

April 15, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Premier Stelmach to attend Ukrainian Art Song Concert with Opera Star Pavlo Hunka and King's Choirs**

**Edmonton** – On Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm, one of Europe's finest bass-baritones, Pavlo Hunka, will be performing with The King's University College Choirs at the Winspear Centre. Premier Ed Stelmach, the Honourable Eugene Zwozdesky, and MLA Ray Prins will be in attendance.

Hunka has sung in more than 50 operas, including at least 30 major roles in the world's leading opera houses in Paris, Vienna, Munich, Florence, London, Salzburg, Amsterdam, Madrid, and Moscow, under the baton of the world's leading conductors, such as Claudio Abbado, Jeffrey Tate and Zubin Mehta.

A few years ago, Hunka founded an enormous project with the goal to record and promote the classical treasures of Ukrainian Art Song. This major multi-year project, known as the Ukrainian Art Song Project, aims to record well over 300 dramatic songs, many of which are masterpieces of Ukrainian composers. This past summer, Hunka completed the mastering of the six-CD compilation of the art songs of Mykola Lysenko, plus he began recording the art songs of Yakiv Stepyovi at the Glenn Gould Studio in Toronto. Hunka returned to Canada in early April for further recording in Toronto, and will travel to Edmonton for the King's Concert. In the week prior to the concert, Hunka will lead various master classes and workshops with local choirs and singers, plus he sang the Divine Liturgy at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral on Sunday, April 11.

The concert on April 19 will include Hunka performing as a soloist with King's faculty member Dr. Joachim Segger on piano. He will additionally sing three pieces with King's Choirs, plus one additional song with Edmonton's Dnipro Choir, a guest-chorus for this particular concert. King's faculty member, Dr. Melanie Turgeon will conduct this concert entitled, "Since the Art Song."

In addition to Pavlo sharing a few art songs, the choirs will try to depict how vast and diverse composition has become since this specific time period in music when the art song thrived. The concert will include works by Brahms, Chesnokov, Hurko, Lysenko, Poulenc, Stetsenko, Stolte, Stroope, and others.

Tickets are \$20/adults; \$15/students and seniors, and \$5/children under 12 (plus service charges).

*The King's University College offers fully accredited Bachelor degrees in the arts, humanities, music, social sciences, natural sciences and commerce/management, as well as an education after degree. King's currently serves over 600 students from across Canada and abroad, representing more than 16 nations. Faculty are highly qualified, dedicated Christians committed to academic excellence and communicating a Christian perspective in their teaching. Students are challenged both inside and outside the classroom to apply what they learn to their life and their future career.*

**Media enquiries may be directed to:**

Ken Schwanke

Director of Marketing

(780) 465-3500 Ext. 8087

Email: [ken.schwanke@kingsu.ca](mailto:ken.schwanke@kingsu.ca)

[www.kingsu.ca](http://www.kingsu.ca)