

TORONTO, CANADA 2005

A PERSPECTIVE

Research in 2003-2004 by Icons of Europe, Brussels, shows that Jenny Lind travelled in May 1849, shortly after her opera farewell in London and with the knowledge of Queen Victoria, incognito to Paris in an unsuccessful attempt to marry the ailing Chopin.



For the rest of her life, Jenny Lind continued to pay tribute to the music of Chopin in many different ways, which helped to promote his legacy. She gave a concert at Toronto in October 1851.

Chopin and The Nightingale has been performed in Brussels and Warsaw. The Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Poland, H.E. Mr Charles Crawford, wrote afterwards to his government: "It ingeniously brought together historical and musical elements from all over Europe ... to bring out the seamlessness of great European culture."



This cultural heritage is in debt to Canada. A collection of original Chopin manuscripts, including Mazurka in A flat of act 6 and Concerto in F minor, and other priceless Polish art treasures were in safekeeping in Canada during World War II and through 1961. An article in the new *Chopin in the World* journal, also available at iconsofeurope.com, puts this sojourn and transatlantic relationship into a historical perspective.



Icons of Europe

Icons of Europe promotes great culture – art, music, literature and science – as a platform for dialogue and inspiration. Based in Brussels and founded in 2001, this not-for-profit association is a partner of the Stop TB Partnership.

Chopin and The Nightingale: copyright © 2003 Icons of Europe asbl. Based on their book, *Chopin and The Swedish Nightingale* (Brussels, 2003). Filed at the United States Copyright Office of the Library of Congress. Cover: Chopin, Jenny Lind, H.C. Andersen, Bellini, Meyerbeer, Queen Victoria. <http://www.iconsofeurope.com> icons@europe.com the power of culture.

Programme

On the occasion of World TB Day 2005
Premiere of the musical drama

« Chopin and The Nightingale »



Under the patronage of
H.E. Mr David Reddaway CMG MBE,
British High Commissioner to Canada

by
The Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music

at
The Glass Room, Royal Ontario Museum

with the endorsement of
Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Toronto
Fryderyk Chopin Institute in Warsaw
Embassy of Canada in Brussels
Stop TB Canada

and the support of the
TB Program at Toronto Public Health

24 April 2005

TUBERCULOSIS

Chopin died of tuberculosis (TB) only 39 years old. When Jenny Lind sang for him in 1848-1849, he felt better. She raised funds to fight the disease, and he called her "my nurse".



"La mort de Chopin", lithograph

TB has today re-emerged as a global epidemic that continues to kill about two million people each year. TB is a bacterial infection that usually attacks the lungs. Spread by coughing and sneezing, the disease is curable with the appropriate treatment.

However, drug resistance, a TB/HIV interface, migrants and stigma have created a dangerous and complex situation in both low- and high-income countries. World TB Day, 24 March, is a WHO initiative designed to focus global attention on this massive challenge.

TORONTO PUBLIC HEALTH

The Tuberculosis Prevention & Control Program at Toronto Public Health works with the community to reduce the incidence and impact of tuberculosis. Strategies of the program are to prevent transmission of the disease, ensure appropriate treatment, and promote awareness of TB issues.

ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

Showcasing the world's culture and natural history, ROM is the largest museum in Canada. The Glass Room provides a magnificent space for special events.

GLENN GOULD SCHOOL

The Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music offers superb training in performance and teaching to gifted musicians from all over the world. Performing at the premiere:

Régulo Martinez, piano



Born in Madrid, he obtained a Magister atrium degree in 2003 as concert pianist at the University of Music in Graz, Austria.

Meghan Fleet, soprano



She has performed at the Festival Ensemble, Stuttgart, Germany and La Bohème, Figaro and Carmen.

Catherine Affleck, soprano



Numerous opera roles: Cleopatra in Julius Caesar, Pamina in The Magic Flute, Siren in Rinaldo,

David Visentin, narrator



Associate Dean of The Glenn Gould School and a violinist, he teaches and coaches and develops external concert series.

THE MUSICAL DRAMA

"Chopin and The Nightingale" is a musical dramatization of the newly discovered romance between Polish composer Fryderyk Chopin (1810-1849) and Swedish soprano and philanthropist Jenny Lind (1820-1887). Quotes from Chopin's letters and Hans Christian Andersen's "The Nightingale" set the stage for each act of the drama. Andersen wrote the story in 1843 as a tribute to Jenny Lind.

THE CAST

Emperor: Fryderyk Chopin, composer
Nightingale: Jenny Lind, soprano
Artificial bird: Delfina Potocka, soprano
Storyteller: Hans Christian Andersen



« ... and the Emperor said:
"Good morning!" »

SIX ACTS

1. Coup-de-foudre: Mrs Grote's home, London, 2 May 1848
 - Chopin: Fantaisie-Impromptu, op. 66
 - Bellini: I Capuleti e i Montecchi (atto I)
2. Magnolia: Clairville Cottage, Brompton, 12 May 1848
 - Isak Berg: Herdegossen
 - Norwegian echo song
3. In doubt: Calder House, Edinburgh, 30 October 1848
 - Chopin: Nocturne in B flat minor, op. 9, n° 1
 - Chopin: Etude in C minor, op. 10, n° 12
 - Chopin: Scherzo in B minor, op. 20, n° 1
4. Hope: 74 Rue de Chaillot, Paris, early June 1849
 - La Beauté (duet), inspired by Chopin's Mazurka in G Major, op. 67, n° 1
 - Meyerbeer: La mère grand – Allons, rentrez voici l'orage (duet)
5. Death: 12 Place Vendôme, Paris, shortly before 17 October 1849
 - Bellini: La Sonnambula, Scena ed Aria Finale
6. Love: Buckingham Palace, London, 30 May 1856
 - Chopin: Mazurka in A flat Major, op. 24, n° 3



Icons of Europe

Playwright, pro bono co-producer and sponsor of the musical drama

The concert "Chopin masterpieces and Nightingale songs" including Chopin's Concerto in F minor provided at the Royal Ontario Museum on 4 March 2005 a taste of this Canadian premiere that marks World TB Day.