



Making Beautiful Music

SEPTEMBER 27 AND 29

For almost a century, the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra (page 65) has been bringing the classics to local audiences—and winning both awards and accolades along the way. **This month, the new season kicks off** at the grand old Orpheum Theatre, with Bramwell Tovey conducting and Inon Barnatan on piano, as the VSO performs selections from Kelly-Marie Murphy, Johannes Brahms and Richard Strauss. Music to soothe the savage breast, indeed.—*Sheri Radford*



SONGS & STORIES

SEPTEMBER 6

“Will You Remember Me.” “I Would Die for You.” “Insensitive.” “Unloved.” Though Jann Arden (page 64) is best known for her heart-breaking ballads overflowing with angst, the Canadian singer-songwriter **sparkles in her live shows**, telling frank, funny stories and just generally charming the audience. Find out for yourself why she’s been a local favourite for more than two decades when her cross-country tour hits the Orpheum Theatre this month.—*Sheri Radford*

Cool Carvings

SEPTEMBER 20 TO OCTOBER 11

Fifteen years and three acclaimed artists add up to one remarkable exhibition. Spirit Wrestler’s (page 37) *Wero: Pacific Challenge* celebrates the gallery’s quinquennial as a **leading venue of Maori art**. The exhibit highlights wood and jade carvings by three renowned sculptors, including “Once A Warrior” (**pictured**) by Rex Homan. Like the Northwest Coast First Nations, aboriginals of New Zealand share a proficiency for carving, often using the works to share legends and cultural history. **Fantastically detailed and always stunning**, these pieces from across the Pacific are certain to inspire. Here’s to the next 15 years.

—*Jill Von Sprecken*



PHOTO (TOP) BY KENJI NAGAI COURTESY SPIRIT WRESTLER GALLERY

Decked-Out Decor

SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22

Dining at lavish, whimsical tablescapes and sipping elegant cocktails while supporting a good cause? Monogram Dinner by Design (page 76) really sets the bar high for an unforgettable culinary experience. The event sees **15 interior designers transform small spaces into inventive dining rooms**, in themes rang-

ing from ultra-chic to fanciful, creating a feast for the eyes. Come to the Cocktail Art evening (Sep. 21) for mingling, drinks and live entertainment, or opt for the Gala Dinner (Sep. 22) to enjoy a delectable meal at one of the extraordinary tables, with proceeds going to the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation.—*Kristen Moran*