

LONDON SYMPHONIA **2023-24** SEASON



DECEMBER 9, 2023 | 7:30 pm | Metropolitan United

CHRISTMAS WITH THE McAULEY BOYS

Guest Artists

- Scott Good, *conductor, director, arranger*
- The McAuley Boys
 - Gary McAuley
 - George McAuley
 - Mark McAuley
 - Randy McAuley
- Choristers of the Metropolitan United Church Choir School
- The Choir of Metropolitan United Church

London
Symphonia



Dear Friends,

On behalf of London City Council, let me welcome you to the London Symphonia's 2023-24 Season. As we gather together in the name of music and art, we celebrate not only the remarkable talents of this orchestra but also the vibrant cultural tapestry of our beloved city.

London, often referred to as the Forest City, is indeed a place where music runs deep within its veins. We stand tall as the first UNESCO City of Music in Canada, a distinction that underscores the profound significance of music in our community.

London Symphonia has long been a shining star in our artistic constellation, serving as a creative catalyst that ignites our collective passion for excellence, the love of music, and innovative collaborations. Through inclusive programming, you provide us with a unique opportunity to explore and celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures that call London home.

I join with you in celebrating the dawn of London Symphonia's 2023-24 Season. May this season be a symphony of unforgettable moments, a crescendo of creativity, and a fortissimo of artistic excellence. As we come together in the name of music, let us embrace the harmonious melodies that unite us and the shared vision of a culturally enriched London.

Best wishes to all for another positive and memorable experience!

Kind regards,

Josh Morgan
Mayor, City of London

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N6A 4L9

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SEASON'S GREETINGS!

We wish you a wonderful 2024 filled with happiness and good health.

Join us as we continue to welcome a diverse array of extraordinary artists, some of whom you may know, and a new generation of performers and composers. Each concert will take you on a unique musical journey of discovery.

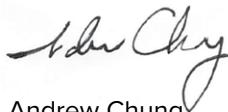
Great music and amazing artistry await you! Upcoming programming includes cherished orchestral masterworks, works by living composers, including a World Premiere, and an eclectic mix of jazz and modern musical genres.

Our audience members are vital to the continued success of London Symphonia. On behalf of the musicians, staff and Board of Directors, thank you for your support.

We look forward to seeing you often in the year to come.



April Voth
Executive Director



Andrew Chung
Artistic Producer

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE McAULEY BOYS

DECEMBER 9, 2023

7:30 pm

Metropolitan United

“The mood is right

The spirit’s up

We’re here tonight

And that’s enough

Simply having a wonderful

Christmastime” -Paul McCartney

Scott Good, *conductor, director, arranger*

The McAuley Boys

Gary McAuley

George McAuley

Mark McAuley

Randy McAuley

Choristers of the Metropolitan United Church

Choir School, directed by Catherine Gray

The Choir of Metropolitan United Church,
directed by Dr. Gregg Redner

Overture - O Christmas Tree

Music Trad., lyrics by Ernst Anschütz

Ar. Scott Good

Wonderful Christmastime*

Paul McCartney

Jingle Bell Rock*

Joseph Carleton Beal and James Ross Boothe

From The Nutcracker Suite

March

Trepak

Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Walking In The Air

(from *The Snowman*)

Howard Blake

Ar. John Leavitt

From A Ceremony of Carols

Procession

This Little Babe

Benjamin Britten

Lyrics by Robert Southwell

The Only Day^

Gary McAuley

O Holy Night^

Music by Adolphe Adam, lyrics by Placide Cappeau,
translated by John Sullivan Dwight

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

Music by Richard Storrs Willis, lyrics by Edmund Sears

INTERMISSION

From **The Nutcracker Suite**

The Waltz of the Flowers

Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Fantasia on Christmas Carols

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Music by Gloria Shayne, lyrics by Noël Regney
Ar. McAuley family and Scott Good

Frosty the Snowman

Walter "Jack" Rollins and Steve Nelson
Ar. McAuley Boys

Give Love on Christmas Day

The Corporation
Ar. Gary McAuley

Glow

Eric Whitacre

He Ain't Heavy, He's my Brother*

Music by Bobby Scott and The Hollies,
lyrics by Bob Russell

*Arranged and orchestrated by Gary McAuley and Scott Good

^Arranged and orchestrated by Gary McAuley, Scott Good and Stephan Moccio

This program runs approximately 2 hours, and will be performed with a 20-minute intermission.

