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chamber music
downtown
CONCERTS 2017-18



Music
TORONTO

2017-18 season - 46 seasons since founding!

Music TORONTO is

- interesting artists from across Canada and around the world,
- music of 5 centuries, from the earliest string quartets of Haydn to new works premiered in the 21st century,
- all taking place in a perfect small concert hall downtown.

Fear not, classical music world, the chamber music recital is not just alive, it's kicking. ... As long as there are such fine artists who can present such excellent recitals of works worthy of our attention, and serious, discerning presenters like Music TORONTO

John Terauds, formerly at The Toronto Star, now at musicaltoronto.org

Music
TORONTO

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All Music TORONTO concerts are at 8 p.m.
in the Jane Mallett Theatre
of the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
27 Front Street East
Toronto ON M5E 1B4
Box Office 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754

Cover picture: Osgoode Hall & City Hall
- digital art by Susan Limin

strings
QUATUOR MOSAÏQUES

Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Wolfgang Krautzer

Toronto debut

Celebrating its 30th season, Quatuor Mosaïques is the most prominent period-instrument quartet performing today. Austrians Erich Höbarth (violin), Andrea Bischof (violin), Anita Mitterer (viola) and French cellist Christophe Coin met while performing with Nikolaus Harnoncourt's Concentus Musicus Wien and decided to perform on original instruments as a classical "caper quartet." The quartet now tours widely and has an extensive discography.

Mozart
Haydn

Mozart

Quartet in B-flat Major, K.458, "Hunt"
Quartet in D Major, Op. 33, No. 6

Quartet in D Minor, K.421

TICKETS \$55, \$50

Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age

BOX OFFICE 416-366-7723 or www.stlc.com

piano

BENJAMIN GROSVENOR

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo:Operaomnia.co.uk

English pianist Benjamin Grosvenor made his Toronto debut in February 2014 and returned in October 2015. It seems a long two years since those sensational performances. Called “boy lord of the piano” in Australia, Grosvenor has taken the British piano world by storm. *Music* TORONTO is pleased to host his return.

Mozart
Brahms
Brett Dean

Sonata in B-flat Major, K.333, “Linz”
Four Pieces, Op. 119
Hommage à Brahms (*played as interludes between the Brahms pieces above*)

Debussy

L'après midi d'un faune (*arr. Leonard Borwick/George Copeland*)

Berg
Ravel

Sonata, Op. 1
Gaspard de la nuit

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

BOX OFFICE 416-366-7723 or www.stlc.com



strings
ŠKAMPA QUARTET

Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Skampa Quartet

Toronto debut

The Škampa Quartet is among the outstanding Czech string quartets performing today. Their mentors, the legendary Smetana Quartet, link them to the great Czech tradition. Prizes at international competitions, awards from the Royal Philharmonic Society, and appointment as the first-ever Resident Artists at Wigmore Hall solidified their early career. The Škampa quartet has released 15 award-winning recordings on Supraphon and on the Wigmore Hall Live label.

Josef Suk

**Meditation on the Old
Bohemian Chorale
“St. Wenceslas”**

**Pavel Fischer
Antonín Dvořák**

**Quartet No. 3, “Mad Piper”
Quartet No. 9 in D Minor,
Op. 34**

Bedřich Smetana

**Quartet No. 1 in E Minor,
“From my life”**

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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piano
PHILIP CHIU

Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Bo Huang & Matthew Perrin

Toronto recital debut

A pianist who focuses on chamber music, Philip Chiu is an acclaimed accompanist/coach based at McGill University. Philip created the new Collaborative Piano Program at the Domaine Forget International Festival and Academy. In 2015, he was the first recipient of the Prix Goyer (Extreme Emerging Artist) – Canada’s largest prize for an emerging artist in classical music.

