

McGill's Bicentennial Closing Concert

October 23, 2022 3:00 p.m.

Program



Maison symphonique 1600, Saint-Urbain street



Schulich School of Music École de musique Schulich

McGill's Bicentennial Closing Concert

McGill Symphony Orchestra Schulich Singers McGill Concert Choir McGill University Chorus

Alexis Hauser, conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée, chorus master

Charlotte Siegel, soprano; Jenny Ivanovna, mezzo-soprano Benjamin Butterfield, tenor; Philippe Sly, bass-baritone

Catherine Thornhill Steele Visiting Artists

Opening Remarks **Sean Ferguson**, Dean, Schulich School of Music **Maryse Bertrand**, Chair of the Board of Governors, McGill University

Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125

I. Allegro ma non troppo, un poco maestoso II. Molto vivace III. Adagio molto e cantabile IV. Finale Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

Alexis Hauser, artistic director and conductor

flute Eli Guo Jayden Lee Aram Mun

oboe Tate Cohan Sophie Cohen

clarinet Peter Perez Rojas Mutian Shen

bassoon Myriam Joyal Gabriel Nishikawa Daniel Zaldana

horn Lou-Ann Gouin-Plourde Lauren Kennedy Jordan Randazzo Keinna Wen *trumpet* Noah Bailis Kyle Jones

trombone Tarek Bouhennache Jack Price Eric Prodger

timpani / percussion Emilio Biggs Theodore Lysyk Manuel Lopez Tovar Zikun Zhao

violin David Baik Annika Bowers Jérôme Chiasson Jacqueline Ching Sienna Cho Martin Choquette Elliott Davis Solana Frebold-Francey Daniela Garcia Yu Gu Claire Hebeisen Ken Meng Chian Hung JuEun Lee **Melody Flores** Jeanel Liang, concertmaster Lucy Nemeth Carla Prinston Rose Rutkowski Justin Saulnier Abigail Sunde Ella Tang Charlotte Van Barr Lucia Warren Austin Wu Zoey Dabin Yang

viola Matthew Chan Nelleke Dagher Matthieu Girardet Gene Hotta Julian Huang David Montreuil Celia Morin Evren Yalcin

cello

Kyla Davidson Maya Enstad Amos Friesen Clara Griffin Crystal Kim Haena Lee Ellamay Mantie Jonathan Craig Penner Lily Richards Emily Roberts

double bass Daniel Castaneda Ricardo Marzoratti Ali Remondini Sean Sneddon Freddy Speer

Sectional Coaches: Theodore Baskin, Russell Devuyst, Joshua Morris, Frédéric Lambert, Marcelle Mallette, Shawn Mativetsky, Sofia Yatsyuk, Ali Yazdanfar

Ensemble Manager and Librarian: Lucia Warren

Assistant Managers: Sean Diehl, Sadie Hamrin

Performance Librarian, Gertrude Whitley Performance Library: Geneviève Beaudry

Ensemble Resource Supervisor: Christa Marie Emerson

Ensemble Resource Assistant: Zikun Zhao

Program: Ensemble Amis Plus

This concert is presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree or diploma programme of the students listed.

McGILL CHORAL AREA

Jean-Sébastien Vallée, director of choral studies and chorus master

soprano

Laura Albrecht Elenv Bachkangi Sofia Byrne-Bertrand Justine Cantlon Gabriella Canzani Finuala Cree Zoé de Boucherville-Dickson Katelyn Duperron Margaret Eisenberg Iulia Farcutiu Charlotte Grütter Penny Gu Marian Guav **Emily Hamilton** Rebecca Lee Sarah Leroux Gita Naderi Alexandra Miskovich Dina Nikolaidis Olivia Pantoga Emilie Puopolo Aishwarya Rajan Paige Robinson Silka Adelle Tandoc Victoria Tanner Sabrina Vidal Añon **Emily Wang** Sarah Wang Erin White Rileigh Wilansky-Traynor Hei Wing Tammy Shum Manya Ziemiecki

alto **Olivier Bak** Megan Batty Gabrielle Beaulieu-Brossard Nia Blankson Katherine Bos Katherine Clifford Clara Costello Patricia Danielidis Isabella Di Trapani Mattea Edlington Maria Antonia Ene Kristianna Fox Ula Goldstein Mia-Lin Gromko Wanning He Pauline Jacob Sara Kavari Erin Kohlhepp Katherine Lake Joie Loh Robyn Mellett Kyla Neville Heather Scollon Alex Van Sant Gia Silva Viviane Sun Geeta Tewari Sarah Tobin Bronwyn Walsh Yiyang Wang Jasper Ward Elyse Wolman Nicole Wu Jisu Yeum Ying Zhang Zhi-Yi Zhou

