



MUSIC IN THE MORNING

Coffee, Concerts & Commentary

2022–2023 SEASON



2022–2023
SEASON

MAIN CONCERT SERIES

TUESDAY–FRIDAY

Vancouver Academy of Music
Coffee 10am – Concert 10:30am

Sept 20-23, 2022

St Lawrence String
Quartet

Oct 18-21, 2022

Brentano String Quartet

Nov 15-18, 2022

Stephanie Leon Shames
Jonathan Shames,
pianists

Dec 13-16, 2022

Stewart Goodyear,
piano

Jan 17-20, 2023

Miriam Khalil, soprano
Julien LeBlanc, piano

Feb 14-17, 2023

Sal Ferreras, percussion

Mar 14-17, 2023

Viano String Quartet *

Mar 21- 24, 2023

Viano String Quartet *
Martin Beaver, viola

*Inaugural June Goldsmith
Quartet-in-Residence

During difficult times in my life, I have often listened to Beethoven's Cavatina movement from his string quartet work, Op. 130, late into the night. The middle section gives away to the most gut-wrenching sorrow, ever searching for meaning in a desolate landscape, and led by plaintive contemplation by the first violin while the other instruments listen on like heartbeats. And slowly, the other instruments begin to swell in with chords, at first full of vulnerability, but giving way to all four instruments expressing tenderness and hope.

Time and again over the last two years, the thing I have heard most is how much people miss the sense of joy, community, and inspiration that comes from our intimate concert experience. Our online "comMITment" programming—full of exclusive performances, live Zoom calls with deep dives on musical topics, and conversations with our founder June Goldsmith and some of MITM's favourite artists—buoyed our hopes that we would be together again. Last season, we were able to open to limited capacity (though not without Covid disruption!) and share meaningfully the core experiences of the MITM ethos.

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2022–2023 season which was forged with a spirit of optimism and hope, contemplated when the possibility of live music seemed far-fetched. This year, your subscription includes nine concerts instead of eight! This is driven by the launch of a new two-week ensemble residency with the Canadian-American Viano String Quartet. The residency rhymes with the legacy set by our founder, who herself forged a deep relationship with the St Lawrence String Quartet, our Honourary Artist Patrons. Read on to learn more about the inaugural June Goldsmith String Quartet-in-Residence in March!

And, of course, I had to have the intrepid Viano play Beethoven's Cavatina!



Adrian Fung
EXECUTIVE AND
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Music in the Morning
Concert Society
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Vancouver, BC, V5T 4T8
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VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL MUSICFEST & INSTITUTE

July 2023

SEASON SPONSOR



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We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

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The Inaugural June Goldsmith Quartet-in-Residence!

We bookend the 2022-23 season with three terrific string quartets playing today – the St Lawrence, Brentano, and Viano String Quartets. Supporting one of the next generation's most promising ensemble, this new two-week residency showcasing the Viano String Quartet underscores and extends a legacy our founder June Goldsmith started over 35 years ago with her relationship with the St. Lawrence String Quartet. Before the SLSQ were to sweep two of the world's most international competitions (in Banff International String Quartet Competition and New York's Young Concert Artists Competition), June was one of the earliest supporters of the ensemble with a distinct relationship that has lasted to this day.

The Viano is a Canadian-American ensemble (with two members born and raised in the Greater Vancouver area) which has quickly amassed head-turning distinction: 1st Prize at the 2019 Banff International String Quartet Competition and a prestigious graduate assistantship at the renowned Curtis Institute of Music. Described by the American Record Guide as "hair-raising, with bolts of lightning flashing from many pages", the Quartet will embark on a 3-year residency with Music In The Morning.

The two-week residency will feature the Viano Quartet in recital in its first week and a special guest artist in the second week. The residency also features a world premiere commission by acclaimed composer, Kevin Lau. Sometimes new music doesn't have the chance to be performed again after the premiere: We address this with the fact that the Viano will play the work throughout their entire residency – a world premiere of 8 performances! The Viano will work closely with our Executive & Artistic Director, Adrian Fung, in the expanding our vibrant community footprint of performances, classes, and open rehearsals. In her role as one of our Impresario Circle "Allegro" donors, and with a generous additional gift to inaugurate the first such residency, MITM names the residency in her honour. Please read about the program in our program descriptions in March!

SEPT 20–23

ST LAWRENCE
STRING
QUARTET



GEOFF NUTTALL, VIOLIN | OWEN DALBY, VIOLIN
LESLEY ROBERTSON, VIOLA | CHRISTOPHER COSTANZA, CELLO

The return of the mighty **St Lawrence String Quartet** opens our 37th season! Described as "modern," "dramatic," "superb," "wickedly attentive," "with a hint of rock 'n roll energy" by critics around the globe, the SLSQ are a phenomenon and one of the glories of Canadian music. Along with their countless awards and residency at Stanford University, the Quartet also distinguishes itself as one of the only ensembles to perform as concerto ensemble-soloists with orchestra (John Adams' *Absolute Jest*) with Gustavo Dudamel and the LA Philharmonic, Marin Alsop and the Baltimore Symphony, and Michael Tilson Thomas with the San Francisco Symphony.