Ravel

Ma mère l'Oye

(Mother Goose Suite)

Rachmaninoff

**Preludes (Five Selections
from Op. 23, Op. 32)**

Schubert/Liszt

Fantasy in C Major,

“Der Wanderer”, D. 760

Liszt

Legends, S.175

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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strings
GRYPHON TRIO

Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 8 pm



Now in its 23rd year, the Gryphon Trio has impressed international audiences and the press with its highly refined, dynamic performances and has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios. Their repertoire ranges from the traditional to the contemporary and from European classicism to modern-day multimedia. *Music* TORONTO's long relationship with the Gryphons began in 1995 – oops! We've passed 20 years together! – and included 10 years as our ensemble-in-residence (1998-2008).

Haydn

**Piano Trio in E-flat Major,
XV:29**

Marjan Mozetich

**Scales of Joy and Sorrow
(2008)**

Brahms

**Piano Quartet in A Major,
Op. 26**

with a player to be named later

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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strings

BRENTANO QUARTET

with soprano DAWN UPSHAW

Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Juergen Frank

The Brentano Quartet just celebrated its 25th anniversary season; it performs music from the Renaissance, through the Classical and Romantic literature, up to music of today. The Brentano appears throughout the world to popular and critical acclaim for their “wonderful, selfless music-making” The Times, London (UK). They succeeded the Tokyo as quartet-in-residence at Yale in 2014.



Dawn Upshaw has achieved worldwide celebrity as a singer of opera and concert repertoire ranging from the sacred works of Bach to the freshest sounds of today. A five-time Grammy Award winner, in 2007 she was named a MacArthur Fellow, the first vocal artist to be awarded the five-year “genius” prize.

A set of interwoven Webern Bagatelles with Schubert Minuets (D.89)

Mario Davidovsky

Quartet No. 4 (1980)

Respighi

Il tramonto

Schoenberg

Quartet No. 2

with Dawn Upshaw

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

BOX OFFICE 416-366-7723 or www.stlc.com



piano

STEPHEN HOUGH

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Christian Steiner

Stephen Hough distinguished himself as a renaissance man, not only as a uniquely insightful concert pianist but as a writer and composer. In 2001 Mr. Hough was the first classical performing artist to win a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (colloquially called the genius awards). Many of Mr. Hough's catalogue of over 50 albums have garnered international prizes; he now records exclusively for Hyperion.

Previous *Music* TORONTO recitals in 1996, 2002 and 2007.

Debussy	Clair de Lune (Suite Bergamasque)
Debussy	Images Bk II
Schumann	Fantasie, Op. 17

Debussy	La terrasse des audiences au clair de lune (Préludes Bk II)
Debussy	Images Bk I
Beethoven	Sonata in F Minor, Op. 57, "Appassionata"

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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strings

ST. LAWRENCE QUARTET

Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Eric Cheng

Established in 1989, the SLSQ came to *Music TORONTO* in 1992 and continues annually. The SLSQ has developed an undisputed reputation as one of the world's great ensembles. Called “witty, buoyant, and wickedly attentive” (the *Gazette*, Montreal), with a “peerless” sense of ensemble (*Financial Times*, London), the quartet has been the Ensemble-in-Residence at Stanford University since 1998. In 2016-17, the SLSQ toured Italy, Paris, London, and the Netherlands, gave a three-concert series at Stanford Live, and returned to many favourite venues in North America.

Haydn

**Quartet in C Major, Op. 33,
No. 3, “The Bird”**

Janacek

**Quartet No. 2,
“Intimate Letters”**

Tchaikovsky

**Quartet No. 3 in E-flat Minor,
Op. 30**

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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piano

ALEXEI LUBIMOV

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 8 pm



Born in Moscow in 1944, Alexei Lubimov is a rare pianist whose interests range over the history of western music, with special fascination in the baroque and the contemporary. He premiered many 20th century pieces in Russia, where Soviet authorities heavily criticized his commitment to Western music and prevented him from leaving the Soviet Union for several years. Since political restrictions were lifted during the 1980s, he has given solo recitals throughout the world, appeared with leading symphony orchestras, and worked regularly with early music ensembles.

This is his Toronto recital debut.

