



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

FRIDAYS AT 12:30 SERIES ROMANTICISM AND IMPRESSIONISM

Friday, March 28, 2025

12:30 p.m., von Kuster Hall and [via livestream](#)

Stéphan Sylvestre, *piano*

Sonata for violon No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003 (arr. for piano solo)
III. Aria. Andante - Molto espressivo e cantabile

Bach-Godowsky
(1870-1938)

Two Rhapsodies Op. 79

I. Rhapsody in b minor – *Agitato*

II. Rhapsody in g minor – *Molto passionato, ma non troppo allegro*

J. Brahms
(1833-1897)

Nocturne no. 6 in D flat major, op. 63

G. Fauré
(1845-1924)

Iberia, Book 1: *Evocación*

I. Albeniz
(1860-1909)

Estampes

Pagodes

Soirée dans Grenade

Jardins sous la pluie

C. Debussy
(1862-1918)

BIOGRAPHY

Stéphan Sylvestre ranks among the most sought-after Canadian pianists. Compared by critics to Artur Schnabel for his natural talent and flawless technique (La Presse, Montreal), he has given performances in numerous countries throughout North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and Russia. He performed five solo recitals in the Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), he appeared with top Canadian orchestras and in Canada's leading international festivals, and played live for the BBC. One of Canada's most praised chamber musicians, he regularly collaborates with internationally acclaimed artists and ensembles such as James Campbell, James Sommerville, Ransom Wilson, Martin Beaver, Susan Hoepfner, Rivka Golani, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, the Penderecki, New Zealand, and New Orford string quartets, as well as with first chairs of the Israel Philharmonic, Toronto Symphony and Montreal Symphony orchestras.

His recordings have been hailed by critics. His Brahms solo recordings were placed alongside Murray Perahia's interpretations by WholeNote magazine, and the internationally famed Strad Magazine in the U.K. recently gave a stunning review of his recording of the works of Szymanowski for violin and piano with member of the Penderecki String Quartet, Jerzy Kaplanek. He regularly gives master classes around the world and he has sat on juries of prestigious competitions such as the Montreal International Piano Competition, the Montreal Symphony Competition and the Canadian Music Competition. He also regularly adjudicates for prestigious institutions including the Glenn Gould School and the Conservatoire de Montréal, among many others.

Stéphan Sylvestre has been Associate Professor at Western University Canada since 2005. He is one of the most respected pedagogues of the new generation and highly sought-after by young pianists around the world. His teachers have included Leon Fleisher, John Perry, Marc Durand and Marek Jablonski.

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