

**NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE  
OF THE ORIGINAL SCORE!**

*An opera in defiance of oppression!*

**THE  
EMPEROR**  
  
**of ATLANTIS**

by  
**VIK  
TOR  
UL  
MAN**

**OCTOBER  
22, 23, 24**



**NATIONAL  
ARTS CENTRE**

**Produced by ARBOS**

PRESENTED BY B'NAI BRITH CANADA



IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE



Under the auspices of the Embassies of Austria and Israel

*The triumph of the human spirit!*

# THE EMPEROR of ATLANTIS

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VIK  
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VUL  
MANN

LIBRETTO BY  
P E T R K I E N

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS EXCELLENCY,  
THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ROMÉO LEBLANC P.C., C.C., C.M.M., C.D.  
GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

B'NAI BRITH CANADA WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS SINCERE  
APPRECIATION FOR THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF CANADIAN HERITAGE AND THE MINISTRY OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF AUSTRIA, WITHOUT WHOSE ASSISTANCE THIS  
PROJECT COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous assistance we have received from  
Minto Developments Inc., the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of  
Canada, Andrea and Charles Bronfman, StreetSmart Design and the National Arts Centre, as  
well as the substantial contributions of the Sheraton Ottawa Hotel and Towers, the govern-  
ment of Carinthia, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton,  
Canada Post, Black Widow Web Construction Services, Opera Lyra Ottawa  
and the Austrian-Canadian Council.

*Programme editors: Rubin Friedman and Jean-Jacques Van Vlasselaer*



CANADA

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

*It is with pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the opening performance of **The Emperor of Atlantis**, hosted by B'nai Brith in Ottawa.*

*This opera is a testament to the men, women and children who were both victims and heroes during the horror of the Holocaust. It is indeed fitting that this tribute should be expressed in song. Music has always been a vital refuge during difficult times, as well as a true celebration of all that we cherish about humanity.*

*I would like to take this opportunity to commend the members of B'nai Brith Canada for their efforts to keep the spirit of Viktor Ullmann and so many others alive. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable evening.*

*Jean Chrétien*

OTTAWA  
1996



Dear Friends,

I am delighted to extend my greetings to all of you whose support, interest and involvement have brought *The Emperor of Atlantis* to the National Arts Centre. Congratulations especially to **B'nai Brith Canada** and the ambassadors of Austria and Israel for your galvanizing efforts.

Victor Ullmann's masterpiece, born out of the horrors of the concentration camp, is an inspiration for all who believe that peace and freedom are attainable goals for the world's peoples. To be creative when there is death and tragedy surrounding you shows the human spirit can triumph above all. This presentation by the Arbos ensemble continues to reaffirm Ullmann's paean to hope.

The participation of the many organizations that have lent their support to this production of *The Emperor of Atlantis* is testimony to the widespread recognition of the need to understand and remember the past, so that we can create a future that meets our ideals.

As Secretary of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Women, I am heartened by efforts, such as this production, which inform, educate and promote change for a better society. Please accept my very best wishes for the success of your endeavours.

Chers amis,

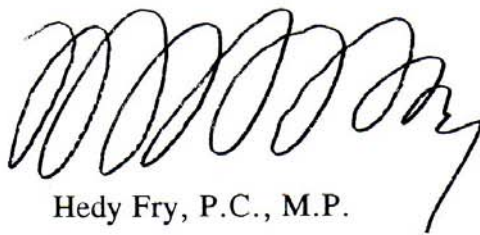
Je tiens à féliciter tous ceux et celles qui, par leur appui, leur intérêt et leur engagement, ont rendu possible la présentation de *L'empereur d'Atlantis* au Centre national des Arts. Félicitations en particulier à **B'nai Brith Canada** et aux ambassadeurs d'Autriche et d'Israël pour leur dévouement exemplaire.

Bien qu'il s'inspire de l'horreur des camps de concentration, le chef-d'oeuvre de Victor Ullmann offre un modèle d'espoir à tous ceux et celles qui croient à la paix et à la liberté dans le monde. Créer lorsque la mort est une menace de tous les instants démontre que la vie triomphe toujours. Cette présentation de l'ensemble Arbos perpétue le message d'espoir d'Ullmann.

Nous sommes conscients qu'il faut comprendre et garder en mémoire le passé pour nous assurer un avenir à la mesure de nos idéaux. Les nombreuses organisations qui ont participé à la production de *L'Empereur d'Atlantis* le prouvent.

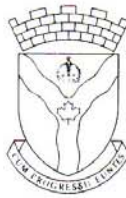
À titre de secrétaire d'État au Multiculturalisme et à la Situation de la femme, j'appuie ces projets qui visent à informer le public et qui contribuent à promouvoir le mieux-être de la société. Je souhaite que vos efforts soient couronnés de succès.

The Honourable/l'honorable



Hedy Fry, P.C., M.P.

**Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton**  
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**Peter Clark**

September 17, 1996

Mr. Lyle Smordin  
President  
B'nai Brith Canada  
151 Chapel Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1N 7Y2

Mr. Smordin:

I am writing to congratulate the Steering Committee of B'nai Brith Canada for its efforts in producing a project with such high artistic merit.

This production of the Emperor of Atlantis is a coveted North American premiere which will attract great audience interest and support. The creative genius of Victor Ullmann and the Austrian ensemble Arbos production will no doubt receive the same critical acclaim it received in Europe.

The Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton is proud to support an opera whose audience will be inspired by its content relating to the fight for Human Rights and amazed by its artistic brilliance.

Sincerely,

Peter Clark  
Regional Chair

/jr

