



VANCOUVER
RECITAL
SOCIETY

2022
23

A SEASON
OF **WOW!**





Dear Friends,

Welcome to our 43rd Season! Its announcement has garnered more exclamations of “WOW!” than I have ever heard before. It is a season of ‘firsts’, not only in terms of debuts, but also in terms of the music you will hear and the venues at which we present.

J.S. Bach looms large; the season begins with his last work, *The Art of Fugue*, which will be performed by the celebrated young Italian pianist **Filippo Gorini**. You will also hear two entirely different performances of Bach’s *Goldberg Variations*. The first will be the resurrection of our ‘Going for Gold’ concert with **Sir Andrés Schiff**, which was to have taken place in our 40th Anniversary Season in 2020. (Sir Andrés will also perform a second concert at the Vancouver Playhouse where he will reveal the program from the stage).

One month later, we shall hear the remarkable young French harpsichordist **Jean Rondeau’s** take on the *Goldberg Variations* at Vancouver’s Beth Israel Synagogue, where the acoustics are remarkable. And we are delighted to welcome **Midori** to the Playhouse for an evening of Bach and works she has commissioned for a tour that celebrates her 40-year career.

We have an entire concert of Vivaldi from the wonderful **Jupiter Ensemble** — with mezzo-soprano **Lea Desandre** — in their first North American tour, and, for the first time we shall present an entire concert of Mozart Sonatas by **Mao Fujita**, a young pianist who truly has the measure of Mozart (and a name to remember!).

The **Danish String Quartet** return for the third concert of their Schubert-themed *Doppelgänger* project, and we welcome back the **Chiaroscuro Quartet**, whose 2021 concert was one of the many casualties in a season of cancellations. Speaking of a season that “wasn’t”, we are thrilled that we have been able to reschedule performances for the young pianist **Tom Borrow**, whose career is soaring, and Italian pianist **Andrea Lucchesini**. And we’re delighted that the **Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain** has been rescheduled and will now appear at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

Cello fans take note: **Steven Isserlis** returns to our stage with his long-time musical partner, Canadian pianist **Connie Shih**, and we have two fine young cellists whose stars are on the rise: **Zlatomir Fung**, who will make his Vancouver debut alongside pianist **Benjamin Hochman** (who has appeared on our series in the past), and **Jamal Aliyev**, who will make his Canadian debut with the renowned Turkish pianist **Fazil Say**.

Violinist **Randall Goosby** makes his Canadian debut with pianist **Zhu Wang**, and baritone **Benjamin Appl** is closing out the season with **James Baillieu** at the piano. If these marvellous offerings aren’t enough to increase your heart rate, we have a once-in-a-lifetime performance from the **Kanneh-Mason family** — **Sheku** and **Isata** return to Vancouver to perform at the Orpheum with their five siblings.

Much as we would love to release tickets for the entire season now, we cannot begin to guess what the pandemic will throw at us in the coming months. **So, we have decided to sell tickets to the fall concerts only for now. Tickets to the second half of the season will go on sale in November. We have listed the performers appearing in the Winter-Spring Season on page 9. Save the dates and save the money!**

We look forward to sharing some truly great performances with you!

Leila Getz, C.M., O.B.C., DFA
Founder & Artistic Director

2022 FALL SEASON

TICKETS FOR FALL CONCERTS NOW AVAILABLE

BUY MORE AND SAVE: Buy **3** concerts **or more** and receive a **15% discount** or buy **5** concerts **or more** and receive a **20% discount!**

Tickets will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

Purchase online at vanrecital.com or call 604 602 0363.

**PURCHASE
ONLINE**

FILIPPO GORINI piano **2**

Sun Sep 18 at 2pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

STEVEN ISSERLIS cello & **CONNIE SHIH** piano **3**

Sun Oct 16 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

SIR ANDRÁS SCHIFF piano **4**

Tue Oct 18 at 7:30pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

SIR ANDRÁS SCHIFF piano (Goldberg Variations)..... **5**

Thu Oct 20 at 7:30pm | ORPHEUM THEATRE

JAMAL ALIYEV cello & **FAZIL SAY** piano **6**

Sun Oct 30 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

JEAN RONDEAU harpsichord **7**

Sun Nov 6 at 3pm | BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE

RANDALL GOOSBY violin & **ZHU WANG** piano **8**

Sun Nov 27 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE



“There is no doubt:
a star has risen,
perhaps of the
brightest kind.”

