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2017-18  
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Cover picture: Osgoode Hall & City Hall  
- digital art by Susan Limin

## 2017-18 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

### STRINGS

Th. Oct. 19	Quatuor Mosaiques
Th. Nov. 16	Škampa Quartet
Th. Dec. 7	Gryphon Trio
Th. Jan. 11	Brentano Quartet with soprano Dawn Upshaw
Th. Feb. 1	St. Lawrence Quartet
Th. Feb. 22	Apollon Musagète Quartet
Th. Mar. 15	Penderecki Quartet
Th. Apr. 12	Schumann Quartet

Quartets \$346, \$314

### PIANO

Tu. Nov. 7	Benjamin Grosvenor
Tu. Nov. 28	Philip Chiu
Tu. Jan. 23	Stephen Hough
Tu. Feb. 6	Alexei Lubimov
Tu. Mar. 27	Dénes Várjon

Piano \$222, \$202



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**strings**

# **QUATUOR MOSAÏQUES**

Thursday, October 19, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Wolfgang Krautzer

## Toronto debut

Celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> season, Quatuor Mosaïques is the most prominent period-instrument quartet performing today. Austrians Erich Höbarth (violin), Andrea Bischof (violin), Anita Mitterer (viola) and French cellist Christophe Coin met while performing with Nikolaus Harnoncourt's Concentus Musicus Wien and decided to perform on original instruments as a classical "caper quartet." The quartet now tours widely and has an extensive discography.

**Mozart**  
**Haydn**

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**Mozart**

**Quartet in B-flat Major, K.458, "Hunt"**  
**Quartet in D Major, Op. 33, No. 6**

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

**strings**  
**ŠKAMPA QUARTET**

Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Škampa Quartet

Toronto debut

The Škampa Quartet is among the outstanding Czech string quartets performing today. Their mentors, the legendary Smetana Quartet, link them to the great Czech tradition. Their own research added their special understanding of the folk-song and poetry, rhythms and dance of their native land. Prizes at international competitions, awards from the Royal Philharmonic Society, and appointment as the first-ever Resident Artists at Wigmore Hall solidified their early career. The Škampa quartet has released 15 award-winning recordings on Supraphon and on the Wigmore Hall Live label.

**Josef Suk**

**Meditation on the Old  
Bohemian Chorale  
“St. Wenceslas”**

**Pavel Fischer  
Antonín Dvořák**

**Quartet No. 3, “Mad Piper”  
Quartet No. 9 in D Minor,  
Op. 34**

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**Bedřich Smetana**

**Quartet No. 1 in E Minor,  
“From my life”**

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**strings**  
**GRYPHON TRIO**

Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 8 pm



Now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> decade, the Gryphon Trio has impressed international audiences and the press with its highly refined, dynamic performances and has firmly established itself as one of the world's preeminent piano trios. With a repertoire that ranges from the traditional to the contemporary and from European classicism to modern-day multimedia, the Gryphons are committed to redefining chamber music for the 21st century. *Music* TORONTO's long relationship with the Gryphons began in 1995 – oops! We've passed 20 years together! – and included 10 years as our ensemble-in-residence (1998-2008).

**Haydn**

**Piano Trio in E-flat Major,  
XV:29**

**Marjan Mozetich**

**Scales of Joy and Sorrow  
(2008)**

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**Brahms**

**Piano Quartet in A Major,  
Op. 26**

**with a player to be named later**

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**strings**

**BRENTANO QUARTET**  
**with soprano DAWN UPSHAW**  
Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 8 pm

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Photo: Juergen Frank

Founded in 1992, the Brentano Quartet just celebrated its 25th anniversary season; it performs music spanning from the Renaissance, through the beloved Classical and Romantic literature, up to music of today's composers. The Brentano played their *Bach Project* for us in Nov. 2003 (Bach's Art of the Fugue with 10 modern compositions) and *Fragments*, the incomplete thoughts of great composers, in Sept. 2012. They succeeded the Tokyo as quartet-in-residence at Yale in 2014.



Photo: Brooke Irish

Dawn Upshaw has achieved worldwide celebrity as a singer of opera and concert repertoire ranging from the sacred works of Bach to the freshest sounds of today. A five-time Grammy Award winner, in 2007 she was named a Fellow of the MacArthur Foundation, the first vocal artist to be awarded the five-year "genius" prize.