tenor Daniel Benedetti Seanne Buenafe Damiano De Luca Michael Decker Hugo Denis **David Desrosiers** Rvan Dovle Liam English Simon Forman Gerard Franklin Yanko Gyurev Yi Jin Pierce Kim Zongyi Li Jia Yue Liu Peize Liu l orenzo Somma Owen Spicer Emily Sun Félix A. Vincent Mark Walsh Xiao Meng Zhang

bass

Chaithawat Atiphophai Savhan Fareedi Ahmed Jonah Davidson-Harden William Dorais Christopher Ducasse Kevin Guo Henry Kemeny-Wodlinger Elliott Kobelansky Evan Krieger Alex Larson Jerrick Lo Raphael Longo Isaac Luther Owen Mok Louis Mounier Thomas Musumeci Thomas Neocleous Michael O'Neil Tristan Pritham Leo Purich Andrew Puscasu **Emmanuel Roberts Dugal Bradley Snel** Letao Sun **Zhentong Wang**

Ensemble Manager, Schulich Singers: Jessica Pierpont Ensemble Manager, McGill Concert Choir: Finuala Cree Ensemble Manager, McGill University Chorus: Maria Antonia Ene This program was prepared by the Schulich School of Music

BIOGRAPHIES



Alexis Hauser, conductor

Born in Vienna, Austria, Alexis Hauser was the winner of the prestigious Koussevitzky Conducting Prize of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and recipient of the Leonard Bernstein-stipendium in 1974. His teachers included Hans Swarowsky, Franco Ferrara, and Herbert von Karajan.

Maestro Hauser has enjoyed guest engagements with leading orchestras and international festivals around the world. As a guest conductor, he has led the symphony orchestras of Pittsburgh, San Fransisco, Atlanta, Minnesota, Montreal, Rochester, Toronto, Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Vienna, Rotterdam, Czech Philharmonic, Hilversum, Moscow, and Budapest. Other engagements

include conducting the Radio Symphony Orchestras of Berlin, the South West German Radio, the Philharmonia Hungarica, the Bruckner Orchestra Linz, the philharmonics of Belgrade, Zagreb, Bucharest, and Ljubijana, and the Grant Park Music Festival in Chicago. He has taken part in orchestral tours of Italy, Scandinavia, and Iceland. His opera conducting debut took place at the New York City Opera (1975) with Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* and in Europe at the Zurich Opera House (2005) with the premiere of the opera *Kalkül* by Werner Schulze (music) and Carl Djerassi (libretto).

Since 2001, Maestro Hauser has served as the Artistic Director of the McGill Symphony Orchestra, with which he toured to Toronto's Koerner Hall and Kingston's Isabel Bader Centre for the Performing Arts. He is also Artistic Director of the Montreal-based chamber orchestra Pronto Musica, which he co-founded in 2013. During a recent sabbatical, he arranged an orchestral suite of Harry Somers' opera *Louis Riel* which will see its world premiere in Montreal during the 2023-2024 season.

Maestro Hauser's special interest in working with young musicians and conductors has led to guest professorships and masterclasses at The Juilliard School and Manhattan School of Music in New York, the Civic Orchestra Chicago, the Kunstuniversität in Graz, Austria, the Kunitachi Music University in Tokyo, Japan, and the Glenn Gould School of Music in Toronto. Since the summer of 2013, he has worked with Les Orpheistes Festival Orchestra in Vienna. In June 2019 he gave a masterclass for young conductors in Hamburg, Germany, in conjunction with the Hamburg Symphony Orchestra. Before arriving at Schulich, Maestro Hauser's former positions include Music Director of Orchestra London Canada and KCM Orchestra Tokyo, Principal Guest Conductor of the Budapest Philharmonic, Principal Conductor of the Festival Mozart Romana, and Principal Conductor of the (contemporary music) Festival Nieder sterreich International. Since 1999, he has had a close association with the Ensemble Wiener Collage (including members of the Vienna Philharmonic), which he has conducted frequently. Soloists he has worked with include violinists Itzhak Perlman, Ida Haendel, and Young Uck Kim, pianists Stefan Askenase, Rudolf Buchbinder, Jean-Philippe Collard, Philippe Entremont, and Anton Kuerti, cellists Leonard Rose, David Geringas, and Matt Haimovitz, and singers Maureen Forrester, Jane Archibald, Joseph Rouleau, and Michael Schade.

Maestro Hauser's work can be seen and heard on numerous recordings, as well as on television and radio broadcasts throughout Europe, Japan, and Canada.



