



# Spring Concert

March 5 3:00 pm  
Genesis Theatre  
Strings Divisions





Isabella Chen  
Junior Strings

Isabella Xinyi Chen is nine years old. She started playing cello at the age of four. After moving to Vancouver in 2018, Isabella began to study with Bo Peng and joined RDYO's Junior Strings. She was awarded the Wallace Leung Memorial Award at the RDYO Scholarship Awards Audition 2019. Now she is preparing for the RCM Level 8 test.



Matthew Meng  
Intermediate Strings

Matthew started learning violin with Natalie Martins when he was 6 years old. He joined RDYO Intermediate Strings in 2019. He has been studying with Manti Poon since 2020. He was the recipient of the Wallace Leung Memorial Scholarship award 2019-2020 and the BC Youth Music Society Scholarship award 2020-2021. He's currently attending Garden City Elementary school and he will attend Lord Byng Strings Program in September 2022. Besides violin, he enjoys playing soccer, badminton, and basketball. His favourite hobby is of course violin.



Elsa Wang  
Senior Strings

Elsa Wang is 12 years old and is passionate about music and loves playing the violin. She started violin lessons at the age of 7 with Ms. Tatyana Kravsun. She joined RDYO Intermediate Strings in 2021 and advanced to Senior Strings at the beginning of this season. In April 2021, she received two first places in the Kiwanis Music festival and was selected as the runner-up for the Provincial Festival of Performing Arts BC in June of the same year. She was the recipient of the RDYO Intermediate String Wallace Leung Memorial Award. Last November, she received first place in the Elite International Music Competition. Elsa is currently studying with Mr. Jonathan Der.



### Stephen Robb • Music Director

Stephen is a graduate of Queen's University, McGill University, and the University of British Columbia. He has been with the RDYO since 1990, starting as a woodwind coach, then becoming a staff conductor in 1995. Stephen is an accomplished clarinetist, performing both classical chamber music and jazz idioms.



### Jonathan Der • Sr Strings & Chamber Conductor

Jonathan is a violinist, conductor, chamber musician, and church organist who has given chamber and solo recitals in Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal, New York, Japan, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Jonathan joined RDYO in 2002. Jonathan has a master's degree in violin performance from Indiana University.



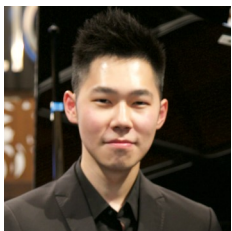
### Manti Poon • Intermediate Strings Conductor

Manti is a violist and a much sought-after musician as a soloist, orchestral musician, and chamber music collaborator. He is currently principal violist with the Vancouver Island Symphony Orchestra. Manti joined RDYO in 2017.



### Bo Peng • Junior Strings Conductor

Bo holds a Bachelor of Music in cello performance from the University of North Texas, a Master of Music from the Eastman School of Music, and a Performer's Diploma from Indiana University. Bo joined RDYO in 2016, conducting our Junior Strings division.



### Calvin Yang • Sectional Coach

Calvin plays viola and violin, and recently graduated with a Master of Music in Viola Performance from McGill University. Calvin started studying music at the age of six, and hopes to inspire the young generation and share the joy of music playing through his teaching! This is his second year with RDYO.

# Program

## Junior Strings

Conductor: Bo Peng

Assistant: Calvin Yang

*Adagio from Symphony No. 2 Op.27*

S. Rachmaninoff, arr. Robert Longfield

*Fugue from Requiem in D minor*

W. A. Mozart, arr. Loreta Fin

*Pirates of The Caribbean Main Theme*

Klaus Badelt, arr. Paul Lavender & Larry Moore



## Intermediate Strings

Conductor: Manti Poon

*Prelude from Holberg Suite Op.40*

Edward Grieg, arr. M. Isaac

*Rondo from Concerto No. 2*

J.B. Breval

**Isabella Chen, cello**

*In the Hall of the Mountain King*

Edward Grieg, arr. L. Latham



## Senior Strings

Conductor: Jonathan Der

*Czardas from Coppelia*

Leo Delibes, arr. Carole N. Rabinowitz

Violin Concerto in G minor, "Summer"

