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Symphonia



London's
Premier
Orchestra



BY THE FIRESIDE WITH LAILA BIALI

SATURDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2022 at 7:30 P.M.

Laila Biali, vocals and piano

Scott Good, conductor and orchestrator

H.B. Beal Secondary School Singers and

The London Singers directed by David Weaver

London Symphonia



BY THE FIRESIDE WITH LAILA BIALI

SATURDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2022 at 7:30 P.M.

Metropolitan United

Program

Let it Snow! *	music by Jule Styne, lyrics by Sammy Cahn
Sleigh Ride	music by Leroy Anderson, lyrics by Mitchell Parish
Outside	Laila Biali
Radiance	Laila Biali
A Child is Born *	music by Thad Jones, lyrics by Alec Wilder
If We Make it Through December	Merle Haggard and the Strangers
My Favorite Things *	music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

INTERMISSION

River	Joni Mitchell
Calling All Angels	Jane Siberry
Do You Hear What I Hear	music by Gloria Shayne, lyrics by Noël Regney
Snow	Laila Biali
Carol of the Bells *	music by Mykola Leontovych, lyrics by Peter J. Wilhousky
Hymn to Freedom *	music by Oscar Peterson, lyrics by Harriette Hamilton
Joy to the World *	Issac Watts
Joy!	Laila Biali

* with H.B. Beal Singers and The London Singers

Arrangements by Laila Biali, except If We Make It Through December, arranged by Scott Good.
Hymn to Freedom, voices arranged by Paul Read, orchestration by Scott Good.

All orchestrations by Scott Good, except Outside, and Snow, orchestrated by Drew Jurecka.

This concert is approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes in length, including a 20 minute intermission.

London Symphonia wishes to acknowledge and honour the land on which we are meeting as the traditional territory of the First Nations peoples; the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation (part of the Anishinaabe), the Oneida Nation of the Thames (part of the Haudenosaunee) and the Munsee-Delaware Nation (part of the Leni-Lunaape). Let us reflect on how we as individuals and as a community can carry this spirit of gratitude into everything we do to honour the work that all the First Nations peoples of the Turtle Island have done, and continue to do, for the land that supports us all.

London Symphonia would like to thank all of our volunteers who help to bring live orchestral music to London and region.

London Symphonia would like to thank the staff and volunteers of Metropolitan United Church and especially Rev. Jeff Crittenden for welcoming us into this beautiful concert venue.

Thank you to our Accommodation Partner, Delta London Armouries for assisting us with accommodation for our guest artists.

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GUEST ARTISTS

Laila Biali, vocals and piano

Multi award-winning Canadian singer-songwriter, pianist and CBC Music national radio host Laila Biali has headlined festivals and venues spanning five continents from New York City's Carnegie Hall to Beijing's National Centre for the Performing Arts, and supported international icon Sting. Her latest full album release, *Out of Dust*, received rave reviews and was nominated for a 2021 JUNO Award. In 2020, Laila was honoured by SOCAN Music with the Hagood Hardy Award for Excellence in Songwriting. In 2019, Laila's eponymous release won her a JUNO (Canada's GRAMMY) for "Vocal Jazz Album of the Year." The year prior, she was awarded top prize at the Canadian Songwriting Competition in the Jazz category.

Laila was also the youngest-ever double winner at Canada's National Jazz Awards when she was named "SOCAN Composer of the Year" and "Keyboardist of the Year." She received her first JUNO nomination for *Tracing Light* (2011), and a spot on *DownBeat Magazine's* "Best Albums of the Year" for *Live in Concert* (2013) and *Out of Dust* (2020). In September of 2017, Laila was brought on as the host for CBC Music's national radio show, *Saturday Night Jazz*, a weekly show broadcast to millions of listeners across Canada. While Laila continues to earn high honours in the Jazz world, her signature sound transcends genre as she "masterfully mixes jazz and pop, bringing virtuosity and unpredictability to songs that are concise and catchy" (*Washington Post*). Laila is currently rolling out singles from her latest project, *Your Requests, Volume 1*, which features dynamic and personal arrangements of jazz classics requested by her listeners. The full album will be available in 2023.