**A set of interwoven Webern Bagatelles with Schubert Minuets (D.89)**

**Mario Davidovsky**

**Quartet No. 4 (1980)**

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**Respighi**

***Il tramonto***

**Schoenberg**

**Quartet No. 2**

**with Dawn Upshaw**

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**strings**

**ST. LAWRENCE QUARTET**

Thursday, February 1, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Eric Cheng

Established in 1989, the SLSQ came to *Music TORONTO* in 1992 and continues annually. The SLSQ has developed an undisputed reputation as one of the world's great ensembles. Called “witty, buoyant, and wickedly attentive” (the *Gazette*, Montreal), with a “peerless” sense of ensemble (*Financial Times*, London), the quartet has been the Ensemble-in-Residence at Stanford University since 1998. In 2016-17, the SLSQ toured Italy, Paris, London, and the Netherlands, played a three-concert series at Stanford Live, and paid return visits to Da Camera of Houston, Duke University, the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and many others.

**Haydn**

**Quartet in C Major, Op. 33,  
No. 3, “The Bird”**

**Janacek**

**Quartet No. 2,  
“Intimate Letters”**

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**Tchaikovsky**

**Quartet No. 3 in E-flat Minor,  
Op. 30**

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**strings**  
**APOLLON MUSAGÈTE QUARTET**

Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Marco Borggreve

We introduced this young Polish quartet to our audience in November 2015 – and invited them to return. Founded in 2006, they met in Vienna, and were mentored by the legendary Alban Berg Quartett. They have won many awards, the latest being a prestigious Borletti-Buitoni Trust Award in 2014.

*Clever programming and stylish interpretation – it is no surprise that the four young Polish members of the Apollon Musagète have risen to the very top of their profession.*  
— Münchner Merkur

<b>Haydn</b>	<b>Quartet in D Major, Op. 64, No. 5, “The Lark”</b>
<b>Arensky</b>	<b>Quartet No. 2 in A Minor, Op. 35a</b>
—	
<b>Grieg</b>	<b>Quartet in G Minor, Op. 27</b>

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**strings**

**PENDERECKI QUARTET**

Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Penderecki String Quartet

The Penderecki String Quartet celebrated its 30th anniversary season in 2016. These four musicians from Poland, Canada, and the USA bring their varied yet collective experience to create performances that demonstrate their “remarkable range of technical excellence and emotional sweep” (Toronto, Globe and Mail). Their recent schedule has included concerts in New York, Amsterdam, Los Angeles, St. Petersburg, Paris, Prague, Berlin, Rome, Belgrade, Zagreb, Atlanta, as well as appearances at international festivals in Poland, Lithuania, Italy, Venezuela, Brazil, and China. They enter their 20th year as Quartet-in-Residence at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

**Schumann**

**Quartet in A Major, Op. 41,  
No. 3**

**Kelly-Marie Murphy**

**Oblique Light (2016)**

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**Elgar**

**Quartet in E Minor, Op. 83**

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**strings**  
**SCHUMANN QUARTET**  
Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Kaupo Kikkas'

Toronto debut

The three brothers Mark, Erik and Ken Schumann, who grew up in the Rhineland, have been playing together for since 2007. In 2012, they were joined by violist Liisa Randalu, who was born in the Estonian capital, Tallinn, and grew up in Karlsruhe, Germany. CDs, study with the Alban Berg Quartet, a residency of many years at the Robert-Schumann-Saal in Düsseldorf, winning the prestigious Concours de Bordeaux along with other awards – it all adds up to an exciting new European quartet. Their latest award was the Newcomer Award for 2016 of the BBC Music Magazine.

<b>Haydn</b>	<b>Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 76, No. 4, “Sunrise”</b>
<b>Shostakovich</b>	<b>Quartet No. 7 in F-sharp Minor, Op. 108</b>
<b>---</b>	
<b>Schumann</b>	<b>Quartet in F Major, Op. 41, No. 2</b>

piano

## BENJAMIN GROSVENOR

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo:Operaomnia.co.uk

English pianist Benjamin Grosvenor made his Toronto debut in February 2014 and returned in October 2015. It seems a long two years since those sensational performances. Called “boy lord of the piano” in Australia, Grosvenor has taken the British piano world by storm. *Music* TORONTO is pleased to host his return.

*Poetic and gently ironic, brilliant yet clear-minded, intelligent but not without humour, all translated through a beautifully clear and singing touch.* The Independent

<b>Mozart</b>	<b>Sonata in B-flat Major, K.333, “Linz”</b>
<b>Brahms</b>	<b>Four Pieces, Op. 119</b>
<b>Brett Dean</b>	<b>Hommage à Brahms (<i>played as interludes between the Brahms pieces above</i>)</b>

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<b>Debussy</b>	<b>L’après midi d’un faune (<i>arr. Leonard Borwick/George Copeland</i>)</b>
<b>Berg</b>	<b>Sonata, Op. 1</b>
<b>Ravel</b>	<b>Gaspard de la nuit</b>

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**piano**  
**PHILIP CHIU**

Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 8 pm



Photo: Bo Huang & Matthew Perrin

Toronto recital debut

A pianist who focuses on chamber music, Philip Chiu is an acclaimed accompanist/coach based at McGill University. Dedicated to elevating the standard and art of collaborative piano, Philip is the creator and director of the new Collaborative Piano Program at the Domaine Forget International Festival and Academy. In 2015, he was the first recipient of the Prix Goyer (Extreme Emerging Artist) – Canada’s largest prize for an emerging artist in classical music.