Antonio Vivaldi

I. Allegro non molto

**Matthew Meng, violin**

St. Paul's Suite

Gustav Holst

I. Vivace



## Chamber Orchestra

Conductor: Jonathan Der

Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major, K. 216

W. A. Mozart

I. Allegro

**Elsa Wang, violin**

# Program Notes

## Junior Strings

Written by Eva Zhou

### **Adagio from Symphony No. 2 Op.27—S. Rachmaninoff, arr. Robert Longfield**

Adagio from Symphony No. 2 Op. 27 could count as one of the most famous pieces Rachmaninoff has ever written. From the transcending harmonies to the quiet echoes, the symphony melts us with its beautiful melody.

The piece was written from October 1906 to April 1907. Following the disastrous premiere of Rachmaninoff's First Symphony, the Russian composer and pianist plunged into a profound depression. This crisis lasted for three years before he consulted a psychiatrist on the advice of relatives. With the help of the psychiatrist, Rachmaninoff experienced a resurgence of confidence and gathered up the courage to start composing music again. In the fall of 1906, Rachmaninoff and his family moved from Russia to Dresden. The relocation offered him the solitude he needed to devote himself entirely to composition and composed his Second Symphony.

Adagio leaves us with a mellow and content feeling and possibly shows Rachmaninoff the romantic at his most idealist.

### **Fugue from Requiem in D minor—W. A. Mozart, arr. Loreta Fin**

Fugue from Requiem in D Minor is Mozart's last work. The Requiem can be described as emotionally stirring, giving both a majestic and dark ambience. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to finish the composition before being called to his death bed on December 5, 1791.

A messenger showed up on Mozart's doorstep with a commission for a Requiem Mass. A fee was agreed upon and Mozart was to not try to learn the identity of the commissioner. Though ill, Mozart began the work, but as he did, he became progressively more fatalistic. He told a friend: "I am writing my own funeral music. I must not leave it unfinished." Tragically correct in the first part of the statement, he could not fulfill the latter. After Mozart's death, the score was completed by Mozart's students: Franz Xaver Süssmayr, Joseph Eybler, and Franz Freystadtler. The students filled in the sketches that Mozart left behind, and presented the Requiem in D Minor that you see today.

As an entity, Fugue and the Requiem is a grandiose work, powerful in the fearfulness. It is sublime in the gentleness of its evocation of salvation and eternal rest.

# Intermediate Strings

Written by Madison Poon

## **Prelude from Holberg Suite Op.40 — Edward Grieg, arr. M. Isaac**

Written by Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg in 1884, the Prelude from the Holberg Suite begins *allegro vivace* to set the celebratory mood to mark the 200th anniversary of Ludvig Holberg's birth. Holberg is considered to be the founder of Danish & Norwegian literature. The suite was originally composed for the piano, and later adapted for string orchestra, in the style of country dances from Holberg's time. Listen for the ti-tika pattern of the eighth note followed by two sixteenth notes that welcome the ascending arpeggios. Can you hear the optimism that resonates in this piece?

Fun fact: Did you know that there is a town named after Holberg on northern Vancouver Island? Go find it on a map!

Another fun fact: When Edvard Grieg was young, he hated school and thought his teachers were too strict. In order to skip some classes, he wouldn't bring his umbrella to school and get soaking wet in rainy Bergen, Norway. His teacher would send him home to change, which took up most of the school day.

## **Rondo from Concerto No. 2—J.B. Breval**

French cellist and composer Jean-Baptiste Breval was a contemporary of Mozart and he wrote beautiful melodies for his instrument. He wrote Concerto No. 2 in D Major when he was 31 years old. The Rondo, with an A-B-A-C-A pattern, begins briskly with a light, graceful theme and energetic rhythms (A) that evolve into rapid scales (B) that feature the soloist's virtuosity before returning to the theme (A). Listen for the reflective and expressive minor section C. The familiar theme A repeats for a final time to give the audience a lasting, happy memory.

## **In the Hall of the Mountain King—Edward Grieg, arr. L. Latham**

Edvard Grieg wrote the Peer Gynt suite when he was 32 years old for Henrik Ibsen's play based on a Norwegian fairy tale. Peer Gynt falls in love with a girl but is not allowed to marry her. After being kicked out of his home for being dishonest, Peer goes to the Hall of the Mountain King where he is detained by trolls. He angers the King of the Trolls when he refuses to marry the King's daughter and turns into a troll.