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|-------------------|---|
| Mozart | Sonata in D, K.311 |
| Mozart | Adagio in B Minor, K.540 |
| Beethoven | Sonata No. 7 in D, Op. 10, No. 3 |
| ---- | |
| Stravinsky | Sonata (1924) |
| Debussy | Nine Preludes, Book 1:
nine selections |

TICKETS \$55, \$50

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strings

APOLLON MUSAGÈTE QUARTET

Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Marco Borggreve

We introduced this young Polish quartet to our audience in November 2015 – and invited them to return. Founded in 2006, they met in Vienna, and were mentored by the legendary Alban Berg Quartet. They have won many awards, the latest being a prestigious Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in 2014.

Clever programming and stylish interpretation – it is no surprise that the four young Polish members of the Apollon Musagète have risen to the very top of their profession.
— Münchner Merkur

Haydn	Quartet in D Major, Op. 64, No. 5, “The Lark”
Arensky	Quartet No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 35a
—	
Grieg	Quartet in G Minor, Op. 27

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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strings

PENDERECKI QUARTET

Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Penderecki String Quartet

The Penderecki String Quartet celebrated its 30th anniversary season in 2016. These four musicians from Poland, Canada, and the USA bring their varied yet collective experience to create performances that demonstrate their “remarkable range of technical excellence and emotional sweep” (Toronto, Globe and Mail). Their recent schedule has included concerts around the world, as well as appearances at international festivals. They enter their 20th year as Quartet-in-Residence at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

Schumann

**Quartet in A Major, Op. 41,
No. 3**

Kelly-Marie Murphy

Oblique Light (2016)

Elgar

Quartet in E Minor, Op. 83

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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piano
DÉNES VÁRJON

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 8 pm



Hungarian pianist Dénes Várjon made his Toronto debut in February 2015 and we discovered his commanding virtuosity. At the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, he studied piano with Sándor Falvai and chamber music with György Kurtág and Ferenc Rados, finishing his studies in 1991. He is a regular guest at the most prestigious festivals world-wide, has performed with major orchestras throughout Europe and in the US, and is a deeply committed chamber musician.

His playing is not controversial or eccentric; his demeanor is modest and unremarkable. His interpretations were elegant, passionate and always technically impressive ...
The New York Times, Feb. 2016

Beethoven
Bartók
Bartók
Bartók

Liszt

Bagatelles, Op. 126
For Children – excerpts
Elegy No. 2
Improvisations, Op. 20

Sonata No. 2 in B Minor

TICKETS \$55, \$50

**Full-time Students \$10, accompanying non-student ½ price
18→35 pay your age**

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strings

SCHUMANN QUARTET

Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Kaupo Kikkas'

Toronto debut

The three brothers Mark, Erik and Ken Schumann, who grew up in the Rhineland, have been playing together since 2007. In 2012, they were joined by violist Liisa Randalu, who was born in the Estonian capital, Tallinn, and grew up in Karlsruhe, Germany. CDs, study with the Alban Berg Quartet, a residency of many years at the Robert-Schumann-Saal in Düsseldorf, winning the prestigious Concours de Bordeaux along with other awards – it all adds up to an exciting new European quartet. Their latest award was the Newcomer Award for 2016 of the BBC Music Magazine.

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Haydn | Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 76, No. 4, "Sunrise" |
| Shostakovich | Quartet No. 7 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 108 |
| --- | |
| Schumann | Quartet in F Major, Op. 41, No. 2 |

TICKETS \$55, \$50

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2017-2018 CALENDAR

- Th. Oct 19 Quatuor Mosaïques
Tu. Nov. 7 Benjamin Grosvenor
Th. Nov. 16 Škampa Quartet
Tu. Nov. 28 Philip Chiu
Th. Dec. 7 Gryphon Trio
Th. Jan. 11 Brentano Quartet
with soprano Dawn Upshaw
Tu. Jan. 23 Stephen Hough
Th. Feb. 1 St. Lawrence Quartet
Tu. Feb. 6 Alexei Lubimov
Th. Feb. 22 Apollon Musagète Quartet
Th. Mar. 15 Penderecki Quartet
Tu. Mar. 27 Dénes Várjon
Th. Apr. 12 Schumann Quartet

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**Dates, artists and programmes are
subject to change.**



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