

# Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People

SEASON PARTNER



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## Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People and National Arts Centre to Host *A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF JAN RUBES*

On Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, **Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People/LKTYP** (formerly Young Peoples Theatre) is proud to host a very special event celebrating the life of renowned singer and actor, **Jan Rubes**, who passed away June 29<sup>th</sup> at the age of 89. The celebration is presented in partnership with Canada's **National Arts Centre**.

Mr. Rubes was married to LKTYP/Young People's Theatre founder **Susan Douglas Rubes** for almost 60 years and his warm and playful talent graced the Mainstage on many occasions. His translation of Peter Folta's *The Lost Fairytale* was the first production at YPT's home on Front Street and he will forever be associated with the theatre.

The October 25<sup>th</sup> celebration of Mr. Rubes' extraordinary life will be hosted by National Arts Centre President and Chief Executive Officer, **Peter Herrndorf**, and will include performances and tributes by such luminaries as **Mary-Lou Fallis**, **Gwen Little**, **Donald Martin**, and **Veronica Tennant**. It will also feature retrospectives of Jan Rubes' accomplished career as opera singer and actor.

**ABOUT JAN RUBES:** Mr. Rubes immigrated to Canada from his native Czechoslovakia in 1948. A graduate of the Prague Conservatory of Music, he was a founding member of the **Canadian Opera Company**, performing for the company over 1,000 times between 1949 and 1989, and creating more than 100 operatic roles singing in English, French, German, Italian, Czech, and Russian. A pioneer in many fields, Mr. Rubes took part in the very first **CBC** telecast with **Glenn Gould** in 1953. He later sang on the opening telecasts of **CTV**, **TVO**, and **CITY TV**, as well as in many operas specially produced for television. Jan Rubes became quite well known in Canada on the strength of his weekly radio show entitled *The Songs of My People*. He also became a mainstay on television; guest starring in U.S. and Canadian series, mini-series, and movies of the week. Mr. Rubes also created 80 episodes of a children's television show called *Guess What*. Never forgetting the value of live performance, his school appearances numbered in the thousands. With his Oscar-worthy portrayal of the Amish grandfather in Paramount Pictures' *Witness*, starring **Harrison Ford**, Jan Rubes began his transition from singing to acting. He created roles in 40 motion pictures in Canada, the United States and Europe, including *Dead of Winter*, *Something About Love*, *The Outside Chance of Maximilian Glick*, *Class Action*, *Deceived*, and *Never Too Late*. Mr. Rubes' efforts have been recognized in the form of **The Queen's Jubilee Medal** in 1978, **The Canadian Centennial Medal** in 1967, the 1991 **Earl Grey Award** for lifetime achievement in television, an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters from both the University of Guelph and University of Windsor, an Honourary Citizenship of Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Sydney N.S, and **The Order of Canada** in 1995.

### **A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF JAN RUBES**

**MAINSTAGE | Sunday, October 25, 2009 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm**  
**Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People | 165 Front Street East, Toronto**  
**Information: 416.862.2222 | lktyp.ca**

Anyone wishing to attend this celebration is asked to call 416.862.2222 to reserve their complimentary ticket. Please note, as seating is limited, reservations of up to four seats only will be taken. Guests are invited to bring cards and letters for the family. A memorial box will be provided for this purpose.

**Special thanks to the Life Celebration Planning Committee: Gayle Abrams, Judith Gilman-Rubes, Peter Herrndorf, Allen MacInnis, and Brian Robertson.**

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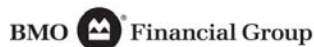
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Theatre for Young People

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