



June 14, 2024 7:30 PM, Heliconian Hall

Featuring the
The Lai-Clarke Quartet
with Andras Weber, cello
Joyce Lai and Zoe Laiyi Clarke, violins
Ian Clarke, viola, Noah Clarke, cello/piano

PROGRAM

STUART BEAUDOIN

Quartet No. 2 “ A Family at Home”

I. Larghetto (Moderato) II. Andante III. Allegro Moderato

Stu Beaudoin, MA, ARCCO, MSMus has been a church organist and music director since 1978. Stu has a keen interest in the theology of music and is a fan of Hildegard of Bingen. Prior to retirement he was an investment officer. Stu has directed choir and orchestra throughout his career and in 2004 founded a chamber choir, Cantorei sine Nomine, to sing Buxtehude and earlier music. He also established the Orpheus Sinfonietta which performs with the choir and also each Remembrance Day. Stu has retired from financial services and is the Director of Music at St Paul's Anglican Uxbridge; his main focus is composition.

This has led to a violin concerto, orchestra elegies, 2 string quartets, 8 organ sets and 'Canoe Dancing' a multimedia work for 10 winds, pictures and dance. His 'Fantasia on Jehous Ahatonia' for organ won the John White Memorial competition in 2017. The Angelus, premiered by Joyce in 2021, was First Prize in the International Music Festival and Competition in 2021. A violin concerto premiered by Joyce followed in 2023. And now a series of Organ prayers, Oratio ...', has been completed in 2024.

KYE MARSHALL

Prairie Downs for Violin and Viola

Pinery for Violin and Piano (2023)

Kye Marshall is a professional composer, cellist and nature photographer. She has written for full orchestra and numerous chamber ensembles. Her full length opera Pomegranate was presented by the Canadian Opera Company in June 2023 and was nominated for a Dora Award. Her credits also include four film scores, forty jazz compositions, and music for theatre, dance and CBC radio drama. Her work has been performed widely: in the USA, Austria, Italy (I Solisti Veneti) Canada and numerous locations in Toronto including CBC, TVO, Jazz.FM. An eclectic musician, Kye has performed jazz, classical and free music with multiple ensembles including as principal cellist in the O'Keefe Centre Orchestra and the New Chamber Orchestra, the National Ballet Orchestra (assistant principal cellist), the Kye Marshall Jazz Quartet / Duo, Heliconian PianoTrio, Epic String Quartet. She has six CD's to her credit. Visit www.kyemarshall.com to find out more about her!

TAK NG LAI

Sonata “For My Daughter” in G major for Violin & Piano (1984)

I. Allegro giocoso II. Andante cantabile III. Allegro assai

“Heart” Melody for Solo Cello (1999)

Tak Ng Lai was a member of the first violin section in the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra before completing his studies at the Vienna Conservatory of Music with a joint major in violin and conducting. In 1977, along with his wife, pianist Aster Lai, he immigrated to Canada. Lai is a past music director and conductor of both the Niagara and the Mississauga Youth Orchestras. He led the Etobicoke Philharmonic for 20 years before retiring and served as the conductor of the Canadian Chamber Academy, and assistant conductor of the Niagara Symphony Orchestra in his early days. Lai was Principal Guest Conductor of the Canton Philharmonic and Choral Society and has guest conducted Moscow Symphony, Ural State Philharmonic, Vancouver Symphony, Windsor Symphony, Shanghai Philharmonic, Taiwan Symphony, Beijing Symphony, Xiamen Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra of Bulgaria. Lai is the founder and music director of the Canadian Sinfonietta. Although he has been composing for most of his musical career, since the pandemic, his output has multiplied. His “Romance No. 2” for solo violin and strings can be heard on all the streaming platforms.

RONALD ROYER

“Danzón Overture” for String Quartet

“Mistico” from String Quartet No. 1

Ronald Royer is a multi-talented musician who is active as a composer, conductor, cellist and recording producer. Born in Los Angeles into a family of professional musicians, he began his career as a cellist, performing with such ensembles as the Toronto Symphony, Utah Symphony, Pacific Symphony, and American Ballet Theatre Orchestra, as well as working in the Motion Picture and Television Industry in Los Angeles during the 1980's. He has worked with many prominent musicians such as Julie Andrews, Emanuel Ax, Joshua Bell, Ray Charles, Sir Andrew Davis, Placido Domingo, Henry Mancini, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Frank Sinatra, Michael Tilson Thomas, Stevie Wonder, and John Williams.

