



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

VANCOUVER RECITAL SOCIETY VISITING ARTIST SERIES

Sunday, April 14, 2024

3 p.m., von Kuster Hall

Ema Nikolovska, *mezzo-soprano*

Charles Richard-Hamelin, *piano*

Im Frühling D 882

Dass sie hier gewesen D 775

Herbst D 945

Der Unglückliche D 713

Franz Schubert

(1797-1828)

June from The Seasons Op. 37b

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

(1840-1893)

Songs of the Seasons

Poème d'Automne

Winter Moon

Young Love in Spring

Summer Storm

Margaret Bonds

(1913-1972)

INTERMISSION

Images oubliées L. 87

Lent

Claude Debussy

(1862-1918)

Ariettes Oubliées L. 60

C'est l'extase langoureuse

Il pleure dans mon Coeur

L'ombre des arbres

Chevaux de Bois

Green

Spleen

C. Debussy

Twilight Op. 24 No. 4

Sleeplessness Op. 37 No. 1

Nikolai Medtner

(1880-1951)

Five Advertising Songs

Utica Sheets and Pillowcases

Pillsbury Bran Muffins

Vauv Nose Powder

Children Cry for Castoria

Make This a Day of Pepsodent

Nicolas Slonimsky

(1894-1995)

*The Vancouver Recital Society (VRS) Visiting Artist Series and
[new VRS partnership](#) is generously supported by alumna Elaine Adair.*

*Join us tomorrow, on Monday April 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., for a vocal masterclass with
Ema Nikolovska featuring current voice students. All are welcome to attend.*

BIOGRAPHIES

Emma Nikolovska , mezzo-soprano

Born in North Macedonia, Mezzo-Soprano Emma Nikolovska grew up in Toronto where she studied violin at The Glenn Gould School, before studying voice with Helga Tucker. She received her Master's in Voice at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, where she also completed the Opera Course. Emma was a BBC New Generation Artist from 2019-2022. In 2019 she won first prize at the International Vocal Competition in 's-Hertogenbosch, the Ferrier Loveday Song Prize (Kathleen Ferrier Awards), and was a prize-winner at the Young Classical Artists Trust (YCAT) International Auditions. In 2022 she became a recipient of the prestigious Borletti-Buitoni Trust award.

In the 2022/23 season opera appearances included her role debut as Octavian in *Der Rosenkavalier* at the Deutsche Staatsoper Berlin. An alumnus of their International Opera Studio, her roles in Berlin have included Lucile in Henze's *Cubana*, Christian Jost's *Die Arabische Nacht*, Second Lady in *Die Zauberflöte*, Schäferin in *Jenůfa*, Giovanna in *Rigoletto* and Diane in Rameau's *Hippolyte et Aricie* conducted by Sir Simon Rattle. This season she makes her debut with the Canadian Opera Company as Fox in Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and sings the Woman in George Benjamin's new opera, *Picture a Day Like This*, at The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden's Linbury Theatre.

On the concert platform, recent highlights include Mozart's *Coronation Mass* with Mozarteum Orchestra Salzburg and Roberto González-Monjas at the Salzburg Festival, Schumann's *Das Paradies und die Peri* and Mozart's *Requiem* with the Staatskapelle Berlin and Marc Minkowski, Jaquet de la Guerre's *Céphale et Procris* on tour with Reinoud van Mechelen and *Nocte Temporis* in Versailles, Namur and Brussels, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* with the Munchener Rundfunkorchester and Howard Arman, Mozart's *Requiem* with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Adrian Partington, Stravinsky's *Pulcinella* with Musikkollegium Winterthur and Barbara Hannigan, and Ravel's *Chansons Madecasses* with the Mahler Chamber Orchestra and George Benjamin.

2023/24 concerts include Stravinsky's *Les Noces* with Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal and Kent Nagano, Vivier's *Wo du Bist du Licht* with the Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and Barbara Hannigan, Scriabin's *Symphony No. 1* with The Danish National Symphony Orchestra and Fabio Luisi, Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* with the Munich Philharmonic and Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on tour with Pygmalion both with Raphaël Pichon.

A celebrated recitalist, this season Emma embarks on a solo recital tour of North America, including her debut at Carnegie's Weill Hall. Elsewhere, Emma has performed at the Pierre Boulez Saal, Konzerthaus Berlin, the Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, London's Wigmore Hall, and at the Schubertfada Vilabertran, Verbier, Gstaad, Aldeburgh, Leeds Lieder and Toronto Summer Music Festivals, collaborating with Malcolm Martineau, Wolfram Rieger, Andras Schiff, Graham Johnson, and Joseph Middleton, among others.

Charles Richard-Hamelin, piano

Silver medalist and winner of the Krystian Zimerman Prize at the 2015 International Chopin Piano Competition, pianist Charles Richard-Hamelin has emerged as one of the most important pianists of his generation. Recipient of the Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec and of the prestigious *Career Development Award* conferred by the Women's Musical Club of Toronto, he was awarded the Prix Denise-Pelletier in November 2022, becoming the youngest recipient in the history of the Prix du Québec. He has been invited to many major festivals such as *La Roque d'Anthéron* and the *Nohant Festival* in France, the Prague Spring Festival, the *Chopin and his Europe* Festival in Warsaw, the Lanaudière Festival and the George Enescu Festival in Bucharest. As a soloist, he has performed with many ensembles including the major Canadian symphony orchestras (Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, Metropolitan, Quebec City, Edmonton, Calgary, etc.) as well as the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, Sinfonia Varsovia, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Korean Symphony Orchestra, OFUNAM (Mexico), Les Violons du Roy and I Musici de Montréal. He has worked with such renowned conductors as Kent Nagano, Rafael Payare, Bernard Labadie, Antoni Wit, Vasily Petrenko, Jacek Kasprzyk,

Aziz Shokhakov, Peter Oundjian, Jacques Lacombe, Fabien Gabel, Carlo Rizzi, John Storgårds, Alexander Prior, Giancarlo Guerrero, Christoph Campestrini, Lan Shui, Otto Tausk, Jean-Marie Zeitouni, Kazuki Yamada, Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Jonathan Cohen. Charles Richard-Hamelin is also active as a chamber musician. He has performed with Andrew Wan, James Ehnes, Marie-Nicole Lemieux, Marc-André Hamelin, the Dover Quartet, the New Orford Quartet, the Apollon Musagète Quartet and the Meccore Quartet, among others. A graduate of McGill University, the Yale School of Music and the Conservatoire de musique de Montréal, he studied with Paul Surdulescu, Sara Laimon, Boris Berman, André Laplante and Jean Saulnier. Charles Richard-Hamelin has recorded eleven albums, all released on the Analekta label (Outhere Music). Five of these are dedicated primarily to the solo piano works of Frédéric Chopin; there are also four recordings with Andrew Wan, concertmaster of the OSM. He has also recorded concertante works: both Chopin piano concertos with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, conducted by Kent Nagano, and Mozart's Piano Concertos nos. 22 and 24 with Les Violons du Roy, conducted by Jonathan Cohen. Six Félix awards (ADISQ) and a JUNO in 2022 saluted the quality of these albums, which have been received widespread acclaim from critics around the world.

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