



SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026 | 2:30 PM
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin Building
University of Victoria

FACULTY CONCERT SERIES
**FACULTY CHAMBER MUSIC
FOR A NEW YEAR**

MICHELLE FENG OBOE
KATRINA RUSSELL BASSOON
MERRIE KLAZEK CORNET
SAM MCNALLY HORN
GRAHAM MIDDLETON TROMBONE
PAMELA HIGHBAUGH ALONI CELLO
ARTHUR ROWE PIANO

We acknowledge and respect the Łəkw̓əŋən (Songhees and X̱w̓sepsəm/Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands and the Łəkw̓əŋən and W̓SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

PROGRAM

Eight Pieces for Clarinet, Viola and Piano, Op. 83 (arranged for oboe, cello, and piano)	Max Bruch (1838–1920)
<i>1. Andante</i> <i>2. Allegro con moto</i> <i>5. Rumänische Melodie: Andante</i> <i>6. Nachtgesang: Andante con moto</i> <i>7. Allegro vivace, ma non troppo</i>	
Michelle Feng, oboe Pamela Highbaugh Aloni, cello Arthur Rowe, piano	
Trio in C Major, Op. 87, for 2 Oboes and English Horn (arranged for cornet, horn and trombone)	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827) Arr: Robert King
<i>I. Allegro</i> <i>II. Adagio cantabile</i> <i>III. Menuetto (Allegro molto/Scherzo)</i> <i>IV. Finale (Presto)</i>	
Merrie Klazek, cornet Sam McNally, horn Graham Middleton, trombone	
Trio for Oboe, Bassoon and Piano, FP 43	Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)
<i>1. Presto</i> <i>2. Andante</i> <i>3. Rondo</i>	
Michelle Feng, oboe Katrina Russell, bassoon Arthur Rowe, piano	

BIOGRAPHIES

Michelle Feng joined the Victoria Symphony as Principal Oboe in 2024. Raised in Vancouver, BC, her “authoritative, soulful” playing has captivated audiences internationally (*Your Observer News*). She previously served as Associate Principal Oboe of the Hawai’i Symphony Orchestra and was Guest Principal Cor Anglais of the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, where she appeared as a soloist in Copland’s *Quiet City*. Michelle has also been a soloist with the Victoria Symphony, Colburn Orchestra, and Sarasota Music Festival Orchestra, and has performed with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, Banff Festival Orchestra, Ad Mare Wind Quintet, and Chamber Music Hawaii. Alongside a busy performance career, Michelle is a dedicated educator, teaching at UVic and maintaining a private studio. She is committed to inclusive music education, performance psychology, and musician wellness, and regularly engages in outreach programs for young audiences. Michelle is a graduate of the Colburn Conservatory, where she studied with Allan Vogel.

Praised for her “meltingly beautiful solos” (*The Detroit News*) and performances of “depth and insight” (*Times Colonist*), cellist **Pamela Highbaugh Aloni** is an active recitalist and chamber musician and an Associate Professor at UVic where she teaches cello, chamber music, and string pedagogy. A founding member of the prize-winning Lafayette String Quartet, she shared 37 years of musical life with the ensemble, culminating in their final performances in August 2023. Quartet highlights include complete cycles of Beethoven and Shostakovich, a Second Viennese School project, commissioning five new quartets by women composers, and the Lafayette Health Awareness Forum. Their CBC recording *Death and the Maiden* received the Western Canada Music Award for Outstanding Classical Recording of the Year. Pamela coaches the GVYO cello section, teaches at the Sooke Chamber Music Workshop, and performs widely throughout Canada. She plays a George Craske cello (1850).

