# **School of Music Faculty of Fine Arts**University of Victoria





Music

## SCHOOL OF MUSIC • UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA FACULTY CONCERT SERIES

## FAVOURITES FROM A LIFE IN MUSIC

A program of music selected by Louis Ranger, in celebration of his 36 years of teaching and performing at the School of Music

Saturday, January 10, 2015 • 8:00 p.m.

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall MacLaurin Building, University of Victoria Adults: \$18 / Students, seniors, alumni: \$14

#### With

## Anne Grimm, soprano Benjamin Butterfield, tenor

Suzanne Snizek, flute
Alexandra Pohran Dawkins, Teigan Cosgrove, oboe
Patricia Kostek, clarinet
Pierre Cayer, English horn
Jennifer Gunter, Nancy van Oort, bassoons
Louis Ranger, Matthew MacLean, trumpet
Matthew McConchie, Liam Caveney,
MeganWhite, Scott MacInnes, trombones

Lafayette String Quartet:

Ann Elliott-Goldschmid, Sharon Stanis, violins

Joanna Hood, viola

Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni, cello

Arthur Rowe & Bruce Vogt, piano

#### And

The University of Victoria Chamber Singers
Dr. Garry Froese, Conductor

Julia Albano-Crockford
Laura Altenmueller
Frances Armstrong-Douglas
Richard Bailey
Joey Cutajar
Kimberley Farris-Manning
Zander Felton
Micha Fortin
Cody Froese
Laura Giffen
Jenna Grossman
Crystal-Anne Howell

Allison Kingsley
Alex Klassen
Marlena Kurek
Kenji Lee
Margaret Lingas
Emmanuel Moore
Ryan Narciso
Natasha Penfield
Joshua Poon
Zachary Power
Sean Quicke
Nicholas Renaud
Matthew Sabo

Kassandra Schantz Shelley Shen Samuel Simons Duncan Slade Emily Stewart Chelsey Terres Rebecca Thackray Austin Warren Kelsey Wheatley Mandy Wiltshire Dawn Yuan Xuguang Zhang

#### PROGRAM

#### Serenata, Op. 46 (1927)

- I. Marcia
- II. Minuetto
- III. Notturno
- IV. Gavotta
- V. Cavatina
- VI. Finale

Alfredo Casella (1883–1947)

Sharon Stanis, violin; Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni, cello Patricia Kostek, clarinet; Jennifer Gunter, bassoon Louis Ranger, trumpet

#### In Memorium Dylan Thomas: Dirge-Canons and Song (1954)

Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971)

Prelude Song Postlude

Benjamin Butterfield, tenor

Lafayette String Quartet: Ann Elliott-Goldschmid, Sharon Stanis, violins Joanna Hood, viola; Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni, cello

> Trombone choir: Matthew McConchie, Liam Caveney, MeganWhite, Scott MacInnes

> > Louis Ranger, conductor

Intermission

Beverages and snacks available at the concession located in the lounge.

#### The Owl and the Pussy-Cat (1944)

Igor Stravinsky

Anne Grimm, soprano Bruce Vogt, piano

Capricorn Concerto for Flute, Oboe, Trumpet, and Strings (1944)

Samuel Barber (1910–1981)

(piano reduction by Kurt Frederick)

I.Allegro ma non troppo II. Allegretto III. Allegro con brio

> Suzanne Snizek, flute Alexandra Pohran Dawkins, oboe Louis Ranger, trumpet Arthur Rowe, piano

Mass (1944–48)
For Mixed Chorus and Double Wind Quintet

Igor Stravinsky

The University of Victoria Chamber Singers Dr. Garry Froese, Conductor

Woodwinds:

Alexandra Pohran Dawkins, Teigan Cosgrove, oboes Pierre Cayer, English horn Jennifer Gunter, Nancy van Oort, bassoons

Brass:

Louis Ranger, Matthew MacLean, trumpets Matthew McConchie, Liam Caveney, Scott MacInnes, trombones

#### **TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS**

## Do Not Go Gentle Into that Good Night Dylan Thomas (1914–1953)

Do not go gentle into that good night, Old age should burn and rave at close of day; Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right, Because their words had forked no lightning they Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by, crying how bright Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay, Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight, And learn, too late, they grieved it on its way, Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay, Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on the sad height, Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray. Do not go gentle into that good night. Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

## The Owl and the Pussy-Cat Edward Lear (1812–1888)

The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea In a beautiful pea-green boat,
They took some honey, and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.
The Owl looked up to the stars above,
And sang to a small guitar,
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy, my love,
What a beautiful Pussy you are,
You are,
You are!
What a beautiful Pussy you are!"

Pussy said to the Owl, "You elegant fowl!
How charmingly sweet you sing!
O let us be married! too long we have tarried:
But what shall we do for a ring?"
They sailed away, for a year and a day,
To the land where the Bong-Tree grows
And there in a wood a Piggy-wig stood
With a ring at the end of his nose,
His nose,
His nose,
With a ring at the end of his nose.

"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling Your ring?" Said the Piggy, "I will."

So they took it away, and were married next day By the Turkey who lives on the hill.

