

MEDIA RELEASE

LONDON SYMPHONIA TOPS OFF BRILLIANT SEASON WITH MONUMENTAL MUSIC THAT REFLECTS THE CHALLENGES OF TODAY



BEETHOVEN, SHOSTAKOVICH, AND MARSH Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 7:30 p.m.

LONDON, ON – April 22, 2026 – **Maestra Tania Miller**, a favourite of **London Symphonia** musicians and audiences alike, returns to lead the orchestra's **Season Finale concert** of impactful music that evokes the resilience of the human spirit. This extraordinary concert opens with the **World Premiere** of a flute concerto written by Canadian composer **Alexis Marsh** specially for **Laura Chambers**, London Symphonia's principal flute. The work, commissioned by London Symphonia, is filled with beauty and optimism. Rounding out the evening are **Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony**, an attestation to the ability of the human spirit to triumph over adversity, and Beethoven's transcendent **Symphony No. 7**, believed by many to be his finest. **(Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Marsh, Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan United, London ON.)**

"Our Season Finale concert is always something I look forward to," said **Andrew Chung, Artistic Producer, London Symphonia**. "There is the sense of occasion as we put the

exclamation point on a fabulous season of concerts. What better way to cap off this extraordinary year than with the World Premiere of ***View of a Cartwheel From An Ascending Plane***. Composer **Alexis Marsh** and **Laura Chambers**, London Symphonia's principal flute, are longtime friends and artistic colleagues. This work represents their individual and collective journeys as female creative artists. **Maestra Tania Miller** is a strong champion of contemporary and new Canadian music, and she has a special way of approaching the rehearsal process that gets the very best out of all the performers."

London Symphonia concert programs are intentionally created as musical explorations for both audiences and the orchestra's musicians.

"When I think about this program, I am moved by the emotional journey we will have together," said **Tania Miller**, conductor of **Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Marsh**.

"There's a real sense of gentle joy and positivity in **Alexis Marsh's flute concerto**. The next work on the program, **Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony**, which is tragic, sombre, and reflective, will be made even more powerful when it is performed in contrast to the lightness of Alexis Marsh's music. For us to experience this music at this time in the world is very special: It brings us face to face with the darkness we are experiencing today and brings an expression of it. Finally, to redeem it all, we come to **Beethoven's monumental Symphony No. 7** which lifts us beyond ourselves into a timeless, majestic and moving account of the human spirit and our ability to transcend and celebrate the creativity that is humankind."

Concertgoers can attend **Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Marsh** in person at Metropolitan United, home of London Symphonia, and also view the concert video production virtually through London Symphonia's new **Watch and Listen** channel featuring high quality 4K HDR videos of 2025-26 concerts along with a treasure trove of past seasons.

London Symphonia is deeply grateful to our government funders: the London Arts Council, Canada Council for the Arts, and the Ontario Arts Council.

The composition of *View of a Cartwheel From An Ascending Plane* is made possible in part by a grant from the SOCAN Foundation and an investment of public funds from the Ohio Arts Council, a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.

LISTING INFORMATION: LONDON SYMPHONIA CONCERT

Beethoven, Shostakovich, and Marsh

London Symphonia

Guest Artists: Tania Miller, conductor

Laura Chambers, flute soloist

Sat. May 2, 2026 at 7:30 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Metropolitan United, 468 Wellington St, London, ON

Tickets on Sale Now

Individual adult tickets range from \$55 General Admission to \$75 Reserved Seating, plus fees and HST. Family Flex packs and free student tickets are also available. In person subscriptions and tickets can be purchased online now at londonsymphonia.ca.

Subscriptions to all concerts, including the Family Concert, and individual concert rentals will be available on London Symphonia's **Watch and Listen video on demand channel**. Find out more at londonsymphonia.ca.

