

The annual **Parsons
& Poole** Concert and
Masterclass featuring:

*Internationally
acclaimed pianist*

Jon Kimura Parker

Concert

Friday, October 22, 2021
at 7:30 p.m.

Masterclass

Saturday, October 23, 2021
at 10 a.m.

von Kuster Hall
Music Building
Western University



**Western
Music**

Don Wright Faculty of Music



Parsons & Poole Concert Program

Friday, October 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

von Kuster Hall, Music Building, Western University

Piano Sonata in D Major, K. 311

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

- I. Allegro con spirito
- II. Andantino con espressione
- III. Rondeau: Allegro

Jeux d'Eau

Maurice Ravel
(1875-1937)

"Wanderer" Fantasy

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

- I. Allegro con fuoco ma non troppo
- II. Adagio
- III. Presto
- IV. Allegro

Intermission

Ballade No. 4

Frédéric Chopin
(1810-1849)

Memories in an Ancient Garden

Alexina Louie
(b. 1949)

Fantasy on "Wizard of Oz"

William Hirtz
(b. 1955)



Jon Kimura Parker, pianist

Pianist Jon Kimura Parker is known for his charisma, infectious enthusiasm, and dynamic performances. A veteran of the international concert stage, he has performed regularly in the Berlin Philharmonie, Carnegie Hall, London's South Bank, the Sydney Opera House, and the Beijing Concert Hall. He was recently named Creative Partner for the Minnesota Orchestra's Summer at Orchestra Hall, serves as the Artistic Director for the Honens International Piano Competition and Artistic Advisor for the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival, and is on the faculty of the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.

Highlights of his 2019-20 season included performances of the Barber, Grieg, Tchaikovsky, and complete Beethoven concertos with the Toronto Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, Colorado Music Festival, and others. He also appears in programs for the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, Ravinia Festival, Seattle Chamber Music Festival, and Toronto Summer Music. In addition, he performs widely throughout North America and Europe with the Montrose Trio (together with violinist Martin Beaver and cellist Clive Greensmith), and will be undertaking an extensive tour of Australia together with violinist Cho-Liang Lin.

A collaborator in a wide variety of styles, Jon Kimura Parker has performed with Doc Severinsen, Audra McDonald, Bobby McFerrin, Pablo Ziegler, and Sanjaya Malakar. As a founding member of Off the Score, he also performed with Stewart Copeland – the legendary drummer of The Police – for the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival's 20th Anniversary Season, featuring his own arrangements of music by Prokofiev, Ravel and Stravinsky.

Parker's discography of a dozen albums features music ranging from Mozart and Chopin to Barber and Stravinsky. His most recent recording "Fantasy," built around Schubert's "Wanderer" Fantasy, was described by Musical Toronto as giving "a big, clear picture window of a rich soul and great artistic depth." His YouTube channel features a series of Concerto Chat videos, which explore the piano concerto repertoire.

Jon Kimura Parker studied with Edward Parker and Keiko Parker, Lee Kum-Sing at the Vancouver Academy of Music and the University of British Columbia, Marek Jablonski at the Banff Centre, and Adele Marcus at The Juilliard School. After winning the Gold Medal at the 1984 Leeds International Piano Competition, Parker has gone on to become an Officer of The Order of Canada and to receive Honorary Doctorates from the University of British Columbia and the Royal Conservatory of Music, Toronto.

Known to friends – new and old – as "Jackie," Parker is married to violinist/violist Aloysia Friedmann, and their daughter Sophie is a junior at Rice University. For further information, please visit:

www.jonkimuraparker.com,
www.montrosetrio.com,
www.offthescore.com,
www.oicmf.org
www.honens.com.

Margaret Parsons and Clifford Poole



Glamorous, talented and world-famous, the husband and wife pianists were not typical professors at Western in the 1950s. Margaret Parsons and Clifford Poole balanced performance tours as a piano duo with teaching and inspiring young musicians. They also recorded their work, created educational materials and started the Gilbert & Sullivan productions which had a long run at Western.

They came to London in 1948 to teach at the Western Ontario Music Conservatory, Music Teachers' College and Department of Music at Western. Already well known, the pair joined the staff two years after Alfred Rose, Gustav Mahler's nephew. During the next few years, the three organizations evolved, each focusing on a different level of music education. As J.R.W. Gwynne-Timothy wrote in his Western's First Century: "The concerts of the well-known piano duo, Clifford Poole and his wife Margaret Parsons, carried far and wide the name of music at Western as public relations emissaries for the college."

A group of alumni who studied with Parsons & Poole created an artist-in-residence program, called the Parsons & Poole Masterclass Series and Concert Fund to carry their names into the future. The project gives students an opportunity to study with musicians who bring the same level of acclaim and expertise as Parsons and Poole.

The benefits of the Parsons & Poole Masterclass Series and Concert Fund will go beyond the music faculty, providing opportunities for inter-disciplinary scholarship and cultural enrichment for the community. This is a fitting continuation of the kind of projects the duo undertook while in London. They composed and arranged piano music for young players, and their Parsons-Poole Festival Piano Series and Poole's many pedagogical piano pieces remain favourites. The pair also established a community concert series and toured to many Ontario towns and cities, often with students to showcase their talents and gain experience in performing.

Past Parsons & Poole Concert Performers

Marc-André Hamelin, 2020

Stewart Goodyear, 2019

Sara Davis Buechner, 2018

Charles Richard-Hamelin, 2017

John O'Connor, 2016

Anagnoson and Kinton, piano duo, 2015

Angela Hewitt, 2014

Menahem Pressler, 2013

André LaPlante, 2012



Thank you!

Western University would like to thank the many donors who supported the establishment of the Parsons & Poole Concert and Masterclass Series in the Don Wright Faculty of Music.

A special thank you to **Dorothy Hollingsworth, BA'56**, and members of the fundraising committee for creating the Parsons & Poole Masterclass Series and Concert Fund. We are also thankful for the generous bequest from the late Joan Elaine Conner. It is because of these extraordinary leaders and the generous donors that this wonderful legacy honouring Margaret Parsons and Clifford Poole was established, thus benefitting a new generation of young musicians.

Parsons & Poole Fundraising Committee:

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Nancy (Tiemann) Stormes

If you would like to make a gift to the Parsons & Poole Masterclass Series and Concert Fund to continue the work of this tremendous group, please contact the Don Wright Faculty of Music at **519.661.2111 x 85695** or karmen.ferraro@uwo.ca.



Support the Don Wright Faculty of Music

The Don Wright Faculty of Music brings the passion and benefits of music into the community and into the lives of individuals of all ages. It has a strong tradition of excellence based on the scope of academic programs, the unique holdings of the Music Library, scholarly work of faculty, and its talented alumni. With the support of our alumni and friends, we can enhance our programs, expand our community outreach and prepare students to breathe musical life and inspiration into our culture – today and in the future. A broad range of programs and priorities are available to support. You can make a personal and meaningful donation to the Don Wright Faculty of Music by contacting Karmen Ferraro at **519.661.2111 x 85695**, karmen.ferraro@uwo.ca, or by mail to the Don Wright Faculty of Music, Talbot College, Western University, 1151 Richmond St N, London, Ontario N6A 3K7