They dined on mince, and slices of quince, Which they ate with a runcible spoon;

And hand in hand, on the edge of the sand, They danced by the light of the moon, The moon,

They danced by the light of the moon.

#### Mass

#### **KYRIE**

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

#### **GLORIA**

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.

Laudamus te; benedicimus te; adoramus te; glorificamus te. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam.

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Glory be to God in the highest. And in earth peace to men of good will.

We praise Thee; we bless Thee; we worship Thee; we glorify Thee. We give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father. Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dextram Patris, O miserere nobis

Quoniam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe. Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris.

Amen.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord, thou only art the most high, Jesus Christ. Together with the Holy Ghost in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

#### **CREDO**

Credo in unum Deum; Patrem omnipotentem, factorem coeli et terrae, visibilium omnium et invisibilium.

Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium Dei unigenitum,
Et ex Patre natum ante omnia sæcula.
Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine,
Deum verum de Deo vero,
Genitum non factum,
consubstantialem Patri:
per quem omnia facta sunt.
Qui propter nos homines,
et propter nostram salutem
descendit de coelis.
Et incarnatus est de Spiritu Sancto
ex Maria Virgine: et homo factus est.

Crucifixus etiam pro nobis sub Pontio Pilato, passus et sepultus est. Et resurrexit tertia die secundum Scripturas. Et ascendit in coelum: sedet ad dexteram Patris. Et iterum venturus est cum gloria, judicare vivos et mortuos: cujus regni non erit finis.

I believe in one God; the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, light of light, true God of true God, begotten not made; being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation descended from heaven; and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost, of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

He was crucified also for us, suffered under Pontius Pilate, and was buried.

And on the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures: and ascended into heaven.

He sitteth at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge the living and the dead; and His kingdom shall have no end.

Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vivificantem: aui ex Patre Filioque procedit. Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per Prophetas. Et unam sanctam

Confiteor unum baptisma, in remissionem peccatorum.

Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum et vitam venturi sæculi.

catholicam et apostolicam Ecclesiam.

Amen

And in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and giver of life,

Who prodeedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; as it was told by the Prophets.

And one holy

catholic and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.

And I await the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen

#### **SANCTUS**

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts. Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis. Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis.

Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

#### **AGNUS DEI**

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Agnus Dei. Dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God. Who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Lamb of God. Grant us peace.

#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

#### Contributed by Louis Ranger

I was honoured and delighted when faculty colleagues of the UVic School of Music expressed interest in observing my impending retirement with a Faculty Chamber Music Series concert consisting entirely of music of my choosing.

Truth be told, a more accurate theme for this concert would be "music that I find interesting and rewarding that does not get performed frequently enough." However, this seemed a little awkward. These program notes offer facts about the pieces, but I also include a few comments on why this music is particularly significant for me. (Personal reflection in program notes might be thought of as somewhat self-indulgent, but I don't retire that often...)

Alfredo Casella was a highly respected Italian composer, conductor, and pianist during the first half of the 20th Century. He was introduced in North America conducting a concert with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and was the first conductor of the Boston Pops. The Serenata is a lighthearted Neo-classical work, intended to entertain. However, it is well constructed, original, and challenging for the players. An indication of the respect that Casella enjoyed is the fact that this piece tied for first place in a competition organized by the Philadelphia Musical Fund Society. (The prize was \$10,000—the largest sum of money that had ever been offered as a prize for a chamber composition.) Incredibly, the prize was split between Casella and Bartók, who had entered his String Quartet No. 3. I became aware of this piece when I had the good fortune to study with brass players of the Boston Symphony in the 1960s. A couple of them were chronologically enhanced enough to remember Casella's work with the orchestra and spoke highly of his musicianship.

One of the reasons I decided to become a musician was the excitement I felt when first hearing the great ballet music from **Igor Stravinsky**'s Russian Period (ca. 1907-1919). The Firebird, Petroushka, and The Rite of Spring compelled me to cloister myself in the practice room; I had to be able to participate in performances of those pieces one day. Works from his later, Neo-Classical Period (ca. 1920-1954), such as Symphony of Psalms, Orpheus, Concerto for Piano and Wind Instruments, and the Mass heard this evening, were some of the many pieces from this period that were likewise inspirational. With tonight's presentation of In Memorium Dylan Thomas and The Owl and the Pussy-Cat we hear two examples from his final Serial Period (1954-1968). In Memorium was the first piece in which Stravinsky fully utilized serial techniques of composition that had been pioneered by Arnold Schoenberg. The Owl and the Pussy-Cat was the very last piece he composed.

Stravinsky admired the work of Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, one of the towering figures in 20th Century verse. The two had planned to collaborate in the creation of an opera. Stravinsky said that Thomas envisioned a work that would depict "the rediscovery of our planet following an atomic misadventure." Anticipating a lengthy collaboration, Stravinsky built an extension on his house to accommodate the poet. Tragically, Thomas died suddenly in New York while en route to join the composer in Hollywood. Deeply moved, Stravinsky set "Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night" for tenor and string quartet, framed by short instrumental dirges with trombones joining the strings. As he had done throughout his career, Stravinsky absorbed compositional techniques developed by others and used them to create music with

character readily identifiable as his own. *In Memorium* is constructed upon a series of just five tones, rather than on a twelve-tone series, as developed by Schoenberg. When I learned of the existence of this piece I had already long admired not only the work of Stravinsky, but also that of Dylan Thomas; I was fascinated with the piece even before I heard it.