Scott Good, conductor and orchestrator

Toronto born Scott Good is a unique creative voice in the Canadian music scene as a composer, conductor, concert producer, arranger, and trombonist. As an orchestral composer he has been commissioned by many orchestras including L'Orchestre Symphonique de Montreal, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Esprit, Kitchener-Waterloo S.O., Winnipeg S.O. and the Vancouver S.O. where he was composer in residence (08-12). Major works include The Hands of Orlac, a 2 hour tour-de-force accompanying the silent film classic, and Le Baiser, and musical portrayal of Rodin's masterpiece. Scott has composed numerous chamber works, including a multi-disciplinary work Wu Xing for the Gryphon Trio and Cuban traps virtuoso Dafnis Prieto, and a Canadian tour as composer-trombone soloist with ECM+ in his riotous Shock Therapy Variations

He is currently Composer-in-Residence with London Symphonia. In this role he has composed new works, arranged music and conducted concerts, developed youth programs, and acted as part of the artistic planning team along with the Artistic Advisory Council.

David B. Weaver, choir director

Mr. Weaver has taught music in London since 1989 and is Head of the Music Department at H.B. Beal Secondary School. His choirs have received numerous honours & awards. Mr. Weaver received his Bachelor of Music & Bachelor of Education from the University of Windsor, Master of Music Degree in Choral Conducting and Piano from the University of Cincinnati, Associate in Piano Performance degree from the Western Ontario Conservatory of Music (Conservatory Canada) and studied voice (opera and oratorio) with Russian Bass-baritone Igor Saika-Voivod. Mr. Weaver has conducted choirs at national & provincial conventions of the OMEA, CMEA & ACCC, and performed on Maclean-Hunter TV, Rogers TV, CTV, and CBC Television and Radio and on numerous choir tours across Canada, the USA & Europe. He founded The London Singers in 2000 and continues to be active as a conductor, musical director, soloist & church music director.

He would like to thank his parents, former teachers and professors and all current and former students and choir members over the years for so many wonderful memories and great music and he is excited to be back to LIVE performances!

H.B. Beal Secondary School Singers and The London Singers

H.B. Beal Secondary School Singers is a dedicated group of students from grades 9 to 12 who love to sing! H. B. Beal Secondary School is a large inner city high school in London, that is known for its excellence in the visual & performing arts as well as many other unique & specialized programs. For 110 years Beal has made a positive impact on our community and beyond. With our incredibly diverse student body, we are unified in our belief that everyone has value and should be given the opportunity to pursue their dreams. The choir performs many concerts each year and has received numerous gold awards at the London Kiwanis

Music Festival including receiving the Earle Terry Rose Bowl for best choir in the festival and the Alex Clark Challenge Class Trophy. The choir has also won awards in the Ontario Provincials and Musicfest Nationals.

The London Singers was founded in 2000 by conductor and artistic director David B. Weaver. The choir's mission is to make a meaningful artistic contribution to the London, Ontario region and nurture the spirit of the people of this community through the joy and gift of music. The choir's chief aim is to put young people in the midst of great music through collaborations with the H. B. Beal Secondary School Singers, local elementary schools, community, church, university & professional musicians. They are a recent Forest City Music Award Winner for Best Classical Choir.

The London Singers and H. B. Beal Singers have collaborated for 23 years and notable performances include concerts at Carnegie Hall, at Lincoln Centre, at the National Arts Centre for Canada 150 and at Notre Dame Basilica in Montreal. Their last collaborations with London Symphonia included "Beethoven Bash" concert and "Merry and Bright" seasonal concert in 2019, a concert with Sarah Slean in 2020 and recently "Mozart Mash" on Nov. 27, 2022 at Beal Auditorium. The choirs are delighted to be part of today's presentation of "By the Fireside" with Laila Biali.

MEET LAILA BIALI AFTER TONIGHT'S CONCERT

Meet Laila Biali and chat with musicians after the concert. Laila's CDs will also be on sale -- perfect holiday gifts -- and a great memento of this wonderful evening of music. Drop by the Great Room, located directly behind the stage.

CONCERT POLICIES

Photography and video/audio recording of any kind is not permitted during the performance.

Please wear a mask covering your nose and mouth throughout your stay in the building.

Please do not remove cushions from the Premium seating areas. A limited number of cushions are available on a first come, first serve basis for Regular seating. Please see ushers to request one.

PERFORMERS

LAILA BIALI QUARTET

Laila Biali, piano and vocals
William Sperandei, trumpet
George Koller, bass
Ben Whitman, drums

LONDON SYMPHONIA

Violin 1

Joe Lanza
Mikela Witjes
Andrew Chung
Yanet Campbell Secades*
Mel Martin

Violin 2

Émilie Paré
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Patricio Flores*

Viola

Kelvin Enns
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Marie-Eve Lessard
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Cello

Sonya Nanos
Ethan Allers*
Katerina Juraskova

Bass

Michael McClennan

Horn

Ron George
Kate Stone

Trumpet

Shawn Spicer

Trombone

Mike Polci

Harp

Amy Ley

* London Symphonia is delighted to welcome five inaugural Fellows from Western University's Don Wright Faculty of Music. The Fellowship program provides a full package of orchestral training, experience playing the Symphonia and mentorship.