As the piece begins softly and slowly, imagine Peer tip-toeing to hide from the trolls when you hear the ascending fifths. The accelerating march rhythm corresponds to the angry trolls chasing Peer. Listen for the grace notes that imitate the trolls launching cannons and fireballs in attack. The crescendo and tremolo intensify the frightening and anxious feelings, culminating in fortissimo and prestissimo. Will the trolls kill Peer? Stay tuned to find out!

Fun Fact: Did you know that In the Hall of the Mountain King was in a Lotto 649 commercial in 1989?

# Senior Strings

Written by Ruth Liu

## **Czardas from Coppelia—Leo Delibes, arr. Carole N. Rabinowitz**

The 1st piece we will be playing today is Czardas from Copélia. A Czardas is a Hungarian dance with a slow introduction and a fast finish. Copélia is a comic ballet from 1870, and it is sometimes subtitled “The Girl with the Enamel Eyes.” This ballet was choreographed by Arthur Saint-Léon (choreography is the art of designing dance steps in a ballet or musical), the music was written by Léo Delibes and the librettist (the person who writes the text of the ballet) was Charles-Louis-Étienne Nuitter. The costumes were designed by Paul Lormier and Alfred Albert, and the scenery by Charles-Antoine Cambon, Édouard Desplechin, and Jean-Baptiste Lavastre. Czardas is from the first act, where a town celebrates the arrival of a new bell.

## **Violin Concerto in G minor, "Summer," I. Allegro non molto—Antonio Vivaldi**

The 2nd piece we will be playing is Antonio Vivaldi’s The Four Seasons. This is one of the most popular sets of concertos ever written. The source of inspiration of these concertos are sonnets likely written by Vivaldi himself. Today we will be playing the first movement of the second concerto, “Summer”. Below are the sonnets for the first movement of Summer:

Under a hard season, fired up by the sun  
Languishes man, languishes the flock and burns the pine  
We hear the cuckoo's voice;  
then sweet songs of the turtledove and finch are heard.  
Soft breezes stir the air, but threatening  
the North Wind sweeps them suddenly aside.  
The shepherd trembles,  
fearing violent storms and his fate.

Fun fact: Vivaldi was called “Il Prete Rosso” which means “The Red priest.” This was because he had a crop of curly red hair, and it was also because he trained to become a priest.

## **St. Paul's Suite I. Vivace—Gustav Holst**

The 3rd piece we will be playing is the first movement of Gustav Holst’s St. Paul’s Suite. This movement, which is the Gigue, alternates between 6/8 and 9/8 time. Holst introduces a contrasting theme later in the movement, which he blends with the first theme. Holst wrote this piece for St. Paul’s Girls’ School Orchestra, so that the students could have a piece that was all their own. He originally wrote this piece for string orchestra, but later made a version that included woodwinds. This was the first piece he wrote for the school, and he spent his last 20 years writing here. Holst was best known for his orchestral suite, The Planets.



# Chamber Orchestra

Written by Andrew Ng

## **Violin Concerto No. 3 in G major, K. 216, I. Allegro—W. A. Mozart**

Mozart was a brilliant composer, becoming a concertmaster at just 13 years old. He was an excellent pianist, but he was also an accomplished string player. Mozart was mostly famous for his violin sonatas, but he never showed any interest in writing violin concertos. However, in 1775, when Mozart was 19, he finished composing five violin concertos (K.207, 211, 216, 218, and 219) and never wrote another violin concerto in his lifetime again. It is unknown if he was planning to write more concertos if he lived longer. This concerto is the third concerto out of the five concertos and is in G major. The piece was also referred to as the “Strassbourg Concerto” by Mozart. However, people are unsure if the name bears any connection with the city of Strasbourg.