Our Honorary Patron Artist, having been "series regulars" for over 35 years, is the first Canadian string quartet to take 1st Prize at the Banff International String Quartet Competition. Passionate educators, have since inspired countless chamber musicians and award-winning string quartets after them. Their playing is a breath of fresh air and an incredible way to launch our season.



OCT 18–21

BRENTANO
STRING
QUARTET

MARK STEINBERG, VIOLIN | SERENA CANIN, VIOLIN
MISHA AMORY, VIOLA | NINA LEE, CELLO



NOV 15–18

STEPHANIE
LEON SHAMES
AND
JONATHAN
SHAMES

STEPHANIE LEON SHAMES, PIANO
JONATHAN SHAMES, PIANO

In an embarrassment of riches with string quartets, this season we welcome the return of the **Brentano String Quartet**. The faculty quartet-in-residence at Yale University, the Brentano bring a freshness of insight and deeply moving imagination to all their performances. The New York Times says, "The Brentano String Quartet is something special... Their music-making is private, delicate and fresh, but by its very intimacy and importance it seizes attention. The performances were full of life. They seem to be listening to the same heartbeat." London Times raves about their "passionate, uninhibited, and spellbinding" playing.

Our audiences will be especially delighted to hear a rarely heard quartet from Fanny Mendelssohn, whose younger brother Felix relied upon for inspiration and mentorship. In an innovative program of several works traversing African-American spirituals to Charles Ives, William Grant Still to Antonin Dvořák, this is a concert you will not want to miss.

The Shameses are a husband-and-wife team who are both exponents of the great Leon Fleisher. Jonathan Shames was a prizewinner in the 1982 Tchaikovsky Competition and a 2005 Grammy Award winner performs with his wife, Stephanie Leon Shames, whose illustrious career includes solo performances with Detroit and Seattle Symphonies and wide broadcasts on BBC, Radio France, NPR, and German radio.

Those who would have marveled at the previous month's string quartet by Fanny Mendelssohn will have a chance to hear a work by her brother, Felix, in a fine example of his genius (having apparently written the work in a matter of days!). The program finishes with Mozart and Ravel's delightful *Ma mere l'Oye* (Mother Goose Suite).



DEC 13-16
STEWART
GOODYEAR



JAN 17-20
MIRIAM
KHALIL
AND
JULIEN
LEBLANC

STEWART GOODYEAR, PIANO
MIRIAM KHALIL, SOPRANO
JULIEN LEBLANC, PIANO

Canadian **Stewart Goodyear** is one of the most sought-after musicians in the world, and many of our audiences will remember trekking through sleet and snow to hear him three years ago! The LA Times calls him a “phenomenon” who plays with “unfussy naturalness”, musical sensitivity, and technical wizardry. Stewart returns this season with a special holiday-themed program featuring his very own arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s *The Nutcracker*, this concert will surely delight our audiences with familiar melodies conjuring warm memories and images from the ballet.

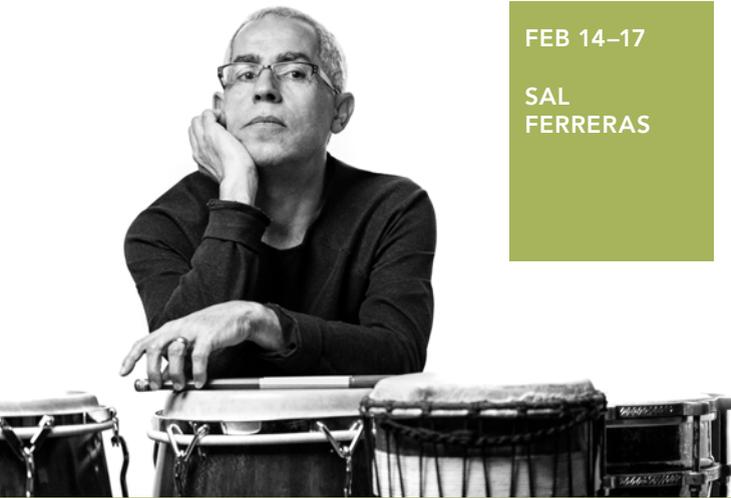
Sad that your children and/or grandchildren can’t come to a weekday morning concert? **Stay tuned for a special child- and sensory-friendly family concert on Saturday, December 17!**

The Lebanese-Canadian opera star and sought-after recitalist, **Miriam Khalil**, is a Juno-nominated concert artist critically acclaimed for the depth of her artistry and her “signature warm lyrical voice”. She has appeared across North America and Europe, and is a winner of the prestigious Metropolitan Opera National Council scholarship. She is joined by her long-time recital partner, **Julien LeBlanc**, who is regularly heard on L’Espace and CBC Radio. They bring together a program of astounding breadth, which also showcases Miriam’s powerful hold on language and culture. In her program, our audiences will hear Ravel’s *Shéhérazade* sung in French, a work by Fernando Obradors in Spanish, Sephardic songs sung in Ladino, and other works from the Persian and Arabic traditional folk music.