SINGALONG

O Christmas Tree, 3rd verse

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas tree,
We learn from all your beauty;
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas tree,
We learn from all your beauty.
Your bright green leaves with festive cheer,
Give hope and strength throughout the year.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas tree,
We learn from all your beauty.



MEET THE McAULEY BOYS AND THE MUSICIANS AFTER THE CONCERT

Come to the Great Room,
immediately behind the
stage and speak with the
musicians.

TONIGHT'S MUSICIANS

The McAuley Boys

Gary McAuley, *vocals*
George McAuley, *vocals*
Mark McAuley, *vocals*
Randy McAuley, *vocals*

Mark Swan, *drum set*
Tony De Luca, *electric
keyboard/percussion*

Guests

Zaahy Ali, *steel pan*
Gregg Redner, *organ*

Thank you to
Winston and Rita McAuley

Violin 1

Joe Lanza
Andrew Chung
Mel Martin
Sarah Wiebe

Violin 2

Émilie Paré
Mikela Witjes
Calvin Tsang

Viola

Marie-Eve Lessard
Nicholas Penny
Jaqueline Milne

Cello

Patrick Theriault
Lac-Hong Phi

Bass

Brian Baty

Flute

Laura Chambers
Liesel Deppe

Oboe

Jennifer Short
Emily Luo

Clarinet

Graham Lord
Ross Edwards

Bassoon

Fred Phillips
Julie Shier

Horn

Ron George
Kate Stone

Trumpet

Phil Seguin
Graham Lumsden

Trombone

Mike Polci

Piano

Dan Luong

Percussion

Dave Champion
Bryan Malito

Harp

Amy Ley





TONIGHT'S CHOIRS

Choristers of the Metropolitan United Church Choir School

Abby McLeod – *Head Chorister*
Ryan Xu – *Head Chorister*
Arisa Golder – *Head Chorister*

Quilla Cai
Anshi Chauhan
Symphony Chen
Hyunjoon Cho
Will Critchley
Ning Ding
Astrid Gavin
Nala Grant
Pearl MacRae Hoy
Ryan Jia
Siu Lee
Lizzy Lumsden
Marlow Malone
Marine Marx
Aarshya Motwani
Drew Nikkel
Andrew Quan
Katelyn Song
Seraphina Stajan, *soloist*
Emily Xiong
Hank Zhao
Grace Zuo

Catherine Gray, *director*
Dr. Gregg Redner, *director*

The Choir of Metropolitan United Church

Soprano Catherine Gray
Laura Grigg
A Young Kim
Deborah Koudys
Cailey Salagovic
Christine Spicer
Paula Thomas
Maureen Tipping
Michael Vanvrouwerff
Carolyn Wood

Alto Marjorie Frankel
Laurel Hoover
Linda Imrie
Kathleen Milligan
Kim Nikkel
Renee Nikkel
Brittany Roberts
Grace Theriault
Alissa Van Gaalen

Tenor Rob Cairns
Eric Lucier
Robert MacLaren
Hugh Van Pelt
Paul Winegarden

Bass Aaron Dimoff, *baritone soloist*
Mitch Hipwell
Garth Kidd
Quintin Lang
Marc Sorretti
Rick Wood

Dr. Gregg Redner, *director*



MUSICIAN BIOS

The McAuley Boys are an R&B/Pop vocal group from London, Ontario. The four brothers, Gary, George, Mark and Randy McAuley, have enjoyed a recording and performance career that spans over three decades in the music industry.