Merrie Klazek is a versatile trumpet artist and educator, fluent in orchestral, chamber, solo, world, and popular music. She joined the UVic School of Music faculty in 2016 after 21 years as principal trumpet with Canadian orchestras including the Victoria Symphony, Orchestra London Canada, and Thunder Bay Symphony. Merrie holds a BMus from the University of Calgary and an MMus from Northwestern University, where she studied with Vincent Cichowicz. Her international performance highlights include appearances in Italy, France, Japan, Spain, and Korea, as well as solo performances with Canadian orchestras and world music festivals. Her solo albums *Songs to the Moon* (2000) and *Dance Around the Sun* (2023) have earned Global Music Awards and nominations from the Western Canada Music Awards and Canadian Folk Music Awards. An active presenter and adjudicator, Merrie regularly lectures on performance, pedagogy, and women in brass. She is an endorsing artist for Bach Trumpets and Wedge Mouthpieces.

Horn player **Sam McNally** is a graduate of the UVic School of Music (BMus with distinction) and London’s Guildhall School of Music and Drama (MMus) where he studied with distinguished teachers including Laurie Matiation, Kurt Kellan, David Pyatt, Alec Frank-Gemmill, Sue Dent, and Nico Fleury. Third Horn of the Victoria Symphony, Sam also serves as Principal Horn of the Kamloops Symphony. He has been a dedicated faculty member at the Penticton Academy of Music and teaches horn at the UVic School of Music. Passionate about both performing and teaching, he brings warmth, precision, and artistry to every stage.

Graham Middleton is the principal trombonist of the Victoria Symphony and the bass trombonist of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra. In 2024, Graham served as acting bass trombone of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, where he still performs as a regular guest on both tenor and bass trombone. He previously held positions with the Portland Opera Orchestra, Boise Philharmonic, Eugene Symphony, Yakima Symphony, Columbus Symphony, and Opera Cleveland, among others. He has also performed with the Seattle, Oregon, San Diego, and Baltimore Symphonies, as well as in many musical theatre productions and a variety of chamber music and solo settings. A supportive and knowledgeable low brass educator, Graham teaches at the Victoria Conservatory of Music and the VSO School of Music. Before relocating to Canada, he taught at numerous universities and community music schools in the United States, including Oregon State University, Willamette University, and the Peabody Institute Preparatory Programs. Graham received his bachelor degree in trombone performance from Northwestern University and master’s degree in trombone and chamber music performance from the University of Michigan. He also studied at the Peabody Institute and Aspen Music Festival.

Canadian pianist and Steinway Artist **Arthur Rowe** is an acclaimed recitalist, orchestral soloist, and chamber musician. He joined the University of Victoria in 1992 and is Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano, having previously taught at the University of Iowa and the University of Western Ontario. At UVic, he has served as Acting Director of the School of Music and Acting Associate Dean of Fine Arts, and helped establish the School of Music as Canada’s first All-Steinway institution. Arthur Rowe has been praised by *The New York Times* for his “vigor without heaviness” and by *The London Times* for his “clarity of articulation and poetry of expression.” His all-Schubert recording on the Centaur label received high praise from Fanfare magazine. A sought-after chamber musician, he has performed widely throughout North America and serves as Artistic Director of the Victoria Summer Music Festival and The Jeffery Concerts.

Katrina Russell is a bassoonist with a wide-ranging performance background spanning Renaissance to contemporary repertoire, with a particular focus on historical performance. After relocating to Vancouver Island in 2010, she continues an active career performing on both modern and historical bassoons. Previously based in London, England, she performed and recorded with leading period instrument ensembles across Britain and Europe, including The English Concert, The Academy of Ancient Music, Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, The King’s Consort, The Gabrieli Consort, and Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra. Her international festival appearances include the BBC Proms, Salzburg, Aix-en-Provence, Mostly Mozart (Lincoln Center), and Perth Festival. In North America, she has performed with the Vancouver, Victoria, and Vancouver Island Symphonies. A dedicated educator since 1987, Katrina teaches privately and serves on faculty at the Nanaimo Conservatory of Music, the Victoria Conservatory’s Summer Baroque Academy, UBC’s Baroque Orchestra Mentorship Programme, and teaches bassoon at the UVic School of Music. She also co-runs clarkbrass.ca, crafting historical and modern brass instruments with her husband, Andrew Clark.