



KITCHENER-WATERLOO  
**SYMPHONY**

EDWIN OUTWATER • MUSIC DIRECTOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact: Tracey Jirak 519-745-4711 ext. 288  
[tjirak@kwsymphony.on.ca](mailto:tjirak@kwsymphony.on.ca)

**KITCHENER-WATERLOO SYMPHONY ANNOUNCES  
A SYMPHONY SPECTACULAR!!**

**KITCHENER**, Ontario (April 7, 2008) - the **Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony (KWS)**, led by Music Director Edwin Outwater, presents its biggest concert of the season, **A Symphony Spectacular**. A double orchestra of 96 musicians performs Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben (a Hero's Life)* and Peter Hatch presents his world premiere, *The Call of Amber*. Additionally, the KWS performs Jennifer Higdon's *Percussion Concerto*, featuring percussion soloist Colin Currie. The performances take place on Friday, April 11 at 8:00pm and Saturday, April 12 at 8:00pm at Centre In The Square (CITS) (Kitchener, Ontario) as part of the KWS *Signature Series*.

"This is the BIG concert. With a double-sized orchestra we play the grandest and most romantic work of Richard Strauss (and believe me, that's pretty grand and romantic!)"

- Edwin Outwater

Born in Munich, Richard Strauss (1864-1949) ranks among the most notable composers of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. His works, such as *Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life)*, were often a reflection of his personal life. Written in 1899, *Ein Heldenleben* is one of Strauss' most compelling and controversial works; cleverly disguised as an epic tone poem of heroism, adversaries and romance, but actually a symphonic autobiography, where Strauss (the hero) seeks revenge from his enemies (the critics), confirming the notion that Strauss was one of the biggest musical egos in history.

Edinburgh-born Colin Currie is a multi award winning percussionist (who will be using 88 different percussion instruments for the concert) performing *Percussion Concerto*, by Jennifer Higdon, one of America's most popular composers.

"I heard the premiere of the Jennifer Higdon Percussion Concerto in Philadelphia and had to bring it here – along with an amazing percussion soloist, Colin Currie."

- Edwin Outwater

Former Composer-In-Residence with the KWS and currently Artistic Director of the Open Ears Festival, Wilfred Laurier University Composition Professor Peter Hatch is joined by KWS to present the world premiere of his new work *The Call of Amber*.

For those who like to dig a little deeper into the story behind the music, the third concert of the Generations series, *Ego Trip: the Music of Richard Strauss*, takes place on Sunday, April 13 at 2:30p.m. (CITS). Outwater collaborates with host Tom Allen (from the CBC 2 morning show) to present an exploration of Richard Strauss' *Ein Heldenleben* in a fun, anecdotal style; perfect for children (aged ten and older) and adults alike.

**Tickets:** range in price from \$15 to \$50 and may be purchased at the CITS box office (101 Queen Street North, Kitchener, Ontario), by phone at 519-578-1570, toll free at 1-800-265-8977 or online at [www.centre-square.com](http://www.centre-square.com).

## *At a Glance...*

### **A Symphony Spectacular**

Edwin Outwater, conductor  
Colin Currie, percussion

April 11, 12, 2008 – 8:00p.m.  
Centre In The Square, Kitchener, Ontario

Richard Strauss: Ein Heldenleben  
Peter Hatch: The Call of Amber (World Premiere)  
Jennifer Higdon: Concerto for Percussion

### **Ego Trip**

Edwin Outwater, conductor  
Tom Allen, host

April 13, 2008 – 2:30p.m.  
Centre In The Square, Kitchener, Ontario

Richard Strauss: Ein Heldenleben

### **Tickets:**

Centre In The Square Box Office  
Call: 519-578-1570 or toll free 1-800-265-8977  
Online: [www.centre-square.com](http://www.centre-square.com)

### **Prices:**

**A Symphony Spectacular:** \$27, \$39, \$46, \$50

**Ego Trip:** \$15, \$23, \$27, \$35

\$15 for Children and Students (with valid ID)

Information regarding group sales is available through the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony at 519-745-4711 or online at [www.kwsymphony.on.ca](http://www.kwsymphony.on.ca)

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