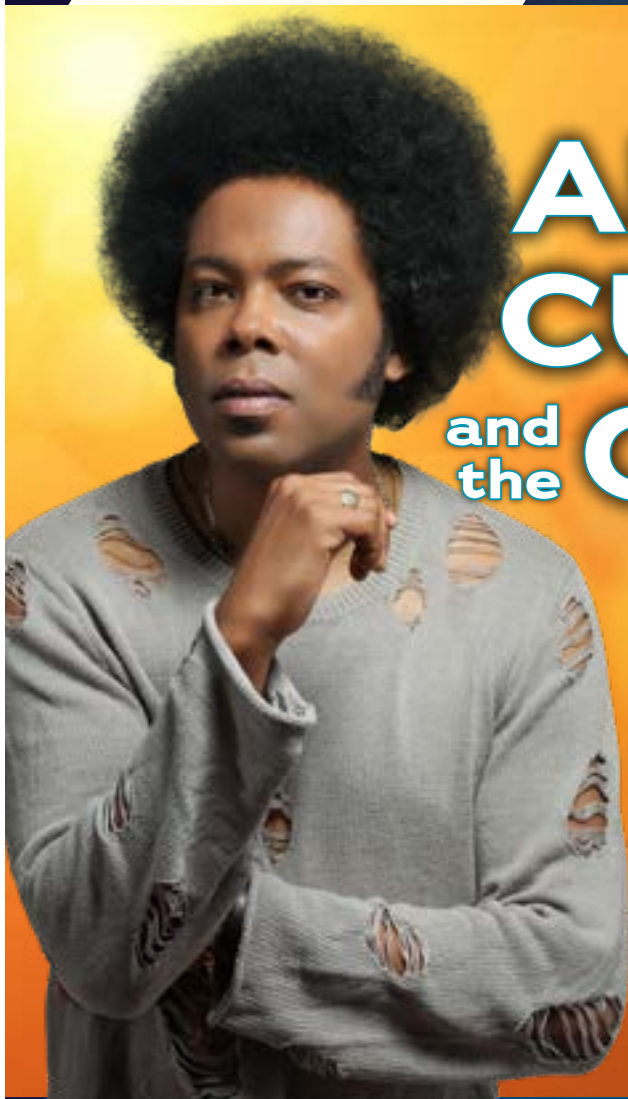


OSO

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ORCHESTRA

ROSEMARY THOMSON, MUSIC DIRECTOR



ALEX CUBA and the OSO

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Friday, April 1, 2022 7:30 pm
VIA UNICORNS.LIVE

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Friday, April 1, 2022 7:30 pm
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OUR MISSION: To awaken curiosity and to share the power of live orchestral music.

We are the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra, the third-largest professional orchestra in BC. We have shared live music experiences with residents and visitors to the Okanagan for over 60 years. Over the last 15 years, through the leadership of Music Director Rosemary Thomson, the OSO has become a highly dedicated, professional ensemble.

Our professional players are talented musicians grounded and invested in our community, teaching music, mentoring our youth and performing as soloists and in ensembles

throughout the valley and the province.

In addition to the many live public concerts presented annually, our community engagement programs bring unique music and learning experiences to everyone from preschoolers to seniors through programs like Symphony Storytime, school shows and band clinics, masterclasses and workshops, and especially to young musicians through our Okanagan Symphony Youth Orchestra (OSYO).

We are grateful for the many contributors who donate, sponsor, attend, partner and advise us in the work we do.

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ROSEMARY THOMSON
Music Director / OSYO Co-Conductor

A HIGHLY SKILLED MUSICIAN experienced in conducting a wide variety of repertoire with an innovative audience presentation, Rosemary Thomson is currently in her fifteenth season as Music Director of the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra. Under her leadership, the orchestra has blossomed and OSO audiences have grown to unprecedented levels. She has also led the OSO in creating multiple community engagement programs throughout the valley. In 2020, Rosemary also took on the role of Artistic Director for Opera Kelowna. She often shares her passion for music throughout the valley as a guest host, instructor, and writer in schools, colleges, service clubs and through various media channels.

A graduate of the University of Toronto and the Banff Centre for the Arts, Ms. Thomson came to the Okanagan from the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, where she was Resident Conductor and Chorus Master. For four seasons she was Assistant Conductor to Richard Bradshaw for the Canadian Opera Company. She also served as Conductor in Residence for the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, where she was mentored by Maestro Bramwell Tovey. For fourteen seasons she conducted Toronto's new music ensemble Continuum, with whom she toured Canada and Europe and recorded several CDs of music by Canadian composers.

