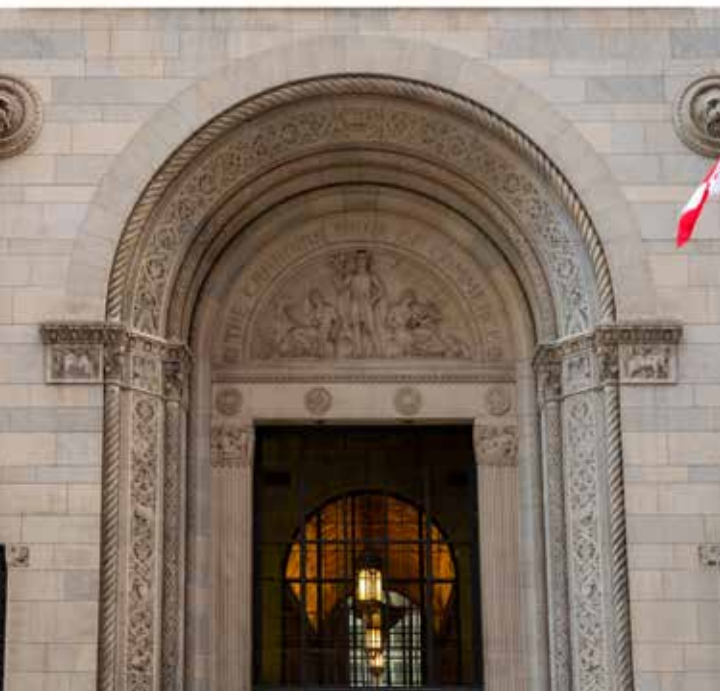


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We present our season of 13 concerts in two subscription series: strings and piano.

Music TORONTO is

- interesting artists from across Canada and around the world,
- music of 4 centuries, from the earliest string quartets of Haydn to new works commissioned and premiered in the 21st century,
- all taking place in a perfect small concert hall downtown.

A message from the Artistic Producer

In my 31st year and looking ahead to our 50th season, I turn toward *Music* TORONTO's distinguished history of bringing the world's best to Toronto. Jessye Norman, Fredericka Von Stade, the Amadeus Quartet and Garrick Ohlsson performed on the same stage as noted Canadians such as the Orford Quartet and Maureen Forrester. We were the "second home" of the renowned Tokyo Quartet for a remarkable 38 years.

Music TORONTO also has a tradition of presenting artists new to Toronto, artists at the beginning of their careers, and favourite artists who grew up on our stage, along with world renowned string quartets and pianists well-known to us and at the height of their virtuosic powers.

In these pages you will find artists new to us – Vadym Kholodenko; artists new to Toronto – the Tesla Quartet, Saleem Abboud Ashkar, the Castalian Quartet; new friends – Quatuor Van Kuijk; old friends – the St. Lawrence, Miró and Borealis Quartets, the Gryphon Trio and violist David Harding; someone we discovered very young – Vanessa Benelli Mosell; and old friends who are now major international stars – Stephen Hough, Janina Fialkowska, the Hagen Quartet. All at *Music* TORONTO, one night only, and only the best!

Please join the best audience in the city – well-behaved, knowledgeable and friendly – to engage in the special experience that is live concert music: it will inspire your thoughts and engage your emotions.



Cover photo:View of the entrance archway of the CIBC at 25 King Street West. Built 1929 to 1931, it was the tallest building in the city and indeed in the British Empire. The figures in the scene at the top of the archway blend Greek mythology with the sense of optimism of the era: you can see architectural plans, and an airplane.