H.B. BEAL SECONDARY SCHOOL SINGERS

Grace Yip, piano

Riana Banks, Tau Barnes, Emma Bishop, Sierra Bryant, Phoenix Cameron, Amelia Camilleri, Emily Campbell, Maya Canaran, Kitty Johnson Cheney, Emma Claxton, Rain Corner, Jacob Lemus Cuadra, Keira Currie, William Deman, Jamie Dennis, Sophi Dewar, Amber Douglas, Alexander Downs, Evita Fermanov, Simon Fermanov, Aeris Mejil-Fuentes, Taylor Fuentes, Josephine Gajasan, Billie Gould, Kealan Haindl, Kaitlin Hatfield, Thano Kambanis, Kyleigh Kenny, Axel Laskey, Madisynn Legary, Grace Lesser, James Lightowler, Meyer Liston, Aaron Macpherson, Marshall Mateus, Paige McDermid, Clara McElroy, Jackson McMullin, Cadence Morgan, Dani Neal, Sarena Nielsen, Ashton Nikolasevic, Pip Patriquin, Marina Polouchina, Cali Richard, Malayna Sedlacek, Indie Silvestri, Alyssa Skiffington, Michelle Smaill, Lucian Ramey, Rubyn Smalls, Danielle Stright, Daniel Tennant, Alastor Turner, Stella Yanga, Jourdann York

THE LONDON SINGERS

Grace Yip, piano

Ena Belanger, Madeleine Bennett, Elza Bielfeld, Kathryn Brown, Michelle Brown, Jennepher Cahill, Janis Danowski, Barb Delorey, Skip Epps, Joanne Ford, Darien Alexis Fraher, Declan Fraher, David Gillis, Jordan Kilfoy, Ken Kuhl, Susan Krause, Anne Lausch, Diane Mically, Pauline Morris, Ben Postma, Joanne Robinson, Lynn Robinson, Brenda Seitz, Cheryl Shavaliar, Josh Silva, Sue Smythe, Arielle Storrington, Renny Thompson, Kaylin Toner, Jane Wicks, Clint Wilson

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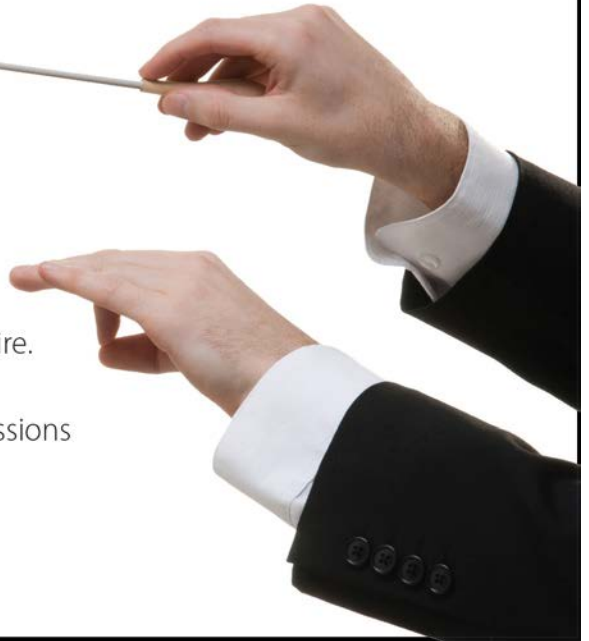
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Tchaikovsky's *Serenade* evokes images of nights spent in the open air, under the stars. Frehner's *Mojave Dreaming* invokes the solitude and mystery of summer nights under those same stars in the desert. Mozart's *String Quartet No. 8*, arranged for string orchestra, reminds us of gentle summer evenings in Vienna, far from the long nights of a Canadian winter.



With one face to the life-giving sun and the other gazing unblinkingly into the void, the mystery of the moon is her stark duality. Co-curated by Symphonia's Principal Flute **Laura Chambers** and soprano **Midori Marsh**, this cabaret reflects on the two sides of our sister the moon with luminous treasures by Dvorak, Golijov, Donizetti, Sondheim, and more.

Thank you for joining us this evening. Tickets and concert details are available online at londonsymphonia.ca or by calling 226.270.0910.



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We can no longer rely on London Symphonia's ticket sales for 30% of our total revenue. Other sources of income for the Symphonia such as grants, corporate giving and individual donations are vital to keep you enjoying the music.

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