— Diapason D'Or

FILIPPO GORINI piano

Sunday September 18 2022

Pre-concert presentation at 2pm | Concert at 3:15pm

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Filippo Gorini is a singular young pianist. He made his Canadian debut on our series in 2019 with a fascinating and fulfilling program, and his post-concert chat and Q&A were riveting. Luckily for us, during the Covid-19 lockdown he turned his probing intellect and musical curiosity to uncovering the message in J.S. Bach's last composition, *The Art of Fugue*.

Filippo's 2020 recording for Alpha Classics of Bach's masterpiece of counterpoint kicked off a multi-year project funded by the Borletti-Buitoni Trust. As part of the project, he is releasing a number of filmed conversations with personalities such as Frank Gehry, Alfred Brendel, Peter Sellars and Sasha Waltz. The VRS audience will have access to some of these films and will hear Filippo introduce the project in a pre-concert presentation, and then, after the performance, he will open up the discussion and take questions from the stage.

J.S. BACH: The Art Of Fugue, BWV 1080

Ticket prices: A: \$63 B: \$48 C: \$28

TAKE NOTE BUY 3 concerts or more and receive a 15% discount
BUY 5 concerts or more and receive a 20% discount

Concert sponsor: Elaine Adair



“Stylish playing, bursting with character throughout – but then what else would one expect from cellist Steven Isserlis?”

— Gramophone Magazine

STEVEN ISSERLIS cello CONNIE SHIH piano

Sunday October 16 2022 at 3pm

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

We lost the original date for Steven and Connie's concert back in our 40th Season due to the pandemic, but we are delighted that we have been able to reschedule it. These are two wonderful performers who have a long and trusted relationship both with each other and with the VRS. We can't wait for you to hear them!

DEBUSSY: Sonata for Cello and Piano in D minor

FAURÉ: Sonata No. 2 in G minor, Op. 117

ADÈS: *Lieux retrouvés*

SCHUMANN: Adagio and Allegro, Op. 70

BRAHMS: Sonata No. 2 in F major, Op. 99

“Shih proved a terrific, imaginative partner, with enough lightness, speed and power.”

— Washington Times

Ticket prices: **A:** \$88 **B:** \$63 **C:** \$28



BUY **3 concerts or more** and receive a **15% discount**

BUY **5 concerts or more** and receive a **20% discount**

Concert sponsors: Ric and Lynda Spratley | The Estate of Miss Denise Mara



“He is one of the most penetratingly serious masters of the keyboard before the public today. Full stop.”

— Boston Globe

SIR ANDRÁS SCHIFF piano

Tuesday October 18 2022 at 7:30pm

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Sir András Schiff was scheduled to fly to Vancouver in March, 2020 to help us celebrate our 40th Anniversary Season... instead he was detained in Japan as the world went into lockdown due to Covid-19. I can't say how happy we are to be able to reschedule him!


This performance at the Playhouse will be special; we will not know the program in advance — Sir András will announce and discuss what he is going to play from the stage. Those who know him through his incredible performances and recordings over the years can be assured that Liszt and Rachmaninov *will not* feature on the program!

PROGRAM TBA

Ticket prices: A: \$90 B: \$60 C: \$28

TAKE NOTE BUY **3 concerts or more** and receive a **15% discount**
BUY **5 concerts or more** and receive a **20% discount**

Concert sponsor: The Martha Lou Henley Charitable Foundation



“There is nothing more reliable in the world of classical music today than pianist András Schiff playing Bach.”

— New York Times

SIR ANDRÁS SCHIFF piano

Thursday October 20 2022 at 7:30pm

ORPHEUM THEATRE

GOING FOR GOLD

Originally slated for our 40th Anniversary Season, we've waited years (and then some!) for Sir András to perform 'the Goldbergs' on our stage. Originally written for harpsichord, the *Goldberg Variations* were first published in 1741 and are named after Johann Gottlieb Goldberg, who may have been the first performer of the work.