ABOUT TANIA MILLER

Canadian Conductor Tania Miller has distinguished herself as a dynamic interpreter, musician, and innovator. On the podium, Tania projects authority, dynamism, and sheer love of the experience of making music. As one critic put it, "she delivers calm intensity . . . expressive, colourful, and full of life... her experience and charisma are audible." Others call her performances "technically immaculate, vivid, and stirring". Artistic Director of the Brott Music Festival in Canada, Tania Miller is also the Artistic Director and Conductor of the National Academy Orchestra of Canada and of Brott Opera. She was Music Director of Canada's Victoria Symphony for 14 years and gained national acclaim for her commitment to the orchestra and community during that time. She has distinguished herself as a visionary leader and innovator with a deep commitment to contemporary repertoire and composers and has gained a national reputation as a highly effective advocate and communicator for the arts. An avid writer about music and the arts, her writing has been featured in the League of American Orchestra's Symphony Magazine, Toronto's Globe and Mail, and Better Humans. Maestra Miller received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Royal Roads University, and an Honorary Fellowship Diploma from Canada's Royal Conservatory of Music for her commitment to leadership in community and music education. She has a doctorate and master's degree in conducting from the University of Michigan. She worked as assistant conductor to Bruno Weil at the Carmel Bach Festival for four seasons, and as Assistant and Associate conductor of the Vancouver Symphony from 2000-2004.

ABOUT LAURA CHAMBERS

Laura Chambers is a dynamic and expressive Canadian flutist whose performances have captivated audiences across North America. Equally at home as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player, she has performed with many of Canada's leading ensembles, including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, National Ballet Orchestra of Canada, Kingston Symphony, Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, Soundstreams, and London Symphonia, where she currently serves as Principal Flute. A passionate advocate for new and collaborative music, she is a founding member of Charm of Finches, Canada's first professional flute quintet. Laura maintains a thriving private studio and teaches at the Royal Conservatory of Music's Oscar Peterson School, Interprovincial Music Camp, and Lakefield Music Camp. Laura holds degrees from the University of Toronto and the University of Southern California and is currently completing her doctoral research at York University, where she explores how classical music is evolving—and surviving—within today's fast-shifting cultural landscape.

ABOUT ALEXIS MARSH

Alexis Dyan Marsh was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. Between scoring the TNT television series, *Animal Kingdom*, or composing for feature films (*Jazzy*, *The Unknown Country*, *NextGen*), Marsh started writing songs to fill in where directors wanted music with lyrics. Her first album released under the name *DYAN*, *Looking For Knives*, was the result of producing songs that made it into cuts and some that didn't. The effort showed Marsh a different way to release music, apart from the screen, but still aiming to create sound that evokes imagery. *Midwest* is Marsh's second album of songs, written while moving back and forth between Los Angeles and Cincinnati, eventually settling in the midwest with her partner and son. It was there where Marsh was able to build a studio of her own to write, produce, and mix *Dyan* songs while she continued to compose for film. Her latest film score was written for Morrisa Maltz's second feature film, *Jazzy*, which premiered at the 2024 Tribeca Film Festival. The film has gone on to screen at SXSW Sydney, the Rome Film Festival and was nominated for the John Cassavetes Award as part of the 2025 Film Independent Spirit Awards.

ABOUT LONDON SYMPHONIA

London Symphonia is a professional symphony orchestra committed to performing vibrant and bold musical experiences for London and the region. With a core of 30 players, our versatile group meets the community's needs for quality programming by presenting well-known symphonies, Canadian premieres, and collaborations with some of Canada's finest singer-songwriters. We deliver a rich, artistic experience by seeking out the most accomplished performers and conductors representing a blend of locally, nationally and internationally recognized talent. A registered charitable organization, London Symphonia conducts dynamic music education programs and community outreach programs to provide greater access to music across the community.

Website: londonsymphonia.ca

Social media: Join the conversation on Facebook | Instagram | YouTube | BlueSky

For more information, please contact:

Janet Mowat

Sr. Marketing Consultant

[e] janet@londonsymphonia.ca

Jo-Dee Burbach

Digital Communications Associate

[e] jo-dee@londonsymphonia.ca