



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2023 | 7 PM**

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, MacLaurin Building  
University of Victoria

EMERGING ARTISTS ALUMNI SERIES

# THE MEEKS DUO

CLARE YUAN & SCOTT MEEK PIANO

## PROGRAM

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.

*All arrangements by Scott Meek*

<b>Variations On Autumn Leaves</b>	Joseph Kosma/Scott Meek
<b>Der Erlkönig</b>	Franz Schubert (1797-1828)
<b>Erinnerung *</b>	Josephine Lang (1815-1880)
<b>Herbstgefühl *</b>	Josephine Lang
<b>Sea of Tranquility</b>	Christine Donkin (b. 1976)
<b>Bay of Rainbows</b>	Christine Donkin
<b>Fly Me to the Moon-light Sonata</b>	Bart Howard/Ludwig van Beethoven/Scott Meek

INTERMISSION

<b>Smoke Gets in Your Eyes</b>	Jerome Kern/Igor Frolov
<b>Jupiter from <i>The Planets</i></b>	Gustav Holst (1874-1934)
<b>Piano Concerto No. 1, 2nd mvmt. (Romance)</b>	Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)
<b>Happy Birthday to Liszt!</b>	Scott Meek

*\* World premiere performance*

## BIOGRAPHIES

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**The Meeks Duo** (married Canadian pianists Scott Meek and Clare Yuan) is recognized for its groundbreaking inventiveness and uniquely diverse repertoire for piano duet. Scott and Clare's concert programs feature their own creative transformations of classical pieces into anything from *Happy Birthday* to Japanese pop, as well as standard duet repertoire and works by living composers. Scott has written nearly 100 piano duet arrangements and the number keeps growing!

The Meeks Duo has been publishing new videos every week on YouTube since March 2021. Their video interview series *The Meeks Talk* features engaging conversations with musicians from across the world, and they have been featured as guests on several other YouTube channels. Their music has been played on CBC and Fairchild Radio, and their albums are available worldwide on all streaming platforms. Keen on promoting living composers and arrangers, Clare and Scott have had several new works and arrangements written for them, and they often perform works by lesser-known and female composers.

As members of their community, Clare and Scott raised funds for local flood relief from the sale of their 2021 Christmas album, and performed 22 weekly live-streamed recitals in 2020 at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, to entertain audiences worldwide during the lockdown period.

Clare and Scott have performed at such prestigious venues as the Taiwan National Concert Hall (Taipei, Taiwan), the Kay Meek Centre (North Vancouver, Canada) and the Vancouver Playhouse (Vancouver, Canada), as well as at museums, art galleries, private residences, universities, churches, and outdoor performances.

Playing the piano together was how Scott and Clare first met, and they formed The Meeks Duo shortly after they got married in 2013. They love the unique closeness of two musicians sharing a single instrument, and aspire to share the love of four-hand piano music with you!

A winner of the Vancouver Women's Musical Society Bursary competition, pianist **Chia-Hui Clare Yuan** (UVic BMus'06) is an acclaimed pianist and teacher in the greater Vancouver area. She recently made her debut as The Meeks Duo at the prestigious Taiwan National Concert Hall in Taipei with her husband, Scott Meek. Clare made her debut as soloist with the Metropolitan Philharmonic of New York Orchestra, performing the Brahms D minor Piano Concerto. She took on the role of conductor to lead the Vancouver Orchestra Club Symphony for one season, and toured with the clarinet, cello and piano ensemble, Trio Dolce. As part of The Meeks Duo, Clare has performed in many series around British Columbia,

Ms. Yuan continues to find ways to take her piano skills further. She currently studies with legendary piano duo, Kenneth Broadway and Ralph Markham. She also studied with renowned Canadian pianist Jane Coop at University of British Columbia. Ms. Yuan received her Master of Music degree from the Manhattan School of Music in New York, studying with Dr. Arkady Aronov. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Victoria, studying with Professor Eva Solar-Kinderman. She studied with Christine Eschman prior to her undergraduate studies.

Clare currently resides in Vancouver, Canada with her husband. She is an active performer and has been a frequent guest on FairChild Radio and FairChild Television, discussing topics about music learning. She also runs her own piano studio, with the hopes of inspiring young talents to find their love for music.

Described by the Winnipeg Free Press as a "consummate musician" who plays with "near-impossible fluidity" and "total physical involvement and passion," Canadian pianist **Scott Meek** is a highly active and sought-after chamber musician, collaborative pianist, and teacher in Vancouver, British Columbia. He performs and records regularly with his wife pianist Clare Yuan as part of The Meeks Duo, and his extensive repertoire of collaborative works with other instruments includes over 170 complete concertos and sonatas.

Scott Meek is a top prize winner in several international and national competitions, and he has performed as soloist with the Edmonton, Toronto, and Winnipeg Symphony Orchestras, as well as with several orchestras in the USA. Meek has performed in prestigious halls all over the world, including the Taiwan National Concert Hall (Taipei, Taiwan), Kennedy Centre (Washington, DC), Roy Thompson Hall (Toronto, ON), Winspear Centre (Edmonton, AB), and Centennial Concert Hall (Winnipeg, MB).

Scott Meek studied with Carole Pollard in Winnipeg before attended Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio, to earn his Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Arts (East Asian Studies) degrees, studying under Alvin Chow. At the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, Meek received his Master of Music and Doctor of Music degrees, studying under the world-renowned pianist and founding member of the Beaux-Arts Trio, Menahem Pressler.