The Owl and the Pussy-Cat was a gift to Stravinsky's wife, Vera, who was very fond of the poem. It was the first English verse she had learned by heart. It might seem ironic that the composer of The Rite of Spring would finish his long, profoundly productive career with setting of a short nonsense poem. However, I have come to hear the piece as a crafty final gift to all. The illogical tale of the fowl and the feline is actually rather mysterious and compelling. Stravinsky's music seems almost random at first listening, but like the rhyme, it is very tightly structured. It is an absolutely strict twelve-tone work. In his Themes and Conclusions, Stravinsky wrote, "The piano octaves form a syncopated canonic voice as well as a double mirror." (Analysis, anyone? Who can resist a palindrome? Or for that matter, a dirge?)

The music of **Samuel Barber** is deeply rooted in traditional forms and tonality. It is characteristically lyrical and expressive. He was often criticized as a reactionary, but his angular melodic lines, rhythmic energy, and use of dissonance places him firmly in the 20th Century. His large body of work includes music in nearly every genre.

Originally written in 1945 for a solo trio of flute, oboe, and trumpet with strings, the *Capricorn Concerto* was finally arranged for the solo trio with piano accompaniment by Kurt Frederick in 1997. The piece was named after Barber's home in Mt. Kisco, New York, which was a haven for artists from many disciplines. The instrumentation is the same as Bach's *Second Brandenburg Concerto*, and the homage to Bach is also apparent in the contrapuntal writing and form reminiscent of a Baroque Concerto Grosso. Nonetheless, syncopated rhythms and 20th Century harmonies make clear the composer's appreciation of American music of his own era.

The Stravinsky *Mass* is one of only a handful of pieces that the composer was not commissioned to write. In 1927, he rejoined the Russian Orthodox Church, acknowledging values of his Russian upbringing. After discovering some Masses of Mozart in a second hand book store in Los Angeles, his interest in writing a Mass grew. He wrote a traditional Catholic Mass because "I wanted my Mass to be used liturgically, an outright impossibility as far as the Russian Orthodox Church was concerned, as Orthodox tradition proscribes musical instruments in its services." He also said "One composes a march to facilitate marching men, so with my *Credo* I hope to provide an aid to the text. The *Credo* is the longest movement. There is much to believe."

In contrast to Masses of Romantic tradition, Stravinsky's could be perceived as severe. He said that he wanted to write "cold music" that would appeal "directly to the spirit." In my view, the Mass succeeds in appealing to the spirit directly and powerfully.

Every performer in this evening's concert has a current or former teaching affiliation with the school, or is a current or former student. Without exception, everyone I approached about participating in this concert readily agreed, for which I am most grateful. I also wish to express my thanks to Dr. Susan Lewis Hammond, Director of the School of Music, for her enthusiastic support of this project.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 11, 2:30 p.m. (\$18 & \$14)

## FACULTY CONCERT SERIES: Eugene Dowling Scholarship Concert Eugene Dowling, tuba

With Charlotte Hale, piano, Ann Elliott-Goldschmid, violin,
The Pinnacle Brass Quintet, and The Bastion Jazz Band
The inaugural scholarship concert with proceeds benefitting the
Eugene Dowling Scholarship Fund for Tuba and Euphonium. Performing
Tarantella by W.H. Squire and The Spring Suite by Yukiko Isomura.
Phillip T.Young Recital Hall

Tuesday, January 13, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. (Free admission)

Orion Series in Fine Arts presents:

## GUEST LECTURE: Compositional Process in John Cage's Sixteen Dances (1951) DAVID W. BERNSTEIN (Mills College)

David W. Bernstein, professor of music and head of the music department at Mills College, sheds new light on the evolving complex interplay between compositional choice and chance in Cage's music.

Rm. A I 69, MacLaurin Building, A-Wing

Wednesday, January 14, 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. (Free admission)

#### LIEDER AT LUNCH

An exploration of the German Lied repertoire with **Sharon and Harald Krebs**. The annual Unterwegs (On the Road) recital. Bring your lunch! Rm. B037, MacLaurin Building, B-Wing

Saturday, January 17, 2:30 p.m. (Admission by donation)

#### **EMERGING ARTISTS ALUMNI SERIES**

#### Trio Dolce: Romantic Intuition

Shawn Earle (M.Mus '07), clarinet, Laine Longton (B.Mus '10), cello, and Clare Yuan (B.Mus '06), piano perform Beethoven's *Trio in B-flat major Op. 11*, Nino Rota's *Trio for clarinet, cello, and piano*, and *Trio in A minor, Op. 114* by Johannes Brahms.

Tickets available at the UVicTicket Centre (250-721-8480), online (www.tickets.uvic.ca) and at the door.

To receive our On the Pulse brochure and newsletter by email, contact: concert@uvic.ca



