



Western Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

STUDENT RECITAL

Monday, April 28, 2026
2:00 p.m., von Kuster Hall
Ryan Baxter, *piano*

Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor, BWV 582 (ca. 1710)

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)
Arr. Eugen d'Albert
(1864–1932)

Waldszenen (Forest Scenes), Op. 82 (1849)

Robert Schumann
(1810–1856)

- I. *Eintritt* (Entry)
- II. *Jäger auf der Lauer* (Hunter on the Lookout)
- III. *Einsame Blumen* (Lonely Flowers)
- IV. *Verrufene Stelle* (Haunted Place)
- V. *Freundliche Landschaft* (Friendly Landscape)
- VI. *Herberge* (Wayside Inn)
- VII. *Vogel als Prophet* (Bird as Prophet)
- VIII. *Jagdlied* (Hunting Song)
- IX. *Abschied* (Farewell)

THE EARTH (2025)

Tyler Versluis
(b. 1989)

Estampes (Prints), L. 108 (1903)

Claude Debussy
(1862–1918)

- I. *Pagodes* (Pagodas)
- II. *La soirée dans Grenade* (Evening in Granada)
- III. *Jardins sous la pluie* (Gardens in the Rain)

Hommage à Chopin (1979)

Jack Behrens
(1935–2024)

Hommage à Chopin, W 474 (1947)

Heitor Villa-Lobos
(1887–1959)

- I. Nocturne
- II. Ballade

*This recital is presented in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the Doctor of Musical Arts in Performance degree.*

Ryan Baxter is in his final year of the Doctor of Musical Arts program at Western University's Don Wright Faculty of Music, studying solo piano performance with Professor Stéphan Sylvestre and Dr. Angela Park. At Western, Ryan also takes courses in Indigenous studies through the Memegwaanh Indigenous Learning Honour program. He received a Bachelor of Music from Brock University (2019), an Ontario Graduate Certificate in Music Composition from Humber Polytechnic (2020), and a Master of Music from the University of Manitoba (2022), graduating with the highest standing in all three programs. Most recently, he completed a Master of Education at Athabasca University (2024), focusing on instructional design. Outside of university study, Ryan holds LCRM, ARCT, and LTCL diplomas in piano, ARCT, ARCCO, CRCCO, and LTCL diplomas in organ, and an ARCT in piano pedagogy.

Ryan has been awarded a SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS-M) and two Ontario Graduate Scholarships during his graduate studies. These have supported his research on Australian piano four hands repertoire, including piano four hands sonatas by Carl Vine (2009) and Stuart Greenbaum (2013), and piano music by Indigenous composers in Canada, particularly the works of Beverley McKiver, from whom he recently commissioned a new piano cycle titled *Dibike Giizis Nagamonan* (Moon Songs). With fellow Western doctoral pianist Jingquan Xie he cofounded Duo 330 (a piano-organ duo named after their shared office number in Talbot College), and together they perform across southern Ontario. Since moving to London to begin his doctoral studies, Ryan has performed at more than twenty venues and churches, including eight solo piano recitals, nine solo organ recitals, five piano-four hands concerts with Dr. Connor O'Kane, and six piano-organ duo concerts with Jingquan Xie.

Beyond academic life, Ryan is Music Director and Organist at Rowntree Memorial United Church in London. Previously he held the same positions at Trillium United Church in St. Catharines (2016-2021). He has worked as a teaching assistant, collaborative pianist, piano and theory instructor, festival adjudicator, in-class mathematics tutor, course facilitator, English teacher in Thailand, and in other education-related roles. When Ryan is not practicing, writing, or working, he enjoys walking, reading, cooking, baking, and applying to more programs. He is very happy to be part of the Western musical community!