Digital art by S. Limin

2020-21 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

STRINGS

Thurs. Oct. 22	St. Lawrence Quartet
Thurs. Nov. 12	Castalian Quartet
Thurs. Dec. 10	Borealis Quartet
Thurs. Jan. 7	Tesla Quartet
Thurs. Feb. 4	Miró Quartet
Thurs. Feb. 25	Hagen Quartet
Thurs. Mar. 18	Gryphon Trio
Thurs. Apr. 8	Quartuor Van Kuijk

Strings \$352, \$323

PIANO

Tues. Nov. 3	Vadym Kholodenko
Tues. Nov. 24	Vanessa Benelli Mosell
Tues. Jan. 19	Stephen Hough
Tues. Mar. 9	Saleem Abboud Ashkar
Tues. Apr. 27	Janina Fialkowska

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at \$500, \$459



**Dates, artists and programmes are
subject to change.**



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Music TORONTO wishes to acknowledge that these concerts take place on the traditional lands of the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Anishinabek, Haudenosaunee, and the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nations.

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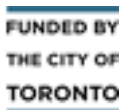
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strings

ST. LAWRENCE QUARTET

Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 8 pm



Established in Toronto in 1989, the SLSQ came to *Music* TORONTO in 1992 and returns annually. The St. Lawrence String Quartet has developed an undisputed reputation as one of the world's great ensembles. The quartet has been the Ensemble-in-Residence at Stanford University since 1998. Fiercely committed to collaboration with living composers, the SLSQ also has a special dedication to the string quartets of Haydn. The SLSQ combines exuberance with virtuosity and imagination.

Beethoven

**String Quartet in F Major,
Op. 18, No. 1**

Mozart

**String Quartet in D Minor,
K.421**

Haydn

**String Quartet in D Major,
Op. 76, No. 5**

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strings
CASTALIAN QUARTET

Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 8 pm



Toronto debut

Formed in 2011, the Castalian Quartet studied with Oliver Wille (Kuss Quartet) at the Hannover University of Music, Drama and Media, graduating with a Master's degree. They have performed widely throughout Europe and the UK, made a first tour of North America in 2018-19, and will debut at Carnegie Hall in 2020. Their most recent award is the Royal Philharmonic Society (UK) Young Artist Award, sometimes called the classical Oscars. The Castalian is known for capturing the art of conversation in string quartet music.

Haydn	String Quartet in C Major Op. 76, No. 3, "Emperor"
Janáček	String Quartet No. 1 in E Minor, "Kreutzer Sonata"
Mendelssohn	String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 80

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strings
BOREALIS QUARTET

Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 8 pm



Founded in Vancouver, BC in 2000, the Borealis has toured extensively in North America and Europe and in recent years, established close ties with Asia, touring extensively in Taiwan and China. In addition to an active concert career, the Borealis is committed to outreach and the community, playing for both seniors and children. The Borealis is on faculty and acts as the Quartet in Residence at the Kwantlen Polytechnic University and at the Langley Community Music School. The Borealis is known for an intense, focused style that invites the listener in.

Previous MTO concerts in 2004 and 2011.

Imant Raminsh
Shostakovich

String Quartet No. 3
String Quartet No. 8 in
C Minor, Op. 110

Dvořák

String Quartet No. 12 in
F Major, Op. 96,
"American"

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strings
TESLA QUARTET

Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 8 pm



The Tesla Quartet was formed at The Juilliard School in 2008 and quickly set about winning awards and enjoying fellowship appointments, including 4 years studying with the renowned Takács Quartet. Now entering its second decade, the quartet performs regularly across North America and Europe, with recent highlights including their debut at New York's Lincoln Center, a return to London's Wigmore Hall, and performances at Stanford University. The Tesla plays with a taut focus and a nice balance between form and emotion.

Dvořák
Carter Pann
Janáček

Selections from *Cypresses*
String Quartet No. 1, "Love Letters"
String Quartet No. 2,
"Intimate Letters"

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strings **MIRÓ QUARTET**

Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 8 pm



The Miró are recreating programmes from the past to celebrate Beethoven's 250th year and their own 25th in 20-21. January 9, 2020, we heard Program 1 of the Miró Quartet's Archive Project, a programme from 1910 played originally by the Kneisel Quartet. We liked that first one so much, we immediately invited them back to play the second. The Miró are telling the stories of their "quartet ancestors" and of the music they love.

