



University
of Victoria

School of
Music

Master's of Conducting 1st-year Recital

Gabriel Ferreras

Wednesday, February, 11th, 2026, 12:30 PM
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin Building
Free admission

A Spring Recital

PROGRAM

Suite Pastoral I. Idylle	Emmanuel Chabriel (1841–1894)
“Birdsong” from Birds	Herman Beeftink (b. 1953) arr. Eilish Mcaree (b.2003)
Appalachian Spring Suite <i>for 13 instruments</i>	Aaron Coplan (1900–1990)
Symphony in G Major, op. 11 , no.1 I. Allegro	Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges (1745–1799)

Gabriel Ferreras is from the class of Professor Ajtony Csaba

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Master of Music program.*

Reception to follow in the Lounge.

Program Notes

A Spring Recital

This program comprises three separate movements and a complete work, spanning four different musical periods and styles—Romantic, Contemporary, twentieth-century, and Classical—presented out of chronological order and unified by the theme of spring and nature. It resonates with the early blooming of flowers in Victoria and marks a new chapter in my work as a conductor.

Suite Pastoral. **Emmanuel Chabrier** was a French Romantic composer and pianist. Although he showed an early affinity for music, he initially followed his family tradition and trained as a lawyer, working as a civil servant in the Ministry of Interior. Despite his day time career, he never left music. As a composer he wrote songs, piano and orchestral pieces that fall outside of the French Romantic canon. The Suite Pastorale consists of 4 movements that belonged to an earlier piano work. The *Idylle* movement portrays a melancholic, sigh-like melody with a moving earthly accompaniment of pizzicato strings.¹

“Birdsong” from Birds. **Herman Beeftink** is a Dutch-American composer. “Birds”, a three-movement composition originally written for piccolo, flute, and alto flue, tells the story of three birds and their seasonal migration. “Birds” opens with a motif that mimics a beckoning bird, who calls out to a sleepy,

¹ Huebner, Steven. "Chabrier, (Alexis-)Emmanuel." Grove Music Online. 2001. Oxford University Press. Date of access 10 Feb. 2026, <<https://www-oxfordmusiconline-com.ezproxy.library.uvic.ca/grovemusic/view/10.1093/gmo/9781561592630.001.0001/omo-9781561592630-e-0000005351>>

morning forest. The woods awaken, and two other birds join the music. The three birds lively chirp from their branches, gradually developing a moving bel-canto melody, which leads into shadowy arpeggios and repeating patterns.² The version in this recital was kindly and skillfully reorchestrated by **Eilish Mcaree**, who is currently doing his BMus degree at UVic.

Appalachian Spring Suite, version for 13 instruments. **Aaron Copland** was an American composer who was concerned about the gap between audiences and concert music and wrote music that was accessible to the listener. His *Appalachian Spring* was written as a ballet for Martha Graham and her Dance Company. Its melodies and rhythms depict sonorities of the country life, like children playing, dances, birds, and cowboys riding horses. The setting of the ballet is the early 19th century, on the site of a Pennsylvania farmhouse that was a wedding gift to a young couple.³ Copland wrote, “*The bride-to-be and the young farmer-husband enact the emotions, joyful and apprehensive, which their new domestic partnership invites. An old neighbor suggests, now and then, the rocky confidence of experience. A revivalist and his followers remind the new householders of the strange and terrible aspects of human fate. At the end the couple are left quiet and strong in their new house.*” This original version was written in 1944 for 13 instruments, and it was reorchestrated the following year for full orchestra.⁴

Symphony in G Major, op. 11 , no.1. **Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-Georges**, was a French black composer, conductor, violinist and fencer. He was the son of an aristocrat plantation owner and an enslaved woman in the French colony of Guadeloupe. He was founder of the orchestra *Concert de la Loge Olympique*. St-Georges commissioned and conducted the premieres of Haydn’s Paris symphonies. He also had an influence on Mozart. In his visit to Paris, the teenage Mozart heard St-Georges’ *Symphonie concertante* in G Major op. 13, no. 2, and wrote his *Symphonie concertante* in E-flat for violin and viola, K. 394 a year later. This Allegro, of singing and playful character, is the first of the symphony’s three movements.⁵

UVic Orchestra

Flute Matt Cowlrick*^ Aubrey Sacop	Horn Natalie Ciurysek* Reuben Munro	Violin II Tamsyn Klazek -Schryer* Joyce Tsai, Keon Shin
Oboe Andrew Montgomery* Cat Henderson	Piano Kevin Du*	Viola Gabi Epp* Peter Meyrick
Clarinet Carlos Santos*^ Luke Ongman	Timpani Amy Costen*	Cello Garron Stewart* Gabi Haslett
Bassoon Julian Lao Chi leong* Spencer Leong Cowie	Percussion Andrew Canil* Violin I Kira Gill* Anise Buelow Theo Latta	Double Bass Rob Neufeld* Lukas Peladeau^

^Guest

*Principal

I would like to thank all the members of the UVic orchestra and guests who generously and kindly volunteered their time to rehearse and prepare this recital, the School of Music for their support, a special thanks to Ajtony Csaba for his teaching and mentorship. This recital is dedicated to all my friends and family in Victoria and overseas who support me in my journey to become a conductor.

² Beeftink, Herman. *Program Notes: Spring for Flute and Piano*. Herman Beeftink, n.d., <https://hermanbeeftink.com/blogs/about-the-music/program-notes-spring-for-flute-and-piano>. Accessed 9 Feb. 2026.

³ Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra. *Copland: Appalachian Spring*. Program notes by Marianne Williams Tobias, Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, 2017, <https://www.indianapolisymphony.org/backstage/program-notes/copland-appalachian-spring/>. Accessed 10 Feb. 2026.

⁴ DeLapp-Birkett, Jennifer, PhD. *Appalachian Spring*. Aaron Copland, revised July 2022, <https://www.aaroncopland.com/works/appalachian-spring/>. Accessed 9 Feb. 2026.

⁵ Banat, Gabriel. "Saint-Georges [Saint-George], Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de." *Grove Music Online*. 2001; Accessed 17 Nov. 2025. [https://www-oxfordmusiconline-tafelmusik-baroque-orchestra.\(n.d.\),_The_music_of_Joseph_Bologne,_Chevalier_de_Saint-Georges_\[Booklet\].Naxos_Music_Library.Retrieved_from_https://cdn.naxosmusiclibrary.com/sharedfiles/booklets/TAF/booklet-TMK1032CD.pdf](https://www-oxfordmusiconline-tafelmusik-baroque-orchestra.(n.d.),_The_music_of_Joseph_Bologne,_Chevalier_de_Saint-Georges_[Booklet].Naxos_Music_Library.Retrieved_from_https://cdn.naxosmusiclibrary.com/sharedfiles/booklets/TAF/booklet-TMK1032CD.pdf)