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Octet highlights season

White Rock Concerts has announced the line-up for its 1998-1999 season.

The high point of the upcoming series will be the April 1999 appearance of a remarkable new Canadian ensemble, Octagon '99, featuring eight of Canada's leading instrumental soloists in a program built around the rarely heard Octet by Franz Schubert.

Joining White Rock Concerts' world-renowned artistic director, bassoonist George Zukerman, will be violinists Andrew Dawes of the Orford and Tokyo Quartets, and Angele Dubeau, an outstanding Quebec soloist with Charles Dutoit and the Montreal Symphony.

Arguably the leading viola soloist on today's international circuit, Rivke Golani, and cello soloist Shauna Rolston, the newest Canadian solo star, will also play. Bassist Joel Quarrington, distinguished soloist and principal Bass of the Toronto Symphony, will complete the string section.

Joining them will be Canada's widely recorded clarinet virtuoso, James Campbell, and, subject to final confirmation, french

hornist Jamie Sommerville, presently principal horn of the Boston Symphony and recent recipient of a Juno award for a classical music recording.

"Nobody has ever been able to assemble such a star-studded ensemble before", said White Rock Concerts President Roland Harvey.

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"And it would probably be a miracle for them ever to find another common time period when each of these soloists, with their own individual world-wide careers, would be free. However, because of our artistic director's involvement, we have them for White Rock, and it will make a wonderful conclusion for the 1998-99 season."

The season will open Oct. 16 from an a-capella quartet from England, the Scholars of London. This pocket version

of the King's Singers has thrilled audiences in over 50 countries since their debut in 1970.

The Chinook Duo, featuring Canadian pianists Gloria Saarinen and Arnold Draper, will follow on Nov. 27.

The first feature concert of the new year will be that of Canadian baritone Kevin McMillan on Jan. 29. McMillan is an internationally acclaimed veteran of opera, recital and recording.

Playing on the glorious world famous Amati string instruments, the string quartet in residence at the University of Victoria, The Lafayette Quartet, will be performing on March 19.

The five concerts, all to be held on Friday nights at the White Rock Baptist Church (16 Avenue and 140 Street), will constitute the 41st annual season for White Rock Concerts.

Memberships for these concerts are available through a complete subscription price of \$48 for adults, \$38 for seniors and \$10 for students. This price includes all five concerts.

For information on how you can subscribe, please call 535-6692 or 538-2187.