

# FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



INTRUMENTAL/VOCAL SERIES

April 9, 2024, 12 p.m.

## STORIES FROM THE FRONT LINES OF MUSIC & MEDICINE

### Pulse

SarahRose Black, narration, piano, voice  
Andrew Ascenzo, cello, guitar  
Tristan Savella, piano

### THE PROGRAM

*Goldberg Variations*, BWV 988, Aria .....Johann Sebastian Bach

Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007, Prelude..... Bach

Sonata for Cello and Piano, L. 135..... Claude Debussy

*Suite bergamasque*, L. 75, Clair de lune.....Debussy

Cello Sonata in G Minor, Op. 19, Andante .....Sergei Rachmaninoff

*Spiegel im Spiegel* .....Arvo Pärt

*Here Comes the Sun/Let it Be*..... George Harrison/Paul McCartney

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The Free Concert Series in the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre is supported by the Free Concert Series Endowment Fund, established in honour of Richard Bradshaw by an anonymous donor



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FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

## COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

Wed. Apr. 10, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

*Chamber Connections*

Artists of The Glenn Gould School

Some of the brightest rising stars on the Canadian classical music scene illuminate the Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre in an exciting hour of chamber music celebrating their victories at The Glenn Gould Chamber Music Competition.

Thu. Apr. 11, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

DANCE SERIES

*Highlights from Anne of Green Gables - The Ballet®*

Ballet Jörgen

Bengt Jörgen, C.M., Artistic Director

Canada's preeminent touring ballet company, Ballet Jörgen, travels coast to coast each season performing a vibrant repertoire of full-length ballets and shorter contemporary works. In this program, the company will present highlights from its newest full-length ballet, *Anne of Green Gables - The Ballet®* along with other popular company works. *Anne* will transport audiences to early 20th-century Atlantic Canada to follow the adventures of Anne Shirley, an orphan girl sent to live on a farm in the fictional town of Avonlea, Prince Edward Island. Based on the beloved Canadian novel by Lucy Maud Montgomery, *Anne of Green Gables* is a playful, colourful, and evocative production that will delight audiences of all ages.

## YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Wed. May 1, 2024 | 12-1 P.M.

INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

*Reflections with Brahms and Debussy*

Cathy Yang, piano

Simon Tetzlaff, cello

Cathy Yang and Simon Tetzlaff perform a selection of thought-provoking works for piano and cello. Including repertoire by 19th-century favourites, Brahms and Debussy, this afternoon of music will be both meditative and energizing.

Photography, video, and audio recording are strictly prohibited during the performance.  
You are welcome to take photos before and after the performance and are encouraged to share with us on:



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Programming is subject to change. For complete up-to-date listings, and to sign up for email updates, visit [coc.ca/FreeConcerts](http://coc.ca/FreeConcerts).



**Dr. SarahRose Black – narration, piano, voice**

Dr. SarahRose Black is a certified music therapist and registered psychotherapist, specializing in palliative care and psychosocial oncology at both the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto and her private practice, Whole Note Psychotherapy. She is a pianist, vocalist, public speaker, and music health educator, and has performed, taught, and presented her clinical work

and research across Canada. In 2012, she founded the first music therapy program at the University Health Network and, in 2020, obtained her doctorate from the University of Toronto, which included a Collaborative Specialization in Aging, Palliative, and Supportive Care across the Life Course. Her research interests include music therapy in the context of assisted dying, within psilocybin-assisted psychotherapy, as well as for adolescents with cancer. Black is an adjunct professor at the University of Toronto, a clinical supervisor at Wilfrid Laurier University, and the Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Journal of Music Therapy.



**Andrew Ascenzo – cello, guitar**

Cellist, educator, music and artistic director, and producer Andrew Ascenzo is redefining what it means to be a professional musician in the 21st century.

An avid chamber musician, Ascenzo is the co-founder, co-Artistic Director, and cellist of the self-directed string ensemble Canadian Chamber Orchestra, and was a founding member of the award-winning Bedford Trio

from 2016-2023, performing in Canada, the U.S., and Europe. As an orchestral and freelance cellist, he appears regularly with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Concert Orchestra, and touring artists such as Lauryn Hill, Sigur Rós, and Bruce Cockburn. Since 2016, he has been the Artistic Director and Producer of Music in the Atrium, now in its 29th season, at Toronto's Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

Ascenzo's production and administrative work has included serving as the Artistic Producer of the Banff Centre's Evolution Classical programs, as well a multimedia producer for organizations including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, University of Toronto, University Health Network, Ottawa Chamberfest, and Leaf Music. Ascenzo has worked extensively in musical theatre and most recently appeared as Music Director of Eclipse Theatre Company's original production *'Til Then*.

In 2019, Ascenzo founded Pulse Music with music therapist Dr. SarahRose Black, a collaboration which explores the intersections between the performing arts and music therapy through storytelling and performance. Together, they have performed with the Canadian Opera Company, Xenia Concerts, the Gryphon Trio, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Toronto Public Library, Google Canada, Pocket Concerts, Concerts in Care, and the Room 217 Foundation.

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Ascenzo is a cello instructor and guest lecturer at the University of Toronto, where he was a graduate of the Doctor of Music Arts Program in 2020 and recipient of the Tecumseh Sherman Rogers Graduating Award, the highest honour awarded by the Faculty of Music. For more information, visit [andrewascenzo.com](http://andrewascenzo.com) and find Andrew on all social media platforms @andrewascenzocellist.



### **Tristan Savella – cello, guitar**

Filipino-American pianist, Dr. Tristan Savella is an active soloist and chamber musician. His career has taken him to performances at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall in New York City (NYC); the Schloss Mirabell in Salzburg, Austria; and the COC's Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre. Furthermore, Savella is the recipient of multiple prizes at various national and international competitions, including third place at the Concours Flame in Paris, first place at the Bradshaw

and Buono International Piano Competition in NYC, and third place at The Glenn Gould School's Chamber Music Competition. Upcoming engagements this year include solo and chamber music programs for Piano Trio, Cello, and Piano, and piano four hands for various concert series, such as the Candlelight Concerts (Toronto), the COC's Free Concert Series, Doors Open for Music at Southminster (Ottawa), and the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Apart from performing, Savella works as a private piano and music theory teacher in Toronto and as an accompanist at The Royal Conservatory of Music and the Canadian Children's Opera Company. He has also served as an adjudicator for several local festivals and competitions, such as the AEGIO International Piano Competition and ORMTA.

Savella holds a Bachelor of Music in Applied Music from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, a Master of Arts (Klavier Solistenausbildung) with highest distinction from the Universität Mozarteum in Salzburg, and an Artist Diploma from The Glenn Gould School in Toronto. He is also an alumnus of the Interlochen Arts Academy in Interlochen, Michigan. He recently completed the Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Toronto, where he studied with the late Marietta Orlov, as well as with Jamie Parker and Lydia Wong. Additionally, Savella has taken part in numerous music festivals, including at the Banff Centre, the Orford Music Academy, the Gijon International Piano Festival, and the Chautauqua Institute. Aside from performing and teaching, Savella's interests include tennis, traveling, and cooking/food. In his spare time, he enjoys catching up with friends, checking out concerts and restaurants across Toronto, and watching travel vlogs.

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