Their parents, Winston and Rita, immigrated to Canada from Grenada, W.I. in the late 1960's and settled in London a couple of years later. Both Winston and Rita graduated from the University of Western Ontario, with Winston earning his Masters degree at Laurier University. Rita, ran the London Montessori School for more than 45 years.

They kept the tradition of music alive in their home. All four brothers studied piano. After years of practice, Kiwanis Music Festivals, school assemblies, local recitals and talent shows, oldest brother Gary decided to turn his attention to Pop music from Classical music. While attending the Faculty of Music at Western, he wrote and recorded original music in his spare time, eventually pivoting to singing with his brothers at various talent shows and local events. The brothers played their first gig at a luncheon for the Congress of Black Women, London Chapter, of which their mother Rita was a member (and later President).

It wasn't until Gary met with legendary music producer, David Foster in 1994, that he decided to formalize the group. In that meeting, Foster made a comment about what it took to 'make it' in the music business: "Just keep doin' it!", Gary shared what he had learned with his mother, who suggested that he record a Christmas cassette with his brothers and release it that year.

Gary quickly produced the album and by December 1 the 'Boys' were promoting it on radio and TV stations and in malls across Ontario. The album art was illustrated by Gary's high school friend and future Academy Award nominated artist, Maciek Szczerbowski.

Gary decided he and his brothers should go professional and named the group "The McAuley Boys". They sold their first album independently, and word of the group spread quickly!

Building on that initial release, the boys released their full length CD, *Wonderful Christmas Time* the following year. Funded by their mom and her sister Noreen, Gary produced the album in one week, with the help of some dear friends: Dan Brodbeck (now director of the Fanshawe Music Industry Arts program), and his song writing partner at the time, Stephan Moccio (Celine Dion, Miley Cyrus, The Weeknd). At its peak in 1996/1997, *Wonderful Christmas Time* was the second highest successful holiday album release behind international recording artist (and fellow Canadian) Bryan Adams.

Their first original studio album, *In Another Lifetime* (written and co-produced by Gary) garnered a 1997 Juno Award nomination for Best Soul/R&B Album of the Year. "Down Down Down" and a remake of "I Just Want To Be Your Everything" both quickly became international hits. The title track on The Boys third album, *My Heaven*, and "By The Way" cracked the MuchMusic Playlist Top 10.

In the following years, second youngest brother Mark, released a solo album entitled *Midnight*



under the name Mac Graham. The title track “Midnight” hit number 1 on a few Quebec Anglophone radio stations, and the video for the single “You’ll Never Know” achieved high global rotation on BET Jazz, and was nominated for an MTV/HBO Urbanworld ‘Short Film’ award.

The brothers have continued to work in the background, writing and producing for other artists, most recently releasing their first single in 20 years, *I Can’t Wait To See You Smile*.

The McAuley Boys have shared the stage with the likes of ‘The God Father of Soul’, James Brown, ‘The Queen of Soul’, Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, The Temptations and many others. Notable performances include singing the Canadian National Anthem at the 1997 Major League Baseball All-Star Game, performing on the ’97 Juno Awards, and representing Canada as music ambassadors at the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. In 2012, The McAuley Boys were awarded Queen Elizabeth II’s Diamond Jubilee Medal for their achievements in music and service to their community.

On the heels of their successful period in music, youngest brother Randy became a star athlete

at Western University. As running back of the Mustangs, he was an all-time leader in rushing yards, rushing touchdowns and kick return yards and a 7-time All-Canadian in Track and Field. He was inducted into Western’s Football Wall of Champions, Western’s Track and Field Wall of Honour and the Western Sports Hall of Fame. He and brother Mark are graduates of Western’s Faculty of Law, where Mark was voted Valedictorian of his class. Mark is now a lawyer at Lerner LLP in London and Randy is a partner at Goodmans LLP in Toronto. George, a three-time graduate of Western, is currently Vice-Principal of Regina Mundi Catholic College at the London District Catholic School Board. In March 2023, he received Queen Elizabeth II’s Platinum Jubilee Medal for his achievements in music and his anti-racism work in the community. Gary continues to produce music and is an entrepreneur actively involved with a number of tech and music start-ups.

