



are already sold out for this holiday classic, so don't hesitate to book now. You can buy tickets online at [www.artsclub.com](http://www.artsclub.com), or by calling 604-687-1644. Performances run from December 4<sup>th</sup> until January 11<sup>th</sup>.



Newsletter #114

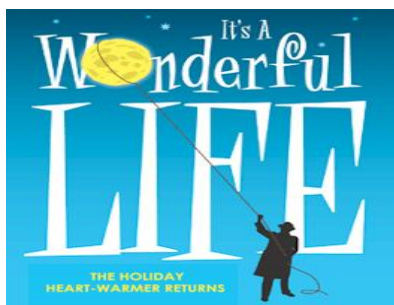
December 2010

### Around the House (1) – Hotel Limousine

We have recently been advised that due to staff reductions at the hotel, the availability of the limousine service for residents is going to be very much reduced. We will try to accommodate requests, but we can't make any promises. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

### Around Town (1) – Irving Berlin's White Christmas: The Musical

Make your days merry and bright by warming to this unforgettable musical about love and friendship. Based on the classic holiday film, this tap-dancing delight brims with tunes—including "Sisters" and the ever-popular "White Christmas"—that will fill you with the joy of the season.



The show is at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, just across the Granville Street Bridge, at 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. And note that many performances

### Around Town (2) – The Bach Cantata Project

Early Music Vancouver presents a program of festive cantatas for the holiday season. The concert features Early Music Vancouver's Bach Cantata Project Players under the direction of Marc Destrubé. In true baroque performance style, Mr. Destrubé will also be the violin soloist in some of the works. Other soloists include Ellen Hargis, soprano, Laura Pudwell, alto, Lawrence Wiliford, tenor and Sumner Thompson, baritone.



The concert takes place at the Chan Shun Concert Hall, on the UBC campus. Tickets are available at the Chan Box Office, by calling 604-732-1610, or at [www.earlymusic.bc.ca](http://www.earlymusic.bc.ca).

### Around Town (3) - Leonard Cohen

Returning to Vancouver by popular demand, master songwriter, musician and poet Leonard Cohen will bring his world tour back to our city this month. As one of his final six scheduled North American concert engagements, the Vancouver performance will be a rare opportunity to catch Mr. Cohen before his planned return to the studio in 2011.

Around the world, all of Leonard Cohen's magnificent three-hour performances have received overwhelming ovations night after night. As the London Daily Telegraph plainly stated, it is "an extraordinary night of music."

The vast list of music critics in unanimous agreement continues in kind, with the St. Louis Post-Dispatch calling the show "an absolute stunner" and the Las Vegas Sun praising "his songs of love, loss and longing serving as a soundtrack to some sort of spiritual celebration."



Nashville Scene declared that Cohen was "stylish, energetic and sharp," while the Las Vegas Review Journal described the concert as "a joyous, spirited occasion...the rapturous, near-capacity crowd responded as if he were serenading each and every one of them individually."

As he has been throughout his world tour, Mr. Cohen will be joined by Sharon Robinson and the Webb Sisters - who have wowed crowds around the world with their rich, complementary background vocals. The concert takes place at Rogers Arena, formerly General Motors Place, on Thursday December 2nd, 2010. True Canadiana fans will not want to miss this.

#### Around Town (4) – Lucia di Lammermoor

Early in December, Vancouver Opera presents its second work of the 2010-2011 season. According to their blurb, "Ancient clan hatred leads to madness and murder in Donizetti's thrilling masterpiece of melodic beauty and psychological depth. Lucia loves Edgardo, her family's enemy. With cruel deception, Lucia's brother forces her to marry another man to save the family from financial ruin. The consequences are devastating: three innocent people die and the bitter feud lives on."



Set in the brooding lowlands of Scotland, Lucia di Lammermoor's heartbreaking drama of fatal family dynamics and its portrait of a fragile virtuous woman are profoundly affecting. Passion, romance, filial love, loyalty and betrayal are all expressed in Donizetti's exquisite bel canto score. The climactic "mad scene" is one of the most famous in opera."

The work will be staged on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup>, at the new and improved Queen Elizabeth Theatre. All performances will start at 7:30pm, and although the work will be sung in Italian, there will be English surtitles to help you follow the action. Tickets are available through the usual outlets.

#### Around Town (5) – Noel Coward's Brief Encounter

Recommended by the Daily Telegraph as a "first-class return to romance," Vancouver Playhouse presents the classic in musical form until December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Emma Rice's concept employs an impressive array of theatrical styles, technical effects and Noël Coward songs such as *Mad about the Boy*, *World Weary*, *Goodbye Dolly Gray* and *No Good at Love*.

Switching seamlessly between theatre and film using a combination of Coward's original stage play *Still Life* and the screenplay of the classic 1946 film *Brief Encounter*, they take you back to a bygone age of romance and the silver screen. The lives and loves of three couples are played out in the famous station tearoom using the words and songs of Noël Coward to create a breathtaking, delightfully funny and tear-inducing show.

#### Around Town (6) – Urbandiner.ca

A resident has introduced us to another local food blog, as named above. It's focus is primarily to

people in the food industry, but it contains good information on the latest restaurants to open, or to open soon. Be the first to try one, and tell your friends!

#### **Further Afield – Victoria**

From December 1<sup>st</sup> until early January next year, Victoria's Historic Inns are offering their Old-Fashioned Christmas Package. It includes 2 nights accommodation with breakfast at any of the inns, a dinner and entrance to Butchart Gardens and to Craigdarroch Castle. Prices start at \$199 per person. Please see [www.victoriashistoricinn.com](http://www.victoriashistoricinn.com) for more details.



#### **Further Afield – Nuevo Mazatlan**

This month, Signature Vacations and Riu Hotels and Resorts are offering a 40% discount off vacation packages to select Riu resorts in Mexico up until December 15<sup>th</sup>. Packages from Vancouver for the Riu Emerald Bay start at \$695 per person. You should consult a travel agent for more details.



#### **Even Further Afield – Scotland**

If you are planning to be in Scotland between December 1<sup>st</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup>, be sure to visit Edinburgh Castle. You can add some holiday cheer to your visit by dining on a traditional 3 course Christmas lunch for £35 (\$56, approximately). Admission to the castle is included with your lunch. Please see [www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk](http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk) for all the details.

And wherever you find yourselves, have a Very Merry Christmas!

**Your One Wall Concierge Team:**

**Eleanor, Kerry & Sunny**