



Western  
Music

Don Wright Faculty of Music

## TAFELMUSIK RESIDENCY

November 7–9, 2026

Cristina Zacharias, violin  
Yussif Barakat Martínez, double bass

## TAFELMUSIK BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Every now and then a group of musicians comes along and changes the way we think about music. For over four decades, Tafelmusik has been synonymous worldwide with dynamic, engaging, and soulful performances informed by scholarship, passion and artistic excellence.

Performing on instruments and in styles appropriate to the era, Tafelmusik has performed in more than 350 cities in 32 countries. Its extensive discography on the Sony, CBC Records, Analekta and Tafelmedia labels have garnered ten JUNOs and numerous international recording prizes. From a vibrant home season in Toronto, to international tours, award-winning recordings, innovative collaborations, and inspiring education programs, Tafelmusik is a musical powerhouse with a reputation for thrilling and delighting audiences.

### CRISTINA ZACHARIAS

Co-Artistic Director and violinist **Cristina Zacharias** has been a core member of Tafelmusik since 2004. Frequently featured in solo and chamber music repertoire, she has performed across North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. Cristina also appears annually at the Carmel Bach Festival, and can be heard on over 25 recordings for the ATMA, Analekta, CBC, BIS, Naxos, and Tafelmusik Media labels. As an educator, Cristina is active in Tafelmusik's training institutes as well as at the University of Toronto.

Equally passionate about baroque, classical, and modern repertoire, Cristina is a frequent collaborator, guest soloist, and director with a diverse group of ensembles, including the Toronto Bach Festival, Theatre of Early Music, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Brandon Chamber Players, and Pacific Baroque Orchestra. Cristina holds a MMus degree from McGill University.

### YUSSIF BARAKAT MARTÍNEZ

Originally from Ecuador and of Palestinian heritage, **Jussif Barakat Martínez** joined Tafelmusik as bassist in September 2025. His musical journey began with electric bass, studying with Marcelo Acevedo, and later he joined the Franz Liszt Conservatory of Quito, where he studied jazz under the guidance of Serge Agosh-Koff and Daniel Mancero. He also studied with his beloved mentors Rodrigo Becerra and Marvin "Doc" Holladay. His path to early music was somewhat of a coincidence—after being given the opportunity to attend a summer course in Oberlin, he attended the Oberlin Baroque Performance Institute and met former Tafelmusik violinist Marc Destrubé. This encounter ultimately led him to the Royal Conservatoire in The Hague, where he focused on historical performance and earned Master of Music degrees in both classical double bass and violone, studying with Maggie Urquhart, Quirijn van Regteren Altena, and Jean-Paul Everts. Regular performances include collaborations with the Orchestra of the Eighteenth Century and Le Concert des Nations, along with ensembles such as Dunedin Consort, Les Musiciens du Prince, Il Gardellino, Balthasar-Neumann Orchestra, La Petite Bande, B'Rock, Collegium Vocale Gent, and the Netherlands Bach Society. In 2019, he was awarded first prize at the Viennese Bass Days in Amsterdam for historically informed performance, both solo and ensemble. Having been fortunate to be mentored by Owen Hart Jr., Yussif has played with him in several bands across the Netherlands, including at the 44 Gouvy Jazz Festival.