

Media Release  
March 6, 2025

## **Pacific Opera Victoria Presents: The Inaugural Luminary Series Lawrence Brownlee in Recital at the McPherson Playhouse**

Victoria, BC – Pacific Opera Victoria is proud to present the inaugural *Luminary Series at the McPherson*, a dazzling showcase of exceptional artists bringing their notable projects to Victoria for one-night-only events. The second concert of the series, on March 19 at 7:30 pm, features tenor *Lawrence Brownlee in Recital* with acclaimed pianist Kevin Miller. This remarkable evening of opera will feature selections from Brownlee’s Grammy-nominated album *Rising* (Best Classical Solo Vocal Album, 2023), where leading African-American composers set poetry from the Harlem Renaissance to song, alongside some of Brownlee’s favourite bel canto composers including Verdi, Bellini, Donizetti, and Rossini.

### **Quote from Brenna**

Pacific Opera Lawrence Brownlee is a leading figure in opera, both as a singer on the world’s top stages, and as a voice for activism and diversity in the industry. He has been hailed as “an international star in the bel canto operatic repertory” (*The New York Times*), “one of the world’s leading bel canto stars” (*The Guardian*), and “one of the most in-demand opera singers in the world today” (*NPR*).

In December of 2024, Brownlee was awarded the title Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of The Order of Arts and Letters) by the Cultural Counselor of France, Mr. Mohamed Bouabdallah. This rank is awarded to those who have distinguished themselves in the culture spheres, or by their support for the distribution of knowledge and works that form the wealth of France's cultural heritage.

Highlights of Brownlee’s recent seasons include his return as Ernesto in *Don Pasquale* at Teatro alla Scala Milan and as Tonio in *La fille du régiment* at Lyric Opera Chicago, as well as his role debuts as Tamino in *Die Zauberflöte* at The Metropolitan Opera, as Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor* at The New National Theatre Tokyo and Fernand in a new production of Donizetti’s *La Favorite* with Houston Grand Opera. In spring 2021, Brownlee joined The Juilliard School as a Distinguished Visiting Faculty Member. He serves as artistic advisor for Opera Philadelphia and is an Ambassador for Lyric Opera of Chicago’s Lyric Unlimited as well as Opera for Peace.

In recent years, Brownlee has emerged as a pivotal voice around equity and diversity in classical music. Brownlee works with companies and engages civic organizations in the cities he visits to create programs and experiences seeking to expand opera audiences. His critically acclaimed solo recital program *Cycles of My Being*, a song cycle that centers on the black male experience in America today, toured extensively, including performances at Opera Philadelphia, Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, and virtual broadcasts throughout 2020.

*The Luminary Series at the McPherson* promises unforgettable performances and intimate encounters with some of classical music’s most extraordinary talents. Upcoming is The Gryphon Trio: *ECHO: Memories of the World* on May 29 at 7:30pm.

Tickets for the *Luminary Series at the McPherson* start at \$65 (with a special price of \$50 for Pacific Opera subscribers). For more information about the *Luminary Series at the McPherson* and 2024/25 Season including tickets, visit: [Pacific Opera Tickets](#)

-30-

Media enquiries: Sandra Hudson 250-216-1380 [sandra@sandrahudsoncomm.com](mailto:sandra@sandrahudsoncomm.com)