Going for Gold is a benefit concert; Sir András's performance will help the VRS set the stage for its next big milestone... our 50th Anniversary Season in 2030. VRS patrons are individually sponsoring variations and we are deeply grateful for all the wonderful support!

J.S. BACH: Italian Concerto in F major, BWV 971

J.S. BACH: Overture in French Style in B minor, BWV 831

J.S. BACH: Goldberg Variations, BWV 988

Ticket prices: **A:** \$88 **B:** \$74 **C:** \$63 **D:** \$45 **E:** \$28

TAKE NOTE BUY 3 concerts or more and receive a 15% discount
BUY 5 concerts or more and receive a 20% discount

Goldberg Sponsors (listed by variation number):

Aria: Leon & Leila Getz 1. Mary Jane Mitchell 2. David Harvey & Cecilia Bernabe 3. D. Wendy Lee 4. Helga Murray in memory of Doug Murray 5. Ally Hart 6. A. Christine Dryvynsyde 7. Rob Baker & Holly Sykes 8. Nancy Wu 9. Peter Cass 10. Maryke Gilmore 11. David McMurtry 12. Richard & Barbara Bergstrom 13. Mark Allison & Stephanie Holmquist 14. Anthony & Kim George 15. Stephen Gauer 16. Stephen Schachter & Nancy Stern 17. Kim Floeck 18. Linda A. Wong 19. Susan & Robert Lim 20. Anonymous 21. Gloria Wong & Cameron McGill 22. Karen Shuster 23. Wilfrid & Sally Mennell 24. Bill & Risa Levine 25. Myron Story & Larry Clausen 26. Christine L. Shiner 27. Michael & Brenda O'Keefe 28. Christopher Kin Ming Wong & Yee Cheng Leong 29. Ric & Lynda Spratley 30. Tsuyoshi, Tomoko & Toshiko Shibano Aria (return): Martha Lou Henley



“His musicality is a very rare and pure talent from birth.”

— Mstislav Rostropovich

JAMAL ALIYEV cello FAZIL SAY piano

Sunday October 30 2022 at 3pm

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Since his debut with the BBC Concert Orchestra at the Proms in 2017, Turkish cellist Jamal Aliyev has become one of the most sought-after cellists of his generation. He is championed by one of Turkey's most outstanding and celebrated musicians, pianist/composer Fazil Say, who is touring with Jamal to shine a spotlight on his young protégé. A debut not to be missed!

SCHUBERT: Sonata in A minor for Arpeggione and Piano
arranged for Cello and Piano, D. 821

FAZIL SAY: Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 41

CÉSAR FRANCK: Sonata for Cello and Piano in A major (1886)

Ticket prices: A: \$63 B: \$48 C: \$28

TAKE NOTE BUY 3 concerts or more and receive a 15% discount
BUY 5 concerts or more and receive a 20% discount

Next Generation Artist sponsor: The Estate of Edwina and Paul Heller
Concert sponsor: Alexandra Volkoff



“Rondeau is a wizard. Forget grace, forget melancholy – this is brilliance.”

— Gramophone Magazine

JEAN RONDEAU harpsichord

Sunday November 6 2022 at 3pm

BETH ISRAEL SYNAGOGUE 989 WEST 28TH AVE, VANCOUVER

Jean Rondeau made a huge impression on the VRS audience in 2018 when he performed at our 'Surprise Concert' in the Telus Studio Theatre at the Chan Centre. The 30-year-old Frenchman has gone on to become a veritable superstar and a global ambassador for the harpsichord, described by the *Washington Post* as “a master of his instrument with the sort of communicative gifts normally encountered in musicians twice his age.”

“An ode to silence” is how Jean has described Bach’s *Goldberg Variations*. “I feel they were written for silence, in the sense that they take the place of silence,” he says. “All Bach is there in the *Goldberg Variations*... all music is there... and I will no doubt spend my life working on them.”

