



FACULTY CONCERT SERIES

ARTHUR ROWE PIANO

We acknowledge and respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

PROGRAM

Sonata in B-flat Major, D. 960

Molto moderato

Andante sostenuto

Scherzo: Allegro vivace con delicatezza

Allegro, ma non troppo

Franz Schubert
(1797–1828)

INTERMISSION

Tanz-Suite

Moderato

Allegro molto

Allegro vivace

Molto tranquillo

Comodo

Finale. Allegro

Béla Bartók
(1881–1945)

Variations and Fugue on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24

Johannes Brahms
(1833–1897)

BIOGRAPHY

Canadian pianist and Steinway Artist Arthur Rowe has enjoyed a career as a critically acclaimed recitalist, soloist with orchestra and chamber musician.

Having previously held faculty positions at the University of Iowa and the University of Western Ontario, Arthur Rowe joined the University of Victoria in 1992, where he is currently a Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano. At UVic he has also served as Acting Director of the School of Music and Acting Associate Dean of Fine Arts, and in 2008 he helped enable the School of Music to become Canada's first, and still only All-Steinway School of Music.

Following a New York solo recital, The New York Times wrote: "The Canadian pianist Arthur Rowe made an immediate and positive impression...before eight bars had gone by, one knew he was capable of vigor without heaviness, energy without excess of drive. It was first-rate playing: a kind of execution tinglingly alive to the shape and contribution of each phrase." Reviewing a solo recital in London England, The London Times spoke of his "unusual clarity of articulation and poetry of expression," and David Burge, writing in The San Diego Tribune said, "Rowe is a marvelous pianist...even when he is pushed to the limit by extreme virtuosic demands...he can concentrate all of his considerable talents on vital matters of phrasing, tone and ensemble."

In 2007, the Centaur label released an all-Schubert recording by Arthur Rowe (available on Apple Music). Fanfare magazine's review says, "Rowe's reading (of the posthumous B-flat Sonata) is one of the most beautiful I have heard... The D. 899 Impromptus are equally impressive...his purling right-hand runs recall Schnabel's velvety sound...every harmonic change is underscored by a delicate nuance of color change. This kind of expression cannot be taught; it is in the bloodstream and the soul."

Arthur Rowe has recorded with various artists for the Crystal, ebs, Innova, GM and Fanfare labels. A highly respected chamber musician, he has performed widely throughout North America. In 2004 The Harrington String Quartet joined forces with Arthur Rowe and Cleveland Orchestra Concertmaster William Preucil in New York, for a performance of the Chausson Concerto for Violin, Piano and String Quartet, which was reviewed by Harris Goldsmith as a "reading that rivaled the benchmark recordings by Franzescatti/Casadesus/Pascal, and Heifetz/Sanroma/New Arts." As Artistic Director of both the Victoria Summer Music Festival and The Jeffery Concerts in London Ontario, Arthur Rowe enjoys the opportunity to present both world renowned artists and exceptional young artists to audiences in these communities.

In 2024, Arthur Rowe looks forward to performances with the Isidore Quartet, the Dover Quartet, Canadian violinists Alice Lee and Timothy Chooi (Professor of Violin at the University of Ottawa), American cellist Philip Hansen and Principal Clarinetist of the Calgary Philharmonic Slavko Popovich.