Jean-Sébastien Vallée, chorus master

Canadian-American conductor Jean-Sébastien Vallée is an internationally recognized musician, scholar, and pedagogue with a focus on vocal, choral and orchestral repertoires. Maestro Vallée has conducted ensembles throughout North America, Europe and Asia and has prepared choruses for leading orchestras including the Toronto Symphony, the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, and the National Arts Center Orchestra in Ottawa.

Maestro Vallée is Artistic Director of the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and Associate Professor of Music, Director of Choral Studies, and Coordinator of the Ensembles & Conducting Area at the Schulich School of Music of McGill

University. Jean-Sébastien previously served as Director of Choral Studies at California State University, Los Angeles, and was on the choral faculty of the University of Redlands. Dr. Vallée holds degrees from Laval University, Sherbrooke University, the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a doctorate in conducting from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

In addition to his interest in choral, operatic, and orchestral music, Jean-Sébastien is an advocate for contemporary music, making one of his priorities to premiere and commission works by young composers and program rarely performed repertoire. As a scholar, his research interests are varied and focus primarily on Renaissance French music, the oratorical works of Michael Tippett, and conducting pedagogy, more specifically the connection between audiation and gestural communication. Dr. Vallée has been invited to present his research at several national and international conferences including the American Choral Directors Association Conventions, Festival 500 in Newfoundland, the National Collegiate Choral Organization conference, Podium—the national convention of Choral Canada, the Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, and the World Symposium on Choral Music in Spain (2017), New Zealand (2020), and Portugal (2022).

Maestro Vallée's work is broadcast internationally and can be heard on his albums *Lux* (ATMA, 2017), *Requiem* (ATMA, 2018 – requiems by Fauré and Duruflé), and *Distance* (ATMA, 2021). Upcoming engagements include concerts at the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest, a tour with the National Youth Choir of Canada, concerts with l'Orchestre symphonique de Québec and the Toronto Symphony, and workshops at the World Expo on Choral Music in Lisbon, Portugal.



Charlotte Siegel, soprano

Charlotte Siegel is a soprano and singer/songwriter from Toronto. She is currently a member of the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio and made her debut as Second Lady in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte*, and as Manon in Ian Cusson's *Fantasma* for the COC. She holds a Graduate Diploma and Master's degree in Opera and Voice from the Schulich School of Music of McGill University where she studied with Dominique Labelle and John Mac Master and obtained her Bachelor of Classical Voice Performance from the University of Toronto studying with Frédérique Vézina. Charlotte was a Buffalo/Toronto District winner for the 2021 Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions, made CBC's 2021 list of "30 Hot Classical Musicians

Under 30", placed 3rd in the Canadian Opera Company's Ensemble Studio Competition 2019, and was also a finalist for the Atelier Lyrique National Auditions 2019 (Opéra de Montréal). During the pandemic she participated in Pacific Opera Victoria's online residency as part of their Civic Engagement Quartet. She is a co-founder and co-director of the Toronto based non-profit Marigold Music Program, which aims to close the accessibility gap between marginalized youth and music education.

Jenny Ivanovna, mezzo-soprano

Jenny Ivanovna (she/her) is a Mexican mezzo-soprano currently based out of San Jose, California. Described as "high mezzo with unique warm and round clarity in her voice" (Texas Performs Art News), Jenny began her studies at the San Juan Conservatory XXI in Mexico, received a bachelor's degree in Music Performance from the University of North Texas, and received a Master's degree in Opera and Voice at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University in Montreal studying with the renowned mezzosoprano, Annamaria Popescu. Over the course of her degree, Jenny participated in numerous productions mounted by Opera McGill and UNT Opera Ensemble. Most notably, Ivanovna was recently named winner of the



2019-2020 Wirth Vocal Prize in Montreal. In 2015, Jenny was named "One of the best voices of Tamaulipas" and went on to participate as a guest recitalist in the international festival of music in the state of Tamaulipas and Mexico City. She was one of the finalists in CONACULTA, FONCA competition during the first Mexican reality show in Opera, Opera Prima in Mexico.



Benjamin Butterfield, tenor

Praised by The New York Times as "clarion-voiced and vibrant", Benjamin Butterfield is recognized internationally as one of Canada's finest tenors having performed in operas, concerts, and recitals throughout North America and Europe as well as in Ukraine, the Middle East, Asia, and New Zealand. He has performed in many of the world's most recognized and historic venues with the world's finest ensembles and conductors.

