

# FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



TD READY  
COMMITMENT

VOCAL SERIES

December 8, 2023, 12 p.m.

## REBANKS FAMILY FELLOWSHIP VOCAL SHOWCASE

**Christian Masucci Facchini, countertenor** (2023/2024 Rebanks Fellow)  
**Rachael Kerr, piano**

### THE PROGRAM

Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust, BWV 170 .....Johann Sebastian Bach  
Abendempfindung, K.523 .....Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Mörike-Lieder, No. 6, Er ist's.....Hugo Wolf  
“I know a bank” (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) .....Benjamin Britten  
“Dawn, still darkness” (*Flight*) .....Jonathan Dove  
Mandoline .....Gabriel Fauré  
À Chloris.....Reynaldo Hahn  
“Svegliatevi nel core” (*Julius Caesar in Egypt*)..... George Frideric Handel

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).

## COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

Tue. Dec. 12, 2023, 12–1 p.m.

### INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Jialiang Zhu, piano

Jennifer Tran, saxophone

*cons◦tellation / 星星 of contemporary wind*

Dedicated to all people grappling their own diasporic identities, Jennifer Tran and Jialiang Zhu present a concert program for saxophone and piano featuring East Asian diasporic womxn composers of Turtle Island. Throughout this concert, Tran and Zhu share stories exploring diaspora, memory and inherited memories, home and ethnic origin, identity, and cultural trauma.

Wed. Dec. 13, 2023, 12–1 p.m.

### INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Dmytro Udovychenko, violin

*Szymanowski, Ravel & More*

Ukrainian violinist Dmytro Udovychenko is the Grand Prize laureate of the 2023 Concours musical international de Montréal, where he stunned audiences with his spectacular performance of Shostakovich's Violin Concerto No.1 with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, conducted by Rafael Payare. Born in Kharkiv and currently based in Germany, Udovychenko has also been a top prizewinner at major competitions in Finland, Italy, and Singapore. For his recital debut in Toronto, he will perform works for violin and piano by Szymanowski, Ravel, and others.

## YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

Thu. Dec. 14, 2023, 12–1 p.m.

### VOCAL SERIES

Artists of the COC Ensemble Studio

*Winter Celebrations*

Artists of the COC Ensemble Studio celebrate the winter season with beloved songs, both sacred and secular, that evoke both the cold of the natural world and the warmth of the winter holidays.

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FOUR SEASONS CENTRE  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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## Vernügte Ruh', beliebte Seelenlust

Contented peace, beloved delight of the soul,  
You cannot be found among the sins of hell,  
But only where there is heavenly harmony;  
You alone strengthen the weak breast.

Contented peace, beloved delight of the soul,  
For this reason, nothing but the gifts of virtue  
Should have any place in my heart.

*(Text: Georg Christian Lehms  
Translation: Francis Browne)*

## Abendempfindung

It is evening, the sun has vanished,  
And the moon sheds its silver light;  
So life's sweetest hours speed by,  
Flit by as in a dance!

Soon life's bright pageant will be over,  
And the curtain will fall.  
Our play is ended! Tears wept by a friend  
Flow already on our grave.

Soon perhaps, like a gentle zephyr,  
A silent presentiment will reach me,  
And I shall end this earthly pilgrimage,  
Fly to the land of rest.

If you then weep by my grave  
And gaze mourning on my ashes,  
Then, dear friends, I shall appear to you  
Bringing a breath of heaven.

May you too shed a tear for me  
And pluck a violet for my grave;  
And let your compassionate gaze  
Look tenderly down on me.

Consecrate a tear to me and ah!  
Be not ashamed to do so;

In my diadem it shall become  
The fairest pearl of all.

*(Text: Joachim Heinrich Campe  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

## Er ist's

Spring sends its blue banner  
Fluttering on the breeze again;  
Sweet, well-remembered scents  
Drift propitiously across the land.  
Violets dream already,  
Will soon begin to bloom.  
– Listen, the soft sound of a distant harp!  
Spring, that must be you!  
It's you I've heard!

*(Text: Eduard Mörike  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

## Mandoline

The gallant serenaders  
And their fair listeners  
Exchange sweet nothings  
Beneath singing boughs.

Tirsis is there, Aminte is there,  
And tedious Clitandre too,  
And Damis who for many a cruel maid  
Writes many a tender song.

Their short silken doublets,  
Their long trailing gowns,  
Their elegance, their joy,  
And their soft blue shadows

Whirl madly in the rapture  
Of a grey and roseate moon,  
And the mandolin jangles on  
In the shivering breeze.

