

FAZIOLI

Olivia Chu, Pianist

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Programme Editor: Barry Whaites

**WHITE ROCK
CONCERTS**

**2017-2018
OUR 61ST SEASON**

VIENNA MASTERS

**WITH DUO-PIANISTS
ELIZABETH AND MARCEL BERGMANN**

and the
JOHN AVISON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY LESLIE DALA

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2017

About the Artists



Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann

Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann are the Artistic Directors of White Rock Concerts. On the national and international concert scene, they are celebrated as an outstanding piano duo. For more than two decades they have touched and inspired audiences with unique eclectic programmes. The Vancouver Sun wrote: “Always adventurous, the married couple combines virtuosic dedication with the instincts of professional entertainers who love their music”.

Taking a page from music history of the past century, in recent seasons the Bergmanns toured extensively with their two pianos in tow. They have been called upon to drive their truck, tune their instruments, unload their pianos onto concert stages - then dazzle their audiences with their brilliance and virtuosity.

They have been prize winners of the Dranoff International Two Piano Competition and the Provincia di Caltanissetta International Chamber Music Competition. They have performed in recital and with orchestras in North America and Europe, including recent appearances in The Netherlands, Germany, France, Portugal, Spain and Macedonia.



Leslie Dala, Conductor

Conductor Leslie Dala enjoys a multi-faceted career spanning the genres of opera, symphonic music, choral and contemporary works. Named one of the “Top Ten Artistic Leaders” by the Vancouver Sun, Dala’s national profile has grown steadily with guest conducting appearances with Pacific Opera Victoria, Edmonton Opera, COSI Festival in Sulmona, Italy, Vancouver’s Goh Ballet and the University of Toronto Opera.

As Music Director of the Vancouver Bach Choir and Vancouver Academy of Music Chamber Orchestra, he has conducted a wide range of orchestral and choral repertoire including their annual performances at the Bard on the Beach Festival. He is a frequent guest conductor of the UBC Opera Ensemble, and this last March he conducted them in the White Rock Concert’s “Chamber” production of La Boheme.



Our Next Concert

Rolston String Quartet

Luri Lee - Violin, Jeffrey Dyrda - Violin
Hezekiah Leung - Viola, Jonathan Lo - Cello

Friday October 20, 2017

Invitation for Volunteers

We could use your help with activities supporting our concert presentations!

There are a variety of small tasks for which occasional help from volunteers will support the continued success of our concert evenings - and keep our costs low:

CD sales at intermission | Organizing hospitality / refreshments for performers | Stage setup & transitions
Assisting with annual membership renewals | Ushering /handing out programmes /assisting those with mobility challenges

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED, PLEASE APPROACH ANY WRC BOARD MEMBER OR SEND AN EMAIL TO INFO@WHITEROCKCONCERTS.COM AND LET US KNOW OF YOUR PARTICULAR INTEREST OR EXPERTISE.

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Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann, Artistic Directors
George Zukerman, O.C., O.B.C., Founder & Artistic Director Emeritus

White Rock Concerts P.O. Box 45089, RPO Ocean Park, Surrey, BC V4A 9L1
www.whiterockconcerts.com | T: 604.385.0543 (messages only)

Programme Notes

Concerto for Piano Four Hands and Chamber Orchestra (Marcel Bergmann)

My new concerto has a very personal thematic. Inspired by some key elements of Canada's beauty and splendor, all three movements deal with different aspects of motion.

Wanderlust is about the wanderer/hiker - as an individual or group - embarking on an adventure with nature and its wonders. The joyous anticipation is followed by various ups-and-downs, in the literal, as well as the symbolic sense. It is not unlike my own life's journey that eventually brought me from Germany to Canada. In this particular contest - and as a homage to my heritage - I made use of some musical references to Schubert that I considered suitable.

Flow is about nature itself - water, fluidity, in various forms and manifestations... including the stillness in its frozen, icy state that shapes so much of the Canadian landscape.

The Last Spike refers to an important historical event that eventually completed the railway across Canada, thus being a symbol of national unity. Even today, the train whistles resonating in the mountains convey some of the magic and excitement that this once-new form of transportation evoked. Motion, generated by steam and steel, translates into the patterns of the concluding movement.

Concerto in B flat major P.IV:8 (Leopold Koželuh)

There were plenty of Koželuhes flitting around between Prague and Vienna in the latter two decades of the 18th century, and several of them were composers of considerable reputation. One of them, Jan Antonini adopted the name "Leopold" to distinguish himself from a cousin - also a composer, and also named Jan Antonini.

Leopold moved to Vienna in 1778, and quickly established himself as a pianist, composer and teacher with the good fortune or wisdom to include several Princesses and Archduchesses among his pupils. Given the comfort and relative prosperity of such standing in Vienna, he was able to decline a tempting offer in 1781 from the Archbishop of Salzburg to take over the position left open by Mozart.

Concertos for one keyboard, four hands are a musical curiosity, possibly conceived for performance at lessons with student and teacher at close proximity.

However, tonight's soloists, the Bergmann Duo had an entirely different reason when they played this work at a recent concert in Madrid. The performance took place at the Royal Theatre in an elegant penthouse suite designed for chamber recitals. The room was so small that only a single piano could fit on stage, along with the orchestra. Koželuh's concerto for one piano, four hands represented the perfect musical solution to a logistical dilemma!

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SPECIAL TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL

This tour is not affiliated with or endorsed by White Rock Concerts Society



John Avison Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Leslie Dala

For 70 years, from 1938 to 2008; the CBC maintained a recording and broadcast orchestra at its Vancouver studios. For the final 15 years, the CBC Vancouver Chamber Orchestra stood as the last remaining orchestra anywhere in North America. In recent seasons, the orchestra has been re-established as the John Avison Chamber Orchestra, featuring key players of the Vancouver freelance musical community. It is dedicated to the faithful rendition of the great orchestra repertoire which John Avison first cultivated in Vancouver, and to accompanying numerous visiting guest artists.

The Orchestra

Violin 1 Mark Ferris | Rick Dorfer | Ellen Farrugia
Violin 2 Dom Ivanovic | Christine Lin
Viola Manti Poon
Cello Becky Wenham
Bass Les Kasprzak

Flute Anne-Elise Keefer
Oboe Marea Chernoff
Bassoon Olivia Martin
Horn Laurel Spencer
Percussion Robin Reid

Thanks to the Vancouver Academy of Music for providing rehearsal space.

EARLY MUSIC VANCOUVER

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Programme

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and the
JOHN AVISON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
CONDUCTED BY LESLIE DALA

Kaiser-Walzer, Opus 437

Johann Strauss (1825-1899)
Arranged by Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951)

Four Country Dances, K. 101/250a

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)

F major | G major | D major | F major

Concerto in B flat major P.IV:8

Leopold Koželuh (1747-1818)

Allegro | Adagio | Rondo, Allegretto

INTERMISSION

Fantasy in f minor, D.940

Franz Schubert (1707-1828)

Allegro molto moderato | Largo | Scherzo, Allegro vivace | Finale, Allegro molto moderato

Concerto for Piano Four Hands
and Chamber Orchestra

Marcel Bergmann (1965 -)

Wanderlust | Flow | The Last Spike

*** WORLD PREMIERE ***

George Zukerman's regular programme blog does not appear this month due to lack of space. It will be back next month. To see the September 2017 message, please log into the White Rock Concerts website at whiterockconcerts.com, click on "News" and follow the link.