

Media Release
October 29, 2025

Pacific Opera presents: *Remembering Mary's Wedding*

Victoria, BC – As the community honours those who have served and continue to serve our country, Pacific Opera is presenting a new event to mark Remembrance Day, *Remembering Mary's Wedding*, at the Baumann Centre on November 8 at 3:00pm & 7:00pm, and Royal Roads University's Dogwood Auditorium on November 11 at 2:00pm.

"Remembering the past is such a vital part of our society. This piece offers us the opportunity to engage in the ritual of remembrance through storytelling and music. It's not just about what we remember but how we remember," says Pacific Opera Artistic Director Brenna Corner.

Weaving together text and music from the 2011 opera of the same name, composer Andrew Paul MacDonald and librettist Stephen Massicotte have created this new interpretation of the *Mary's Wedding* story. This new production features local artists Christopher Mackie, Chelsea Kutyn, and Tim Carter with direction by Mercedes Bádiz-Benét.

In *Remembering Mary's Wedding*, a professor's lecture on the Canadian experience of World War I becomes the gateway into another story. Initially, he rejects the remembering of yet another war and decides instead to remember a love story – but this particular love story and the young lives he remembers have been touched by war – and soon he is drawn into remembering the cost of war on these two young lovers. The lecture transforms into a frame for select songs and scenes from *Mary's Wedding*, evoking a tender love story shaped by the turmoil of war. Blending history with theatre, the piece offers audiences both a glimpse of the classroom and a moving remembrance on stage.

In 2008, Pacific Opera Victoria invited MacDonald and Massicotte to adapt Massicotte's award-winning play *Mary's Wedding* into a new opera. The original play, a poignant story of love and remembrance, moves between the wide-open Prairies, the trenches of France, and the Battle of Moreuil Wood in March 1918. After three years in development, the opera had its world première in Victoria on November 10, 2011. In 2015, *Mary's Wedding* toured local schools, including Victoria High School and the University of Victoria.

In the spirit of remembrance, Pacific Opera is once again partnering with the University of Victoria Special Collections and Archives. A key element of the production will be content from the archives created by the University for the 2011 world-premiere of the production. Using photos and elements from the archives, the fictional story becomes rooted through a visual connection to the reality of that time. The photographs from the archives will make up the visual background of the narrative story unfolding from the performers.

This event is made possible by an extraordinary gift from Robert G. Milne, in honour of Larry Ryan.

Tickets are available at [Remembering Mary's Wedding Tickets](#), starting at \$15 for students and \$40 for Adults, In Remembrance tickets are available for \$60. 50% of In Remembrance Tickets proceeds benefit the Military Family Resource Centre. Tickets for the November 11 performance are free of charge for Active Military Members and Veterans.

For more information about Pacific Opera and the 2025/26 season, including tickets, visit: [Pacific Opera Victoria](#)