Miró Quartet Archive Project

Program 2

Who: Flonzaley Quartet

When: April 7, 1929

Where: Coleman Chamber Music Association
(Pasadena, CA)

Mozart	Quartet in D Major, K.575
Bloch	String Quartet No. 1; III. Pastorale

Smetana	Quartet No. 1 in E Minor, "From My Life"
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Encores:

Traditional	Deep River
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(arr. Pochon)

Dohnányi	Scherzo
-----------------	----------------

Traditional	Irish Cradle Song
--------------------	--------------------------

(arr. Pochon)

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strings
HAGEN QUARTET

Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 8 pm



Unparalleled, mesmerising, able to make you hear music as new... the Hagen Quartet will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2021. The Hagen has performed throughout the world and amassed a storied discography of nearly fifty recordings; always, its focus is purely on the music it makes. Lukas, Veronika, and Clemens Hagen are siblings, and have been performing together nearly their whole lives; Rainer Schmidt joined the group in 1987.

Previous MTO concerts 1985, 1986, 1989, 2000.

Mozart	Quartet in B-flat Major, K.589
Shostakovich	Quartet No. 9 in E-flat Major, Op. 117

Mozart	Quartet in F Major, K.590

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strings

GRYPHON TRIO

with David Harding, violist

Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 8 pm



The Gryphon Trio celebrated its milestone 25th anniversary throughout 2018. The Trio continues to impress critics and audiences with its highly-refined, dynamic performances. The Trio tours regularly throughout North America and Europe, playing repertoire from the traditional to the contemporary. The Gryphon's relationship with *Music TORONTO* – continuous since 1995 – included 10 years as our ensemble-in-residence (1998-2008)..



David Harding has an extensive solo and chamber music career, having performed throughout Europe, the US, Canada, Central America and Australia. He was a member of 2 of our ensembles-in-residence, the Toronto String Quartet 1999-2001, and the *Music TORONTO* Chamber Society in 2002-2006. David is currently Professor of Viola and Chamber Music at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh.

Programme will include

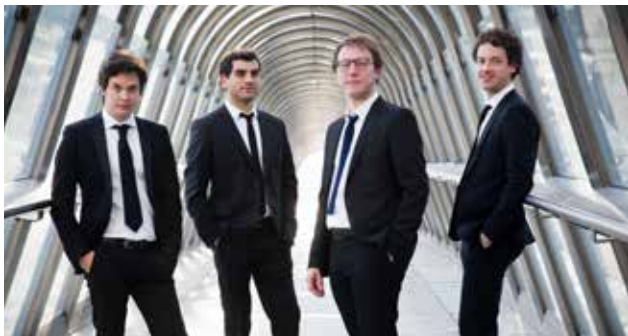
Mozart
Brahms

Piano Trio in G Major, K.496
Piano Quartet in C Minor, Op. 60

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strings
QUATUOR VAN KUIJK

Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 8 pm



Since their formation in 2012, Quatuor Van Kuijk amassed a collection of major prizes in 2015-2018. Since then, the quartet has become an established presence in major international venues and issued at least 5 award-winning recordings for Alpha Classics. Quatuor Van Kuijk have been BBC New Generation Artists, and in residence at Proquartet, Paris, where they studied with members of the Alban Berg, Artemis and Hagen quartets, having taken their first steps as students of the Ysaye Quartet. Debut on this series January 31, 2019.

Mozart	String Quartet No. 13 in D Minor, K.173
Shostakovich	String Quartet No. 10, Op. 118

Mendelssohn	String Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Op. 44, No. 1

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piano

VADYM KHOLODENKO

Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 8 pm



Vadym Kholodenko was born in Kyiv, Ukraine in 1986; he won the 2013 Cliburn Competition, and is fast building a reputation as a musically dynamic and technically gifted young pianist. He studied at the Moscow State Conservatoire, and more recently has been a favourite of renowned Russian conductor Valery Gergiev. His passionate but unostentatious playing has captured attention in symphony and recital halls around the world