PHOTO BY ANITA ZVONAR

PHOTO BY SHAYNE GREY





FEB 14-17

SAL
FERRERAS

SAL FERRERAS, PERCUSSION



MAR 14-17

VIANO
STRING
QUARTET

LUCY WANG, VIOLIN | HAO ZHOU, VIOLIN
AIDEN KANE, VIOLA | TATE ZAWADIUK, CELLO
Inaugural June Goldsmith Quartet-in-Residence, Week 1

Sal Ferreras is a seasoned crowd favourite of MITM and we are delighted to have him return. A member of the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame and winner of the Mayor's Award for Music from the City of Vancouver, Sal has performed as principal percussionist of the CBC Radio Orchestra and alongside spectrum of incredible artists, from k.d. lang to Raffi, and tours regularly with his Persian-based trio, Safa, and Latin American trio The Southern Cross.

In a program that promises to bring you vibrant sounds, exotic rhythms, and diverse music from all over the globe, Sal invites you to enjoy his favourite works picked up from his scintillating career.

In their first week, the intrepid **Viano String Quartet** brings to our mainstage a deeply considered program called "Voyager", where the ensemble embarks on an enthralling journey with our audiences sharing surprising commonalities across disparate musical landscapes. From the Argentine tango master, Astor Piazzolla's yearning *Introduccion del Angel*, to Bartók's blistering and beautiful 3rd String Quartet, and Beethoven's great *Cavatina and Grosse Fuge* from String Quartet Op. 130, this program will surely delight and inspire as our audience is introduced to the Viano's probing artistry. As part of the vision of the residency, the new commissioning project asks a composer to write a short work for our resident artists: Although only an 8-minute work, it breaks the mold in having a premiere set of eight performances!

PHOTO BY VINCENT L. CHAN

PHOTO BY JEFF FASANO

MAR 21–24

VIANO
STRING
QUARTET
WITH
MARTIN
BEAVER



LUCY WANG, VIOLIN | HAO ZHOU, VIOLIN | AIDEN KANE,
VIOLA | TATE ZAWADIUK, CELLO | MARTIN BEAVER, VIOLA
Inaugural June Goldsmith Quartet-in-Residence, Week 2

NEW FESTIVAL

For the 2023 season, we are excited to share that **Summer Music Vancouver** is growing in exciting and new ways.

In addition, the Chamber Music Institute continues with an expansion of international faculty and students from Europe and across North America.

In the second week of the inaugural June Goldsmith Quartet-in-Residence, Canadian luminary **Martin Beaver** will join his former students playing the viola in a program featuring the Dvořák String Quintet, Op. 97. The Viano will pair this performance with Haydn's beautiful "Lark" quartet and listeners who attend last week's performances have the opportunity to hear the short 8-minute MITM-commissioned work by Kevin Lau a second time.

Martin Beaver is a soloist, chamber musician, and devoted teacher who coached the **Viano String Quartet** at the Colburn School of Music leading up to their victory at the Banff International String Quartet Competition. He served as the first violinist of the revered Tokyo String Quartet and is a laureate of the Queen Elisabeth, Indianapolis, and Montreal International Music Competitions.



Our festival in 2023 will be renamed the **Vancouver International MusicFest & Institute**

More information coming soon!

PHOTO BY SHANE GREY

Thank you for your continued support of

MUSIC IN THE MORNING

Your donations are powerful. We provide deeply meaningful artistic experiences to a wide and diverse community.

Presenting renowned artists in our warm, welcoming, and intimate concerts is one core aspect of MITM's mission.

Your gifts also allow us to deepen our offerings to our community by providing the same renowned artistry to those who have difficulty accessing it. From our special programs which bring our performances to individuals experiencing homelessness, addiction, or physical mobility issues to our work with the autism community, MITM deeply believes music has the power to improve lives.

There are many ways to help us ensure these high standards of performance and secure future generation's access to music.

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one-time or monthly gifts

CONCERT SUPPORT

concert sponsorship, donations, or gifts in kind

LEGACY GIFTS

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**For more information, please call our office at
604.873.4698**

VENUE & TIMES

Main Concert Series

Tuesdays–Fridays

Coffee 10am | Concert 10:30am

Vancouver Academy of Music

1270 Chestnut St, Vancouver

SINGLE TICKETS

Main Concert Series &

Vancouver International

MusicFest & Institute

\$43 (Adults) | \$40 (55+)



Music in the Morning Concert Society

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 Venues are wheelchair accessible. Artists, dates and programmes are subject to change.

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