Ms. Thomson has been active as a guest conductor and has led a number of Canadian orchestras including those of Calgary, Edmonton, Kingston, National Arts Centre, Regina, Toronto, Thunder Bay, Vancouver, Victoria, and Winnipeg. Operatically, she has been on the faculty for Opera Nuova (Edmonton) for



ROSEMARY THOMSON

15 seasons and has guest conducted Highlands Opera (Haliburton, Ontario), Opera Garden (Aberdeen, Scotland) and UBC Opera. She also conducted the world premiere of Yvette Nolan and Dean Burry's opera *Shanawdithit* for Tapestry Opera in Toronto, for which she received a Dora nomination for Music Direction in 2020. Ms. Thomson will make her Vancouver Opera debut in April 2022.

Ms. Thomson serves as a Regional Director for the Canadian Music Centre and is on the National Advocacy team for Orchestras Canada. Her work has been recognized with the Honour in the Arts Award through the Kelowna Civic and Community recognition program as well as the Okanagan Arts Awards in the Music category. In 2021 she received the Provincial Community Spirit award through the BC Spirit Foundation. Through her work with Opera Kelowna, Rosemary has recently been named as one of two national mentors for the Women in Musical Leadership initiative, a new program run by Tapestry Opera, Pacific Opera Victoria and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Thomson is the subject of a new documentary film titled *Shiny Objects: The Conductor with ADHD*, which is currently being shown at film festivals around the world.

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ROBERT THOMSON MUSIC DIRECTOR

Violin I

Susan Schaffer,
Acting Concertmaster¹
Cvetozar Vutev, Acting
Assistant Concertmaster
Sandra Wilmot
Denis Letourneau
Julia Watson

Violin II

Martine denBok^{*2}
Narumi Higuchi³
John Suderman
Hilary Langton

Viola

Erin Macdonald^{*4}
Sylvia Lange
Fahlon Smith

Cello

Martin Kratky^{**}
Olivia Walsh⁵
Morna Howie⁶

Double Bass

Meaghan Williams^{*7}

Flute

Anna McGuigan^{**8}
Rhannon Jones

Oboe

Lauris Davis^{*9}
Juanita Gomes

Clarinet

Nicola Everton^{**}
Sally Arai

Bassoon

Karmen Doucette^{*10}
Lori Barrett

Horn

Sam McNally^{**11}
Edmund House

Trumpet

Audrey Patterson^{*12}
Jim Howie

Trombone

Wade Dorsey^{*}

Timpani

Dominique Bernath^{*13}

Percussion

Katie Rife^{*}

^{*}Principal

^{**}Acting Principal

On Leave for this program:

Rachel Kristenson
Susan Aylard
Ashley Kroecher

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³ Violin II Second Chair sponsored by Dr. Kong & Noelle Khoo

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⁶ Morna Howie's Cello Chair sponsored by Les & Catherine Dawson

⁷ Principal Bass Chair sponsored by Jane Callahan

⁸ Principal Flute Chair sponsored by Andrew Grindlay

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THOUGH RAISED IN ARTEMISA, Cuba, an hour outside of Havana, Alex Cuba's artistry is as far-flung as the place he has settled and



ALEX CUBA

lived for almost twenty years: Smithers, BC, fourteen hours north of Vancouver. His music at once incorporates his roots and is a unique amalgam of styles, having collaborated with artists ranging from Jason Mraz to Ron Sexsmith and Nelly Furtado; and bringing together melodies, pop-soul hooks and rock chords in songs that may seem to bear little resemblance to traditional Cuban form.

A forward-thinking, indie-minded artist, Alex has amassed a steadily growing following

among critics and fans, with over 20 awards and nominations to his name, including four Latin Grammys, two Junos Awards and four Grammy nominations.

His musical evolution for years was all about searching for the simplicity and soul in Cuban music — taking apart the complex arrangements, mixing it with North American influences, adopting the melodic simplicity of pop music, looking to Cuban folk traditions for inspiration— he's always exploring, always creating something fresh and new, and always, it seems, getting it just right.

In 2021 Alex recorded at home and added recording engineer to his credits as musician, singer-songwriter, producer. From the healing voice of Grammy Award winning Lila Downs on "Mundo Nuevo", to his colourful collaboration with world-renowned flamenco artist Antonio Carmona, and commissioning a 13-piece horn band from his native Cuba, Alex's vibrant eighth studio album, *Mendó*, is filled with international collaborations.

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Amor Infinito

Ahora

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Sólo Tu

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2021/2022

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OSYO

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2021/2022 SEASON

spring CONCERT



featuring works by

SMETANA

SAINT-SAËNS

BIZET

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KELOWNA May 29 7:00 pm

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