**Selections of British Renaissance music for the
Clavecin (e.g. William Byrd)**

Mendelssohn **Variations serieuses, Op. 54**

Rachmaninoff **Variations on a theme of
Corelli**

Albéniz **Iberia (selections):**
Book 1: *Fête-dieu à Seville*
Book 3: *El Polo*
Book 4: *Eritaña*

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piano

VANESSA BENELLI MOSELL

Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 8 pm



Italian pianist Vanessa Benelli Mosell is a rising star on the international music scene, with an international career as recitalist, chamber musician, orchestral soloist and conductor. She has become a key figure in the music of Stockhausen and has collaborated with many leading contemporary composers. She has issued six releases for Decca Classics. Now 32, she made her debut for us at age 15 in 2002 in a two-piano recital with the legendary French master Pascal Rogé, who described her as “the most natural musical talent I have encountered in my entire life”.

Beethoven
Medtner

Sonata Op. 31, No. 1
Extracts: 2 Fairy Tales,
Op. 20, No. 1
Extracts: Forgotten
Melodies, Op. 38, No. 6

Ravel

Pavane pour une infante
defunte
Le Tombeau de Couperin

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piano

STEPHEN HOUGH

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8 pm



It is almost impossible to exaggerate about Stephen Hough. Pianist, composer, writer, painter, teacher. Winner of awards both musical and other: the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis, Diapason d'Or, eight Gramophone Magazine Awards, a MacArthur Fellowship (called the “genius” award), the Royal Philharmonic Society Award, and in 2014, Commander of the Order of the British Empire. Mr. Hough resides in London where he is a visiting professor at the Royal Academy of Music; he also teaches at his alma mater, the Royal Northern College in Manchester, and at The Juilliard School. A pianist in top form, not just technically but in ways that make you experience afresh the transformative nature of music.

Previous MTO recitals in 1996, 2002, 2007 and 2018.

**Copland
Schumann**

**Chopin
Chopin
Chopin
Hough**

**Piano Variations
Kreisleriana**

**Polonaise Fantasie, Op. 61
Barcarolle
Scherzo No. 2
Partita**

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piano
SALEEM ABBODD ASHKAR
Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 8 pm



Born in 1976 in Nazareth, Israel, pianist Saleem Ashkar is a double minority in his home country: he is of Palestinian Christian background. In Israel he had encouragement from Daniel Barenboim and Zubin Mehta. Ashkar went on for studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London, and at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater in Hannover, Germany. After a debut recording with EMI, Ashkar has released 5 recordings on Decca, focussed on Beethoven and Mendelsohn. Ashkar divides his time between Berlin and Israel, where he is the founding artistic director of the Galilee Chamber Orchestra; the group's 32 members are drawn from both Jewish and Arab Israeli populations.

Debussy

Douze Preludes, 1st book

Bach

Partita No. 4

Messiaen

Preludes:

No. 1 Colombe

**No. 2 Chant d'extase dans un
paysage triste**

No. 3 Les sons impalpables du rêve

No. 4 Un reflet dans le vent

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piano

JANINA FIALKOWSKA

Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 8 pm



Born in Montreal, trained in Paris and New York, Janina Fialkowska's career was launched in 1974, when the legendary Arthur Rubinstein became her mentor, calling her a “born Chopin interpreter” and laying the foundation for her lifelong identification with this composer. She now enjoys an important international career. She undertook a major tour of summer festivals in Canada in 2019. In 2021 Janina celebrates her 70th birthday. This will be her 9th recital for us, including her 65th birthday in 2016. Janina's playing reaches from the sublime and tasteful to the vibrant and daring, always soulful, honest and from a place of integrity.

Mozart

Sonata K.310

Schumann

Fantasiestücke, Op. 12

Ravel

Jeux d'eau

Chopin

Ballade No. 2 in F Major, Op. 38

Mazurkas, Op. 50

Fantaisie in F Minor

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Take your place in that conversation. *Music* TORONTO – what we do, what we do best.

Our 49th season - we look forward to sharing our best with you.