



OUR FEATURED COMPOSER

RICHARD WAGNER (1813-1883)



For some people, Wagnerian opera represents the highest form of art as a synthesis of music and drama.

The Italian composer Rossini once was asked what he thinks of Wagner. "Wagner has good moments, but bad quarter-hours", he replied.

Wagner was a very good hockey player. Instead of going to school, he spent the day playing hockey.

Originally, Wagner didn't want to become a composer, but a famous poet or playwright. He wrote his first play at the age of 14 but got dreadful reviews, since by the end the fourth chapter of his play, 42 of the characters have already died.

At age of 15, he heard Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony* for the first time. From then on he decided to become a great composer, just like Beethoven.

He went to University of Leipzig to study music, but he spent most of his time drinking and gambling. He was strongly encouraged to leave the University at the end of the first semester.

He wrote an essay about Canada where we read: "the lake shores in the North of Canada are crowded with vegetarian panthers and tigers." He was seriously thinking this could be true.

Wagner encouraged all people to become vegetarians so that the world becomes a better place.

He composed mostly operas and his most important opera cycle, the tetralogy *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, contains 4 operas with a total length of 22 hours. This cycle was just presented, this past September, by the Canadian Opera Company in their new Toronto home at Queen and University.

Wagner got married to Cosima, the daughter of the Hungarian composer Liszt. They had 2 children, Eva and Siegfried.

Wagner's favourite colour was pink and he dressed often in fine satin, silk, and fur, all in "pale and delicate" shades of pink.

For 53 years of composing, Wagner wrote a total of 61 hours music. He has been recognised as one of the greatest opera composers of all time.

SHARING YOUR SUCCESS

The IMA student *Rochelle White* was interviewed for the Canadian newspaper *Globe and Mail*, last month.

An Angel's contract, strings attached
Globe and Mail, November 25, 2006, p. M2



Rochelle White is an IMA piano student currently getting ready for the Royal Conservatory of Music Grade 5 examination. Rochelle and her fellow team members of Silver Knights basketball team in

Markham have been trying to raise awareness about the Darfur Crisis in Africa. This began with a contract between the team and Mr. Mehta, founder of Sterling Hoffman recruitment firm, who donated \$2,400 under the condition that the team must educate themselves and those around them about the Darfur crisis. Rochelle and her teammates' effort has had a significant local impact, as a youth group called Project Equity was established to learn more about the crisis.

IMA has welcomed more new students in December:

Alfred W.	(ARCT Counterpoint)
Alexander T.	(Violin)
Andrew D.	(Violin)
Benjamin L.	(Guitar)
Chelsi M.	(Guitar)
Chris L.	(Violin)
Christina L.	(RCM Voice 5)
Ganesh S.	(Saxophone)
Grace L.	(Violin)
Hansel L.	(Violin)
Hayson K.	(RCM Violin 6)
Jana S.	(Piano)
Jason T.	(Violin)
Kawthra K.	(Piano)
Keanah L.	(Violin)
May K.	(Violin)
Oscar T.	(Violin)
Pensee L.	(Violin)
Samantha K.	(Violin)
Sean M.	(Guitar)
Selena C.	(Violin)
Serena S.	(RCM Piano 1)
Shawn H.	(Violin)
Stefan H.	(Guitar)

FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Meet with the IMA teachers, parents, students, and staff. Join us for free cookies, tea, and coffee.

Every Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

YOU HAVE ASKED...

Can I reschedule a free lesson?

A free lesson is provided to our students as a complimentary offer, free of charge. However, the free lesson is scheduled as a part of the teachers' regular workload and teachers are paid for it. Only the regular (paid) lessons can be rescheduled and this up to a maximum of two lessons per school year.

When is the tuition due?

The tuition fee is due in advance on a monthly basis during the last week of the month prior to the month of taking lessons. Should the payment is not made in advance the IMA reserves the right to offer the "unpaid" lesson time to other students.

Can I change the teacher?

IMA teachers are highly trained professionals with substantial experience. They are all well respected members of the community and their teaching is appreciated by hundreds of students and parents. Occasionally, though, the "chemistry" may just not be there. In the event you have any concerns, please let us know and we will be happy to assist you further.

COMING SOON...



Royal Conservatory of Music Winter session

WINTER SESSION

Practical Examinations *January 15-27, 2007*

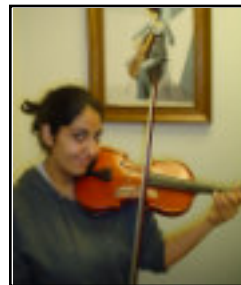
SPRING SESSION

Application Deadline *March 7, 2007*

Theory Examinations *May 11 & 12, 2007*

Practical Examinations *June 4 - 23, 2007*

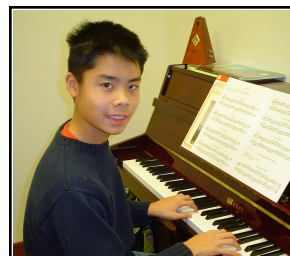
IMA STUDENTS PHOTO GALLERY



Anna D.



Nadia D.



Patrick H.



Alex B.

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