

FREE CONCERT SERIES IN THE RICHARD BRADSHAW AMPHITHEATRE

PRESENTED BY



INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

November 8, 2023, 12 p.m.

COMMON THREAD

Rogue Duo

Bijan Sepanji, violin
Saman Shahi, piano

THE PROGRAM

Slumbering Colors.....Saman Shahi

Perfect GiftsRoydon Tse

DetachmentNiloufar Shahbazi

Utterings Eugene Astapov

I
II
III

Eclipsed HopesMaziar Heidari

ToccataMehrdad Jafari-Raad

Nah, نه Keyan Emami

DandelionRojin Monibi

Ukrainian Diptych.....Sergei Leontiev

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:



@CanadianOpera

#FreeConcertSeries

Programming is subject to change. For complete up-to-date listings, and to sign up for email updates, visit coc.ca/FreeConcerts.

COMING UP NEXT AT THE FREE CONCERT SERIES

DANCE SERIES

Tue. Nov. 14, 2023, 12-1 p.m.

SaMel Tanz

CHAMPIONESS

Presented by DanceWorks, join us for excerpts of SaMel Tanz's new work *CHAMPIONESS*. Their explosive choreography combines boxing, contemporary, street, and Latin dance to explore identity and mental health, while celebrating women. Engage in an interactive movement experience and a Q&A session with the artists following the performance.

JAZZ SERIES

Wed. Nov. 15, 2023, 12-1 p.m.

AVATAAR

Global Jazz with AVATAAR

Worldview was released in 2021 to critical acclaim and won a 2022 JUNO Award for Best Jazz Album (Group). The music is inspired by the deep musical traditions of India, Africa, and Brazil, rooted within the framework of modern jazz. In an innovative marriage of ancient and modern, this performance will feature driving grooves intersecting with cinematic atmospheres and soaring melodies, creating a fresh, emotive sonic experience.

YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE...

INSTRUMENTAL SERIES

Tue. Nov. 21, 2023, 12-1 p.m.

Gene Hotta, viola

Golden Violin Award Winner 22/23

Violist and winner of the Schulich School of Music's 2022/2023 Golden Violin Award, Gene Hotta offers a collection of lyrical and complex works by Brahms, Bach, and Garth Knox.

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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Bijan Sepanji – violinist

Bijan Sepanji is a Canadian-Iranian violinist and educator based in Toronto.

As a member of Rogue Duo, Sepanji has performed music of underrepresented current and past composers across southern Ontario as well as in his hometown, Tehran.

As a member of the Ton Beau String Quartet (TBSQ), Sepanji has led *The Black Fish Project*, a multi-genre musical adaptation of the Iranian children's book, *The Little Black Fish*. He will return to the Free Concert Series on January 31 to perform this JUNO-nominated work.

Sepanji has toured across Canada, China, Turkey, Iran, Italy, and the U.S., performing concerts and offering masterclasses with TBSQ at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, University of Toronto, Vanderbilt University in Nashville, as well as in Chicago.

Sepanji's instrument was made by Canadian luthier Mark Schurr in 2009.



Saman Shahi – piano

Saman Shahi is JUNO-nominated composer, pianist, conductor, and educator based in Toronto. His compositions have been performed and broadcast around the world and include orchestral works, operas, ballets, and many works for choral, vocal, and chamber ensembles. Shahi holds a master's degree in composition from the University of Toronto, is an affiliate Member of the Canadian League of Composers, Associate Composer at the Canadian Music Centre as well as a SOCAN member. He is a Co-Founder and the Executive Director at ICOT, Music Director at the Peterborough Concert Band, and a composer and teaching artist with the Canadian Opera Company. In 2020, Shahi's debut composition album *Breathing in the Shadows* was recorded and released by Leaf Music. All song cycles in this album have won awards in both Canada and the U.S., including a 2022 JUNO nomination. His second album *Microlocking* was released by People|Places|Records in 2021.

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