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# ORION SERIES IN FINE ARTS

*presents*

**BRETT POLEGATO**

BARITONE

&

**ROBERT KORTGAARD**

PIANO



## And So It Goes ...

This concert is presented on the traditional territory of the WS'ANEC' (Saanich), Lkwungen (Songhees), and Wyomilth (Esquimalt) peoples of the Coast Salish Nation.

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**Friday, March 31, 2017 • 8:00 p.m.**

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall

MacLaurin Building, University of Victoria

Free admission

# PROGRAM

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Sigmund Romberg	<i>The Desert Song (from <b>The Desert Song</b>)</i> <i>Softly, As In A Morning Sunrise (from <b>The New Moon</b>)</i>
Ivor Novello	<i>And Her Mother Came Too (from <b>A to Z</b>)</i> <i>Fly Home, Little Heart (from <b>King's Rhapsody</b>)</i>
Franz Grothe	<b>Illusion</b>
Cole Porter	<b>Begin The Beguine</b> <b>Miss Otis Regrets</b>
Noel Coward	<i>Nina (from <b>Sigh No More</b>)</i>
Rogers & Hammerstein	<i>If I Loved You (from <b>Carousel</b>)</i> <i>Soliloquy (from <b>Carousel</b>)</i>
<hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">INTERMISSION</p> <hr/>	
Andersson, Rice & Ulvaeus	<i>Anthem (from <b>Chess</b>)</i>
Leigh & Darion	<i>The Impossible Dream (The Quest) (from <b>Man of La Mancha</b>)</i>
Billy Joel	<b>And So It Goes</b>
Schönberg & Boubllil	<i>Empty Chairs at Empty Tables (from <b>Les Misérables</b>)</i>
Marc Blitzstein	<i>Emily (from <b>The Airborne Symphony</b>)</i>
Peter Maxwell Davies	<b>Farewell To Stromness</b>
Stephen Schwartz	<i>Proud Lady (from <b>The Baker's Wife</b>)</i>
Ron Miller	<b>For Once In My Life</b>
Stephen Sondheim	<i>Johanna (from <b>Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street</b>)</i> <i>Being Alive (from <b>Company</b>)</i>

Please tell us about your concert experience in this quick **Audience Survey**:  
<https://finearts.uvic.ca/forms/music/audience/>

## BIOGRAPHIES

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**Brett Polegato** appears regularly on the world's most distinguished stages including those of Lincoln Center, La Scala, the Concertgebouw, the Opéra National de Paris, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera, the Teatro Real, Roy Thomson Hall, the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall, and has collaborated with conductors such as Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Daniele Gatti, Andris Nelsons, Bernard Haitink, Seiji Ozawa, Jeffrey Tate, Marc Minkowski, and Martyn Brabbins. He can be heard as soloist in the Grammy Awards' Best Classical Recording of 2003 — Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony* (Telarc) with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Robert Spano.

In 2016 he performed the role of Father Thomas Nangle in John Estacio's new opera, *Ours*, for Opera on the Avalon in St. John's, Newfoundland — written to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Beaumont-Hamel. Other recent performances include Paolo in Verdi's *Simon Boccanegra* with Pacific Opera Victoria, Kurwenal in *Tristan und Isolde* for the Opera di Roma with maestro Daniele Gatti, the baritone role in Jeffrey Ryan's *Afganistan: Requiem for a Generation* with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. After a series of recitals across Canada in March, Polegato will return to Toronto to sing the role of Jesus in Elgar's *The Apostles* with the Pax Christi Chorale, followed by his debut as Amfortas in Wagner's *Parsifal* at the Festival de Lanaudière under the baton of Yannick Nézet-Séguin.

In addition to Vaughan Williams' *A Sea Symphony*, recordings include the Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem* (ASO Media), Ben Moore's *Ode To A Nightingale* (Delos), his critically praised solo disc, *To A Poet*, with pianist Iain Burnside (CBC Records), a live period-instrument performance of *Messiah* with the Handel & Haydn Society (Arabesque Recordings) and *Opera Encores* (CBC) with tenor Benjamin Butterfield and the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra led by Richard Bradshaw. With the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra he has recorded Bach's *Coffee and Peasant Cantatas* (Analekta-Fleur de Lys) and most recently, Handel's *Messiah*. His opera recordings include Emmerich Kálmán's *Die Herzogin von Chicago* (Decca) with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra, and Gluck's *Armide* with Les Musiciens du Louvre (Deutsche Grammophon's Archiv label).

**Robert Kortgaard** was born in Regina, Saskatchewan, and grew up in Calgary, Alberta. He completed his bachelor and master's degrees at the Juilliard School in New York City. As a recipient of arts awards from the Canada Council, he continued his musical studies in Italy and England.

Mr. Kortgaard has performed as a soloist with major Canadian orchestras and has given recitals throughout Canada and the United States, as well as in England, Finland, Portugal, Italy, Indonesia, the Czech Republic and China. He is one of the country's most respected concert pianists, having appeared with most of the country's leading orchestras and recital societies. Mr. Kortgaard has become one of the most in-demand colleagues of Canada's most esteemed vocalists, and is a frequent partner of sopranos Measha Brueggergosman and Wendy Nielsen, mezzo-soprano Jean Stilwell and cabaret diva Patricia O'Callaghan. For five years, he was resident musician at the University of New Brunswick, and he is now artistic director of the Indian River Festival in Prince Edward Island.

Robert Kortgaard recently joined forces with pianist Peter Tiefenbach to create an impressive new ensemble. As two of Canada's most accomplished and virtuosic musicians, they have been amazing concert and broadcast audiences across the country for many seasons, both as individual artists and in collaboration with some of Canada's finest musicians. Now they lend their unique gifts to the large and varied body of repertoire for two pianos, four hands.

Mr. Kortgaard now makes his home in Toronto, from where he travels the world as an in-demand soloist and collaborative artist.