Today, this famous London family with careers in music, education and law are never too far away from a microphone and a stage. They continue to share their harmonies with an audience when they can.



Scott Good

Scott Good is a composer, conductor, concert designer and trombonist whose music is driven by the desire to create beauty, evoke emotion, and play with groove. His music has been described as “a kind of majestic bestial reality” (Globe and Mail), “gloriously cacophonous” (Ottawa Citizen), “sumptuously orchestrated” (Montreal Gazette), and “dynamic, vivid” (Winnipeg Free Press).

As Composer-In-Residence with London Symphonia (2015-present) and the Vancouver Symphony (2008-2011), he has composed numerous orchestral works and orchestral arrangements. Upcoming projects for orchestra include the premiere of *Lasker-Schüler* Songs for rising star soprano Midori Marsh and London Symphonia (2024), and two silent film scores: *The Passion of Joan of Arc* for a mixture of voices and period instruments to be premiered by Ensemble Caprice in Montreal in 2026, and a two-and-a-half hour score for large orchestra and chorus to the epic silent film classic *Metropolis* with the Kingston Symphony, celebrating the film’s 100th anniversary (2027).

He has been commissioned by orchestras across Canada, including Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic, Winnipeg Symphony, Orchestre de la francophonie, and the Esprit Orchestra. Major works include his orchestral score for the 1926 silent film *The Hands of Orlac* (Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony 2015), his multimedia family concert *The*

Caboose Who Got Loose with solo cello, narration, and projections (Calgary Philharmonic 2022), and his acclaimed trumpet concerto, *Between the Rooms* “a riotous, percussive bacchanal” (For the Record) with Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony in 2007.

Inspired by the themes of the universal human condition, his lush oratorio *The Sleepers* contemplates the unity and equality of all humanity, whereas *Babbitt*, a raucous saxophone concerto, hailed by The *Vancouver Observer* as “luminous, virtuosic, gleaming music”, is inspired by a mid-life crisis. From global extinction cataclysm in his Kurt Vonnegut-inspired jazz orchestra work *Galapagos*, to a boiling stew in his overture *What the Chickpea Said to the Cook*, Scott finds inspiration to create compelling works from all walks and perspectives.

Good’s role has evolved over time to include artistic direction, where he meshes his conducting skills with his knowledge as a composer and arranger to design and produce innovative concerts. These programs focus on modern compositions and hybrid genre music that imbue a widely inclusive atmosphere for our culturally diverse communities. Events of interest include *Belonging*, a concert of Arabic songs and classical Western compositions with poet/activist Najwa Zebian and songwriter Maryem Toller; *In Remembrance*, combining classical music with contemporary and traditional songs to reflect the deep, conflicted emotions around the topic of war and sacrifice; and *Tapestry*, a collaboration with The Light of East Ensemble exploring the music of the East Mediterranean. His aim with these diverse programs is to create bridges and connections revealing our common humanity through music.

Good has an extensive catalog of chamber music compositions and has created works for ensembles such as I Furiosi, and the Madawaska String Quartet, organizations such as InnerChamber and the World Harp Congress, and soloists including trombonist Alain Trudel, and electric guitarist Tim Brady. He has composed test pieces for the Montreal International Music Competition, the Canadian Music Competition, and written for education institutions such as the Glenn Gould School and NACO Young Artists program. He has composed several pieces for children as part of Chamber Factory's *Listen Up!* program and served as a mentor in Esprit Orchestra's *Creative Sparks* high school program. Current chamber projects include music direction and arranging for the *Lonely Child Project*, a contemporary music/contemporary circus hybrid theatrical work in collaboration with multi-hyphenate artist Stacie Dunlop and contemporary circus artists Angola Murdoch and Holly Treddenick, with the music of Claude Vivier.