The piece has three movements, with each movement having a different tempo. Overall, the orchestra’s sound is soft and light, while the soloist’s sound stands out. After each movement, there are complicated cadenzas where the violinist can show their skill to the audience. This movement, Allegro, features several fast-paced, light, and lively sections. It also features several sections where legato is prominent, creating a perfect balance between both legato and fast-paced, lively sections. The piece has a long introduction with the orchestra until the violinist comes in. The cadenza takes place near the end of the music, and it leads the movement to and end with the entire orchestra playing. This movement is one of Mozart’s favorite concertos and one of his most famous ones too.

# Thank You

**Orchestra Manager** Nicola Davies

**Orchestra Administrator** Janie Sinn

**Audio & Video Recording** Stephen Robb

**Stage Manager** Peggy Chik

**Backstage Assistants** Anne Devolin, Jerry Wong, Bill Zhang, Simon Chen, Sam Wang, Jie Chen

**Backstage Division Managers** Louisa Chu, Mona Shum, Sophie Huang, Makoto Kokubo, Macy Zhang

**Transport & Equipment Moving** Josephine Szutu, Ada Wang

**Photographer** Camel Yang

**Program Notes Writers (students)** Eva Zhou, Katherine Poon, Ruth Liu, Andrew Ng

**Board of Directors** Dean Markel, Sarah Xie, Daniel Sheinin, Isabella Chin, Debbie Booker, Henry Ng, Seema Sagar, Echo Miao, Josephine Szutu, Katherine Poon, Shobna Kannusamy

**Division Managers** Odilia Tam, Eva Chan, Kelly Gao, Ivy Lau, Janet Mark, Carrie Tam

**And thank you** to all of you for being part of the RDYO family and supporting your young musicians.

## Sponsors



# Musicians

## Junior Strings

<b>Violin 1</b>	<b>Violin 2</b>	<b>Violin 3</b>	Eva Z	<b>Cello 2</b>	<b>Drums</b>
Emma Z	Oliver S	Alithia L	Christoph Z	Isabelle C	Tiger G
Eric G	Kumara W	Siena S	Daniel G	Naila B	
Joshua H*	Celia L	Ryan W	Chesy N	Lillie L	<b>Piano</b>
Felicity Z*	Tiger G		Nicole Y	Angelina W	Charlotte D
Elson T	Gabriella T	<b>Viola</b>	Natalie C*	Kiran N	
Alma L	Shawn Z	Cass W	Mitchell X	Charlotte D	
Madison P*	Calvin Y*		Robert C	Ryan Z	
Marcus L*		<b>Cello 1</b>	Julian W		
		Zoe N	Nicole Y		
		Harvey G			

\* Volunteer

## Intermediate Strings

<b>Violin 1</b>	<b>Violin 2</b>	<b>Violin 3</b>	<b>Cello</b>
Matthew M**	Felicity Z*	Tobiah C*	Yvonne X*
Emily S	Joshua H	Amelia C	Laird A
Noah L	Kenji D	Lawrence Z	Leo Z
Josh T	Madison P	Marcus L	Cindy W
Shannyn L	Olivia X	Gwyneth A	
Kayla Z		Sylvia X	

\*\* Concertmaster      \* Section Principal

## Senior Strings

<b>Violin 1</b>	<b>Violin 2</b>	<b>Violin 3</b>	<b>Viola</b>
Catherine L	Horace Y	Alpha W	Nicholas C
Manabu K	Aaron L	Elsa W	
Ruth L	Alesha C	Matthew Y	<b>Cello</b>
Nicole C	Makoto D	Hanson Y	Altina N
Victoria C	Hilary S	Brandon C	Sean T
Rachel Y	Kelly W	Jin Yu G	Sam W
Andrew Ng	Chloe H		
	Valerie L		

# Chamber Orchestra

**Violin 1**

Jocelyn C  
Lili M  
Alesha C  
Rachel Y

**Violin 2**

Kaitlyn W  
Alpha W  
Kaitlin C  
Hilary S

**Viola**

Martin C  
Nicholas C  
Srish S  
Andrew N

**Cello**

Gavin W  
Natalie C  
Stephanie J  
Sean T

**Oboe**

Nestor W\*  
Christie L\*

**French Horn**

Jason F\*  
Pauline L\*

\* Community Member

see you

Sat May 7th, 3:00pm  
at the Chan Centre!

50th Anniversary Concert

all divisions  
ticket info coming soon