J.S. BACH: Goldberg Variations, BWV 988

Ticket price: \$50 General Admission

TAKE NOTE BUY **3 concerts or more** and receive a **15% discount**
BUY **5 concerts or more** and receive a **20% discount**

Concert sponsor: Stephen Schachter and Nancy Stern



“Goosby plays like an angel with nothing to prove. A cool, calm, collected angel.”

— Los Angeles Times

RANDALL GOOSBY violin ZHU WANG piano

Sunday November 27 2022 at 3pm

VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

American violinist Randall Goosby came to our attention when he won First Prize at the 2018 Young Concert Artists (YCA) International Auditions in New York. Since then, his career has gone into orbit: he signed a recording contract with Decca Classics in 2020 and was awarded a coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant in 2022.

A protégé of the legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman, Randall is acclaimed for the sensitivity and intensity of his musicianship alongside his determination to make music more inclusive and accessible, as well as bringing the music of under-represented composers to light. For his Canadian debut, Randall will partner with pianist Zhu Wang, a YCA artist celebrated for his “technical mastery and deep sense of lyricism” (The Durango Herald).

LILI BOULANGER: Deux Morceaux

RAVEL: Violin Sonata No. 2 in G major

WILLIAM GRANT STILL: Suite for Violin and Piano

BEETHOVEN: Violin Sonata No. 9 in A major, Op. 47, “Kreutzer”

Ticket prices: A: \$63 B: \$48 C: \$28



BUY 3 concerts or more and receive a **15% discount**

BUY 5 concerts or more and receive a **20% discount**

Next Generation Artist sponsor: The Estate of Edwina and Paul Heller

Concert sponsor: The Board of Directors of the Vancouver Recital Society

SUPPORT THE VRS

Over more than forty seasons, the VRS has grown from its humble beginnings as a kitchen table endeavour into an award-winning, world-renowned organization. Along the way, we've raised the bar, increased our budget, and thankfully, our wonderful family of artists, community partners, subscribers and supporters has grown alongside us.

Now, officially in our forties, we're just hitting our stride. As long as there are artists to discover (and believe us when we say that there's a staggeringly wonderful crop of exciting young musicians waiting in the wings to thrill you, this season and in the seasons to come), you can be sure that the VRS will continue to present them.

We don't program one year at a time; we're often planning multiple seasons at once, which can be positively dizzying. Programming that far into the future is bold and aggressive because, as the last 24 months have shown us, nobody can really tell what the future holds. But here's what we do know: our audiences and donors are among the most loyal and devoted to be found anywhere. Absolutely everything we do — from the concert hall to the public library — is possible because of you.

And so, we hope you'll consider supporting our efforts — both for today and for tomorrow, for this season, and for seasons to come.

Supporting the VRS is easy! You can make a gift with your ticket order, you can give online, over the phone at 604 602 0363, or you can mail your donation to our office. Whether you're interested in sponsoring a concert, giving a gift of securities, or including the VRS in your estate plans, please give us a call. We'd love to speak with you about the many ways in which you can support the VRS!

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VANCOUVER

**GIVE
ONLINE**

2023 WINTER-SPRING SEASON

SAVE THE DATES!

TICKETS FOR 2023 WINTER-SPRING CONCERTS WILL BE
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE IN THE FALL.

Zlatomir Fung, cello & Benjamin Hochman, piano
Sun Jan 15 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Mao Fujita, piano
Sun Mar 5 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Jupiter Ensemble & Lea Desandre, mezzo-soprano
Sun Mar 19 at 3pm | CHAN CENTRE

Chiaroscuro Quartet
Sun Apr 2 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Midori, solo violin
Fri Apr 14 at 7:30pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Danish String Quartet
Sun Apr 16 at 3pm | ORPHEUM THEATRE

Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain
Wed Apr 19 at 7:30pm | QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

Tom Borrow, piano
Sun Apr 23 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Andrea Lucchesini, piano
Sun Apr 30 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE

Kanneh-Mason Family Celebration
Fri May 5 at 7:30pm | ORPHEUM THEATRE

Benjamin Appl, baritone & James Baillieu, piano
Sun May 7 at 3pm | VANCOUVER PLAYHOUSE



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