Highlights of Mr. Butterfield's career have included performances in Carnegie Hall and at the BBC Proms in London, *Messiah* at the Händel Festspiel-Halle for ZDF, *St. François d'Assise* by Messiaen with the Orchestre symphonique

de Montréal under Kent Nagano, as well as sharing the stage with film actress Isabella Rossellini in Stravinsky's *Persephone* at the San Carlo in Naples and in the open air amphitheatre at Epidaurus, Greece.

Professor Butterfield is Head of Voice and Music Graduate Advisor for the School of Music at the University of Victoria (UVic) and has been on faculty with Opera NUOVA in Edmonton, the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Italy, and Yellow Barn in Vermont. He is a recipient of UVic's Craigdarroch Award for Excellence in Artistic Expression, Opera Canada magazine's Rubie Award, as well as having been recently named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Philippe Sly, bass-baritone

French Canadian bass-baritone Philippe Sly has gained international recognition for his "beautiful, blooming tone and magnetic stage presence" (San Francisco Chronicle). Graduate of the Schulich School of Music of McGill University, Mr. Sly is the first prize winner of the prestigious Concours Musical International de Montréal and a grand prize winner of the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions. Recently, he was awarded Concert of the Year in Romantic, Post-Romantic and Impressionist Music at the 16th annual ceremony of the Prix Opus in Québec.

During the 2011-2012 season, he was a member of the Canadian Opera

Company of Toronto. The following summer, he took part in the Young Singers Project at the Salzburg Festival where he made his debut in Peter von Winter's *Das Labyrinth* under the direction of Ivor Bolton. He then joined the San Francisco Opera's Adler Fellowship Programme, where he performed the roles of Guglielmo in *Così fan tutte*, Bartolo in *II barbiere di Siviglia*, Ormonte in *Partenope*, and Figaro in *Le nozze di Figaro*. He made his French debut at the Opéra Comique in Philippe Boesmans' *Au monde* and then appeared at the Hamburg Staatsoper in a stage version of the *Saint Matthew Passion* directed by Romeo Castellucci.

In 2016, he sang in *Béatrice et Bénédict* (Claudio) at the Glyndebourne Festival and he performed the role of Golaud (*Pelléas et Mélisande*) in Montreal. In 2017, he made his Paris Opera debut in *Così fan tutte* and his Aix Festival debut in the title role of *Don Giovanni*.



SONG TEXT

An die Freude

Freude, schöner Götterfunken, Tochter aus Elysium, Wir betreten feuertrunken, Himmlische, dein Heiligtum! Deine Zauber binden wieder Was die Mode streng geteilt; Alle Menschen werden Brüder Wo dein sanfter Flügel weilt.

Wem der große Wurf gelungen Eines Freundes Freund zu sein; Wer ein holdes Weib errungen Mische seinen Jubel ein! Ja, wer auch nur eine Seele Sein nennt auf dem Erdenrund! Und wer's nie gekonnt, der stehle Weinend sich aus diesem Bund!

Freude trinken alle Wesen An den Brüsten der Natur; Alle Guten, alle Bösen Folgen ihrer Rosenspur. Küsse gab sie uns und Reben, Einen Freund, geprüft im Tod; Wollust ward dem Wurm gegeben und der Cherub steht vor Gott.

Froh, wie seine Sonnen fliegen Durch des Himmels prächt'gen Plan Laufet, Brüder, eure Bahn, Freudig, wie ein Held zum Siegen.

Seid umschlungen, Millionen! Diesen Kuß der ganzen Welt! Brüder, über'm Sternenzelt Muß ein lieber Vater wohnen. Ihr stürzt nieder, Millionen? Ahnest du den Schöpfer, Welt? Such' ihn über'm Sternenzelt! Über Sternen muß er wohnen.

Ode to Joy

Joy, beautiful spark of Divinity Daughter of Elysium, We enter, drunk with fire, Heavenly one, thy sanctuary! Thy magic binds again What custom strictly divided; All people become brothers, Where thy gentle wing abides.

Whoever has succeeded in the great attempt, To be a friend's friend, Whoever has won a lovely wife, Add his to the jubilation! Yes, and also whoever has just one soul To call his own in this world! And he who never managed it should slink Weeping from this union!

All creatures drink of joy At nature's breasts. All the Just, all the Evil Follow her trail of roses. Kisses she gave us and grapevines, A friend, proven in death. Ecstasy was given to the worm And the cherub stands before God.

Gladly, as His suns fly through the heavens' grand plan Journey, brothers, on your way, Joyful, like a hero to victory.

Be embraced, Millions! This kiss to all the world! Brothers, above the starry canopy There must dwell a loving Father. Are you collapsing, Millions? Do you sense the creator, world? Seek him above the starry canopy! Above stars must He dwell.

- Friedrich von Schiller