



BACH TO THE FUTURE

PROGRAM INFORMATION

(August 2014 – please destroy all previous versions)

The following text must be included in the concert program:

Platypus Theatre's
BACH TO THE FUTURE

Written and Directed by Peter Duschenes

Performed by
Emmanuelle Zeesman or Danielle Desormeaux
and Peter Duschenes

Stage Manager:
Wendy Rockburn

(N.B. Logo must be included in program and is available on the Platypus website at <http://www.platypustheatre.com>)

Platypus Theatre wants to hear from you! Leave a comment at platypustheatre.com or follow us on Twitter or YouTube.

REPertoire

Includes excerpts from:

Ridout:	Fall Fair
Bach:	Suite No. 1 (1st movement)
Bach:	Suite No. 3 ("Air" and "Gigue")
Mozart:	Symphony No. 40 (1st, 2nd & 4th movements)
Beethoven:	Leonore Overture No. 3
Beethoven:	Symphony No. 5 (3rd & 4th movements)
Dvorak:	Slavonic Dance No. 8. op. 46
Dvorak:	New World Symphony ("Largo")
Shostakovich:	Symphony No. 5 (4th movement)

BIOGRAPHIES

N.B: Photographs of the actors and Stage Manager must be included. High-resolution photographs of the artists are available on the Platypus website at: platypustheatre.com

Platypus Theatre

Since 1989, almost one million young audience members have been introduced to classical music through Platypus Theatre. After more than 500 performances with more than 60 orchestras worldwide, Platypus has established itself as one of North America's premiere music education theatre companies. Original and engaging storylines are presented in an intelligent and interactive way, with music always taking the lead role. Children laugh, sing and empathize with the characters while learning musical concepts, styles, and much more. In 2006, one of Platypus' most beloved productions *How the Gimquat Found her Song* was produced for TV and went on to win several awards including Best Children's Program at the prestigious Banff World Television Festival. In 1991, Platypus was the subject of a nationally broadcast documentary on CTV, followed by a PBS full-performance broadcast in 2000. During its 25th anniversary year, Platypus will premiere its eighth original production, *Latin Beats, Heroic Feats*, in partnership with four orchestras across Canada. Other Platypus Productions include *Emily Saves the Orchestra*, *Rhythm in your Rubbish*, *Bach to the Future*, *Charlotte and the Music-Maker*, *Flicker of Light on a Winter's Night*, and *Peter and the Wolf*.

Biographies continue on the next page...

Peter Duschenes, Artistic Director and Writer

Thousands of young classical music fans have Peter to thank for introducing them to symphonic music. He co-founded the Platypus Theatre touring company in 1989 to make orchestral music accessible for youth, and more than half a million concert-goers have benefitted from his creativity. As an award-winning playwright, Peter's writing credits include - among others - all eight Platypus productions, the television adaptation of *How the Gimquat Found Her Song* which won Best Children's Program at the prestigious Banff World Television Festival in 2008. In addition to his roles in Platypus shows, he has also acted and directed with companies across Canada and the United States. When Peter isn't busy helping the Gimquat find her song, he and his wife Sarah are helping their children, Magda and Theo, find their socks.

Danielle Desormeaux - Actor

Danielle is one of the more adaptable creatures in the Platypus Theatre touring company. You can see her as the Gimquat in *How the Gimquat Found Her Song*, as Corky in *Bach to the Future*, as Emily in *Emily Saves the Orchestra* and as a hobo in *Rhythm in Your Rubbish*, a production she helped create. She is a highly-accomplished actor who has worked extensively in theatre, in film, and also as several animated characters on TV. She is also an experienced improviser and clown, and has written and created a number of critically-acclaimed works. Danielle has been a part of the Platypus touring company for 17 years but will never forget "the first time I heard a live orchestra playing on stage with me it literally took my breath away. I couldn't believe how powerful the sound was. Then I thought: Wow! Best job ever!"

Emmanuelle Zeesman - Actor

In addition to playing the role of the Gimquat in Platypus Theatre's *How the Gimquat Found her Song* and Corky in *Bach to the Future*, Emmanuelle has led audiences on many thrilling missions to defeat the horrible monster Cacopholous as Emily in *Emily Saves the Orchestra*. Her list of other theatrical acting credits is longer than she is, including her role in *Blood Brothers* for which she won the Capital Critics Circle Award for Best Actor, and her roles in off-Broadway productions of *A Christmas Carol* and *The Little Mermaid*. She is also a dynamite singer and performed across France as lead vocalist for the New Rochelle Festival touring company. Emmanuelle will never forget when the Gimquat's foot accidentally got caught in the conductor's podium and she ended the Can Can in the splits before falling to the ground.

Wendy Rockburn – Stage Manager

Want to know who and what goes where and when and how? Wendy's the one who has it well under control. Since 2005, Wendy has expertly juggled all of the details for Platypus Theatre productions, from monster's heads to lighting cues. Not only does she manage the Platypus touring company's stage, but she also works with theatres all over Eastern and Central Canada. And as often as possible, she jets off to far places to photograph the world, and has been known to skydive over the desert in Namibia or outrace a gaucho in Argentina. Her favorite part about Platypus shows is watching the kids follow every turn in the story in rapt attention. And the climax of the Gimquat still makes her cry, even after all of these years. No wonder we're wild about Wendy!