

ViVA Trio Unveils Dazzling New Video for Tribute to John Lennon's "Imagine"



*The song, lifted from the classical crossover group's acclaimed debut *Nothing Else Matters*, features footage shot at Prague's John Lennon Wall and honours the 37th anniversary of the legendary songwriter's death.*

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Toronto, November 23, 2017 – “A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality.” Those words, so powerful and evergreen, belong to legendary singer/songwriter John Lennon. They deeply moved soprano Katya Tchoubar at a pivotal moment in her career, and she went on to form classical crossover group ViVA Trio with fellow soprano Anna Bateman and mezzo-soprano Erin Fisher.

Today, ViVA Trio repays that inspiration by issuing a dazzling new video for their cover of Lennon's classic song “Imagine.” Featuring the 12-member ViVA Choir — comprised of aspiring young singers who study under ViVA's three members — the video also includes performance footage captured at the famed John Lennon Wall in Prague, Czech Republic which immortalizes the late musician with fan-derived graffiti and other markings.

Arriving just ahead of the 37th anniversary of Lennon's death on December 8, the video for “Imagine” pays tribute to a timeless song (and sentiment) while showcasing the extraordinary voices of Anna, Erin, and Katya whose operatic readings of gems from the contemporary pop/rock songbook propels their acclaimed debut album, *Nothing Else Matters* from which “Imagine” is drawn.

"Each of us in ViVA Trio maintains a private voice studio, where we teach students of all ages," Katya says. "And we really wanted to showcase our talented young singers." The video features the actual recording of the children's choir captured at Velvet Sound Studios just outside ViVA's Toronto base.

"Imagine" — both the original and now ViVA's version and accompanying video— is especially symbolic for mezzo-soprano Fisher, who journeyed to the Musical Instrument Museum in Phoenix, AZ to see the piano John Lennon used to compose the track. "I've always loved the song," Fisher says, "and the lyrics really resonate."

"After an amazing experience performing in Poland, we headed to Prague to visit the John Lennon Wall where we spontaneously decided to sing 'Imagine' which we captured on video," Anna explains. "The next day at the airport, we ran into a couple who had seen us at the Wall. We connected on Instagram, and they bought tickets to our next concert. So basically, this international song of peace and love created this synchronistic moment."

In addition to "Imagine," *Nothing Else Matters* features thrilling readings of Duran Duran's "Ordinary World," Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game," Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah," Evanescence's "My Immortal," Louis Armstrong's "What A Wonderful Word" and the title track by Metallica, all with vocal arrangements ViVA Trio and delivered in their inimitable style. The album also includes two ViVA-penned compositions.

More magic moments, ViVA Trio will perform "Imagine" with the Milton Philharmonic Orchestra and a full choir including the ViVA Choir under the baton of Maestro Sabatino Vacca, who arranged and orchestrated the song on the album. Tickets: Saturday, December 16th at 7:30pm, at Milton Centre for the Arts. www.MiltonPhilharmonic.com

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For more information, please contact:

Eric Alper Public Relations

E: Eric@ThatEricAlper.com // P: 647-971-3742

For booking, please contact ViVA directly, info below.

Contact ViVA Trio

Phone: 416.727.2143

Email: info@vivatrio.com

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