Scott Good's passion for jazz and improvised music can be heard throughout his compositions, especially in hybrid projects with jazz artists and musicians from a variety of cultural backgrounds. Highlights include two major works for the Hard Rubber Jazz Orchestra, *Concerto for Cello* composed for Jeffrey Zeigler, and *Concerto for Improvisor* featuring Scott as composer, conductor, and soloist, the concert length crossover project *Conjunction*, revered as "one of the most fascinating concerts I've heard this year" by the *Ottawa Jazz Scene*, with the Gryphon Trio, jazz bassist Roberto Occhipinti and American-Cuban drummer

Dafnis Prieto, arrangements and original composition *Wu Xing* (2018), and his 10-part tribute to author Kurt Vonnegut *Vonnegut and the Slaughterhouse Orchestra* co-written with singer-songwriter Dwight Schenk for rock band and chamber orchestra.

Scott lives in London Ontario with his wife Jennifer Schofield and two children Alex and Nick.



Dr. Gregg Redner

Gregg Redner has been Director of Music and Arts at Metropolitan United Church, since 2001. Prior to coming to London, Gregg held academic and church positions in New York City. He holds a PhD in Modern Languages from Exeter University in the U.K., a double Master of Music degree (Organ and Harpsichord) from the Juilliard School in New York City and is a Fellow of both The Royal Canadian College of Organists (FRCCO) and the National College of Music (FNCM). In April 2013 Gregg was awarded an Honorary Fellowship for Services to Music by the National College of Music & Arts, London, UK. His teachers have included Leonard Bernstein, Aaron Copland, Vincent Persichetti and Roger Sessions. His book 'Deleuze and Film Music' is published by Intellect Press an imprint of The University of Chicago Press.

Catherine Gray

Catherine Gray is Assistant Organist at Metropolitan as well as Co-Director of the Metropolitan Choir School. The holder of numerous professional diplomas Catherine was the recipient of the 2013 Kathleen Williams Award for the highest mark in the Colleague examination of the Royal Canadian College

of Organists. In August 2015, she earned the Associate's Diploma in Organ Performance from the Royal Conservatory of Music, and holds the ARCT Diploma in Voice. In May 2016 Catherine passed the Fellowship Examination in Organ from the National College of Music, London, UK and in June of that same year, passed the Associateship Diploma of the Royal Canadian College of Organists. She holds Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Master of Music Degrees from The University of Western Ontario.

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Gifts of \$500 and more receive recognition in the Concert Program. We are most grateful to the donors listed below whose support was received from July 1, 2022 to September 7, 2023. If we have inadvertently omitted your gift, please contact giving@londonsymphonia.ca so we can make a correction.

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IN MEMORY

In memory of Bob Butler
In memory of Dr. Noam Chernick
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In honour of A. J. Weiss
In honour of Sarah Willinsky & Daniel Berens

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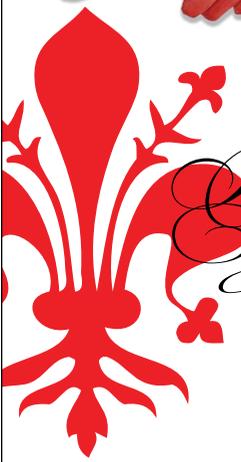
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CONCERT POLICIES

- Photography and video/audio recording of any kind is not permitted during the performance.
 - Photos are permitted before and after the performance and during intermission.
 - Mask wearing is not currently required. Not everyone may have the same degree of comfort with the lifting of restrictions, and we ask that you please respect the personal space and comfort level of those around you.
 - Please put your cell phone on silent and put it away.
 - Please do not remove cushions from the Premium seating areas.
-

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