As a composer, his concert works have been performed worldwide by over 70 orchestras. There are 19 albums featuring his music, including the ensembles Sinfonia Toronto, Los Angeles Studio Orchestra, the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic (Czech Republic), 13 Strings of Ottawa, iPalpiti Orchestra (Los Angeles), Odin Quartet, Canadian Sinfonietta Chamber Players, HornPipes Duo, and Triofus. He has composed for the theatre and film, including the Canadian motion picture Gooby, starring Robbie Coltrane and Eugene Levy. Mr. Royer is presently serving as the music director and conductor of the Scarborough Philharmonic Orchestra and is married to clarinetist Kaye Royer. For more information, go to: <https://ronaldroyer.com/>

RICHARD HERRIOTT

“Rhapsody Canadien” for Solo Piano and Strings

Richard Herriott, Pianist , Composer, was born in Singapore in 1963, of British Parents. He spent his early childhood in London, England, and in 1967, the Herriott Family emigrated to Canada. He made his recital debut for CBC at age 12. At age 18, he made his Orchestral debut with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra under Sir Andrew Davis

to great acclaim from both audience and critics. He has given concerts in fourteen countries around the world, and has played under many great conductors including Wyn Davies, John Pryce- Jones, Uri Mayer, Georg Tintner, and Kevin Mallon. Herriott is also widely celebrated for his highly developed and unique ability of Improvisation. Major Ballet Companies in North America and Europe have repeatedly asked for his services as Dance Accompanist, in response to his highly energetic and imaginative original Music for Class. He has composed several short Ballets, and has also written Concerti for Guitar, Oboe, 2 Oboes, 2 Celli, and Piano. During the Pandemic, he increased his activities as a Composer in writing a 45 minute Solo Piano Suite and a 3rd Piano Concerto. In June 2021, he was appointed Associate Composer Member of The Canadian Music Centre

PERFORMER BIOS

JOYCE LAI enjoys a career as a violin soloist and chamber musician. She has been featured as guest artist numerous orchestras, including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Szeged Symphony Orchestra of Hungary, the Canadian Chamber Academy, and the City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong. Locally, Joyce has been guest soloist with, among others, the Stratford Symphony Orchestra, York Chamber Ensemble, Etobicoke Philharmonic, Scarborough Philharmonic, as well as the Cathedral Bluffs Symphony Orchestra. As an avid chamber musician, Joyce has collaborated with numerous musicians at summer festivals and on concert tours in Canada, Europe and Asia. Joyce is the Artistic Director of the Canadian Sinfonietta (CS), a Toronto based classical music organization who present a variety of events featuring large scale orchestra concerts, small intimate chamber concerts, as well youth orchestra concerts and activities. Joyce performs regularly both as soloist and in collaboration with the Canadian Sinfonietta.

As a passionate educator, Joyce has a studio of private students, in addition to regularly being invited to adjudicate competitions, give violin clinics and master classes. Joyce holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, and a Masters of Music Degree and Performer Diploma from the Indiana University. As a great supporter of new music, Joyce has had a number of works composed for her. Most recently Joyce released a single recording of a piece by her father Tak Ng Lai. She can be heard on all the streaming platforms. <https://li.sten.to/hkn9uux1>

ZOE LAIYI CLARKE, violin, is 15 years old and has been playing the violin since she was 4. She studies with her grandfather, Tak Ng Lai and mother Joyce Lai. She is the current concertmaster of the Canadian Sinfonietta Youth Orchestra and a former member of the York Chamber Ensemble and the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. This year Zoe won first awards in the Unionville Music Competition, the Kiwanis Music Festival and received the “Honorable Mention” medal at the Ontario (OMFA) Provincials. Zoe is a Gr. 9 student at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute where she is in the French Immersion Program. In addition to music, Zoe is also passionate about drama and acted in two school plays this year, one of which won an award at the recent National Theatre School Regional Competition.

IAN CLARKE is a Toronto based violinist and violist. In addition to being concertmaster of the York Chamber Ensemble, with whom he is also a frequent guest soloist, Ian is also one of two violists in the Canadian Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra. Ian was concertmaster of the Matsumoto Symphony Orchestra in Japan from 1998-2000. An avid chamber musician, Ian performs regularly with members of the Canadian Sinfonietta and has worked with other prominent Canadian musicians at various summer festivals including the Kitchener- Waterloo Chamber Music

Festival, the Clear Lake Chamber Music Festival in Manitoba and the Pender Harbour Music Festival in B.C. In addition to his musical career, Ian also holds an engineering degree from the University of Waterloo and is currently the Director of the Software Research & Development Department for North America at EPSON.

NOAH CLARKE, piano/cello, is 17 years old and studies piano with his grandmother Aster Lai and cello with Andras Weber. Noah has completed the Royal Conservatory of Music Associate Diploma (ARCT) for Performance in both instruments with First Class Honours with Distinction. Currently Noah is the principal cellist for the CS Youth Orchestra and is also a member of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. Noah is a grade 11 French Immersion student at Lawrence Park Collegiate Institute where he also plays the trumpet (studying privately with Paul Sanvidotti) in the school band and orchestra. When not playing music, Noah also has many academic interests and most recently Noah competed in the University of Waterloo Avogadro Chemistry Exam and came in first place out of 5096 contestants around the world.

ANDRÁS WEBER received his musical training in Budapest, Hungary. His mentor, Janos Starker, has been a major influence in his work. He has been principal cellist with orchestras in Hungary, Mexico City and Canada. Has given concerts and been featured as guest soloist with orchestras in North America, Europe, and Korea. He was the winner of DEBUT in Montreal where The Gazette called him a “generously gifted” musician who plays with a “nicely colored and singing tone.” Mr. Weber has recorded in Hungary and Canada with numerous musicians including his wife, organist Ran Kim. He is principal cellist of Sinfonia Toronto and Canadian Sinfonietta.