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*(Text: Paul Verlaine  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

### **À Chloris**

If it be true, Chloris, that you love me,  
(And I'm told you love me dearly),  
I do not believe that even kings  
Can match the happiness I know.  
Even death would be powerles  
To alter my fortune  
With the promise of heavenly bliss!  
All that they say of ambrosia  
Does not stir my imagination  
Like the favour of your eyes!

*(Text: Théophile de Viau  
Translation: Richard Stokes)*

### **Svegliatevi nel core**

Awaken in my heart  
The wrath of an offended soul  
So I may wreak upon a traitor  
My bitter vengeance!

The ghost of my father  
Hastens to my defense  
Saying, "From you, my son  
Ferocity is expected"

*(Text: Nicola Francesco Haym)*

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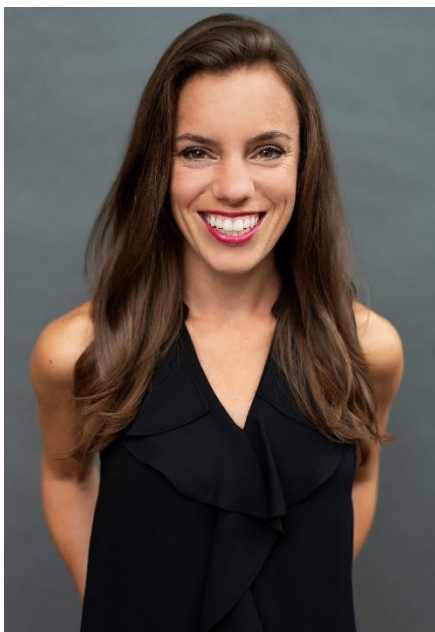
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### **Christian Masucci Facchini – countertenor**

Born and raised in Toronto, countertenor Christian Masucci Facchini is described as having a full, rich, and muscular sound that, paired with his “impressive stage presence” (*Opera Canada*), is propelling him through the classical and contemporary music scene today. He is an alumnus of St. Michael’s Choir School in Toronto, where he was trained in classical voice, piano, and violin from 2007 to 2017. He has performed as a chorister and soloist internationally across Europe and North America, as well as at St. Michael’s Cathedral Basilica in Toronto. Facchini is a graduate of York University where he studied Music, specializing in Classical Voice Performance with Stephanie Bogle. There he won First Prize in the York University Concerto Competition. From 2021 to 2023, Facchini was a student of The Glenn Gould School’s Artist Diploma Program with a full-tuition Sheila K. Pierce Vocal Scholarship. Highlighted stage credits at The Royal Conservatory’s Glenn Gould School opera include Rinaldo in Handel’s *Rinaldo*, Cupid in John Blow’s *Venus and Adonis*, and Refugee in Jonathan Dove’s *Flight*.

Equally passionate about Baroque and Contemporary music, Facchini has found a love for combining the music and styles of these eras, most recently as a soloist in *Mother Sorrow*, a secular re-imagining of the Pergolesi’s *Stabat Mater* in collaboration with Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and an all-Canadian cast and crew. A highlight of the past summer for Facchini was travelling to Thiré, France, to join Les Arts Florissants, a world-renowned Baroque musical ensemble conducted by William Christie, in a summer academy lead by co-director Paul Agnew. There, he took part in inspiring and exciting master classes and a fabulous concert featuring works by early English composers from the Restoration period. As a member of the Rebanks Family Fellowship Program, Facchini looks forward to building the next phase of his professional career.



### **Rachael Kerr – piano**

Rachael Kerr, an alumna of the Canadian Opera Company Ensemble Studio, is a rehearsal pianist on *Fidelio* and *Don Pasquale* this season, after serving as head coach for *Bluebeard’s Castle* and répétiteur for *Salome* and *Gianni Schicchi* in recent seasons. She has also been part of developing world premieres by Rufus Wainwright, Ana Sokolovic, and Ian Cusson. She was recently the Dora Award-nominated music director for Against the Grain Theatre’s *Figaro’s Wedding*. Past credits include two recent tours under the auspices of Jeunesses Musicales du Canada, as well as fellowships at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity and the Tanglewood Music Center. Kerr has also been a rehearsal pianist for the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in numerous projects, including world premieres by Brett Dean, Vincent Ho, and Gary Kulesha. Other past rehearsal piano engagements at the TSO include Britten’s *War Requiem*, Massenet’s *Thaïs*, Wagner’s *Die Walküre*, Mozart’s *Requiem*, Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 13, and Weill’s *Seven Deadly Sins*. Kerr holds a doctorate from Northwestern University, where she was

concurrently a faculty instructor in music theory.

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Kerr is on the faculty of The Glenn Gould School at The Royal Conservatory of Music as a vocal coach in addition to serving as the keyboard coach for the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra. In past seasons, she performed continuo and worked as a répétiteur for Brott Opera, in addition to appearing in concert with Toronto Summer Music.

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