*Pianist Philip Chiu played with striking precision and subtle poetry. The Gazette (Montréal)*

**Ravel**

**Ma mère l'Oye**

**(Mother Goose Suite)**

**Rachmaninoff**

**Preludes (Five Selections  
from Op. 23, Op. 32**

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**Schubert/Liszt**

**Fantasy in C Major,  
“Der Wanderer”, D. 760**

**Liszt**

**Legends, S.175**

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piano

## STEPHEN HOUGH

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 8 pm



Photo: Christian Steiner

Stephen Hough is regarded as a renaissance man. He has distinguished himself as a true polymath, both as a uniquely insightful concert pianist, and as a writer and composer. In 2001 Mr. Hough was the first classical performing artist to win a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship (colloquially called the genius awards).

Many of Mr. Hough's catalogue of over 50 albums have garnered international prizes, including the Deutsche Schallplattenpreis, Diapason d'Or, Monde de la Musique, several Grammy nominations, eight Gramophone Magazine Awards including 'Record of the Year' in 1996 and 2003, and the Gramophone 'Gold Disc' Award in 2008. He now records exclusively for Hyperion.

Previous *Music* TORONTO recitals in 1996, 2002 and 2007.

<b>Debussy</b>	<b>Clair de Lune (Suite Bergamasque)</b>
<b>Debussy</b>	<b>Images Bk II</b>
<b>Schumann</b>	<b>Fantasie, Op. 17</b>
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<b>Debussy</b>	<b>La terrasse des audiences au clair de lune (Préludes Bk II)</b>
<b>Debussy</b>	<b>Images Bk I</b>
<b>Beethoven</b>	<b>Sonata in F Minor, Op. 57, "Appassionata"</b>

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**piano**  
**ALEXEI LUBIMOV**

Tuesday, February 6, 2018 at 8 pm

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Born in Moscow in 1944, Alexei Lubimov premiered many 20<sup>th</sup> century pieces in Russia, despite heavy Soviet criticism of his commitment to Western music. Since political restrictions were lifted during the 1980s, he has given solo recitals throughout the world, appeared with leading symphony orchestras, and worked regularly with early music ensembles. His recordings have been issued on the Melodia, Erato, BIS, Sony, ECM and Harmonia Mundi labels

Mr Lubimov performed and recorded with the Toronto Symphony under Jukka-Pekka Saraste in the middle 90s. *Music* TORONTO is proud to recognize an artist who has made an undeniable contribution to the world of music, and welcomes him for his Toronto recital debut.

<b>Mozart</b>	<b>Sonata in D, K.311</b>
<b>Mozart</b>	<b>Adagio in B Minor, K.540</b>
<b>Beethoven</b>	<b>Sonata No. 7 in D, Op. 10, No. 3</b>
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<b>Stravinsky</b>	<b>Sonata (1924)</b>
<b>Debussy</b>	<b>Nine Preludes, Book 1: nine selections</b>

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**piano**  
**DÉNES VÁRJON**

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 8 pm



Hungarian pianist Dénes Várjon made his Toronto debut in February 2015 and we discovered his commanding virtuosity. At the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music, he studied piano with Sándor Falvai and chamber music with György Kurtág and Ferenc Rados, finishing his studies in 1991. He is a regular guest at the most prestigious festivals world-wide, has performed with major orchestras throughout Europe and in the US, and is a deeply committed chamber musician.

Dénes Várjon has recorded for Naxos, Capriccio and for Hungaroton Classics. His latest, in Jan. 2016, is his much-awaited recording of all five Beethoven piano concertos for Hungaroton.

*His playing is not controversial or eccentric; his demeanor is modest and unremarkable. His interpretations were elegant, passionate and always technically impressive, his compelling artistry superior to some of the starrier pianists who perform regularly on the main stage of Carnegie Hall.*  
The New York Times, Feb. 2016

**Beethoven**

**Bartók**

**Bartók**

**Bartók**

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**Liszt**

**Bagatelles, Op. 126**

**For Children – excerpts**

**Elegy No. 2**

**Improvisations, Op. 20**

**Sonata No. 2 in B Minor**

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

Our 46<sup>th</sup> season - we look forward to sharing our best with you.