



Inaugural Concert Series

May 7th | 7pm

May 14th | 7pm

May 8th | 3pm

May 15th | 3pm

Gordon Lightfoot Concert Hall

**Avenue Road Music &
Performance Academy**

WELCOME TO THE ACADEMY

The land on which we stand is part of our identity. We wish to acknowledge that the Avenue Road Music and Performance Academy sits on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, the Haudenosaunee, the Wendat, and the Chippewa First Nations.

As we look towards the future and begin our journey towards building a community of artists, we also reflect on the past of the place we call home. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn and grow on this land, and strive to share this territory in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect.



The Avenue Road Music and Performance Academy gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following:

Gordon Lightfoot

Bruce McLeod

Jeannie Tanenbaum

Martyn Stollar

With special thanks to

Alex Hahn
Charles Pachter
Katy Lambert
Peter Figura

Ricker Choi
Fizz Events
Matthew Otto
Sandra Trehub

Catering provided courtesy of Gourmey Galaxy Catering

PROGRAMME

May 7th concert

7pm

Ricker Choi, Piano

Moon River

Harry Mancini arr. Ricker Choi

Polonaise, Op. 53

Frédéric Chopin

Lori Lamarche, Voice

Selected works

Kathleen Penny, Piano

Impromptu in G-flat major, Op. 90 no 3

Franz Schubert

Memories of Andalusia

Louis Moreau Gottschalk

Jelica Mijanovic, Guitar

Pussywillows, Cattails

Gordon Lightfoot arr. Floyd Turner

Choro de Saudade

Agustin Barrios Mangore (Paraguay)

The Wonders of the Mara

Kevin Munyi (Kenya)

Walkdance

Miroslav Tadic (Serbia)



May 8th concert

3pm

Ricker Choi, Piano

Polonaise, Op. 53

Frédéric Chopin

Dance by Annie Cassar, accompanied by Andrew & Melissa Siqueira

Make You Feel My Love

Bob Dylan arr. Adele

Kathleen Penny, Piano

Impromptu in G-flat major, Op. 90 no 3

Franz Schubert

Memories of Andalusia

Louis Moreau Gottschalk

Thompson Egbo-Egbo, Piano

Lo Baiom Velo Balyla

Avishai Cohen

Libertango

Astor Piazzolla

Golden Earrings

Victor Young

Moon River/Cute

Henry Mancini

Bowed Arts, Strings

Selected works

PROGRAMME

May 14th concert

7pm

Ricker Choi, Piano

Moon River
Polonaise, Op. 53

Harry Mancini arr. Ricker Choi
Frédéric Chopin

Kirill Savransky, Accordion

Sous le ciel de Paris
All of Me
Chardash

Hubert Giraud
Gerald Marks, Seymour Simons
Vittorio Monti

The Toronto Children's Chorus, Voice

Selected works

Michael Berkovsky & Coral Solomon-Berkovsky, Piano

Romance Op. 2 No. 1 - Las ninas de Santa Fe
Snowflakes

Carlos Guastavino
Alexander Tsfasman



May 15th concert

3pm

Tristan Savella, Piano

Kinderszenen, Op. 15
Sonata No. 3 in B Minor, Op. 58
Selected Works
Images, Book 2

Robert Schumann
Frederic Chopin
Alexander Scriabin
Claude Debussy



Untravelled Worlds

June 4th | St Lawrence Centre for the Arts

KinderNotes, Training Choirs I, II & III,
Main Choir & Toronto Youth Choir

22/23 Season Auditions

New chorister auditions have opened!
June 7th, 11th, 12th & 18th

More information at torontochildrenchorus.com

THE ARTISTS

Ricker Choi has a successful career in financial risk management but his real loves are music and painting. Ricker began studying piano at age 13, after his family immigrated to Canada from Hong Kong. After earning the ARCT Diploma in Piano Performance at age 18, Ricker enrolled in York University's Schulich School of Business, where he earned an undergraduate degree and MBA. He also holds Chartered Financial Analyst and Financial Risk Manager designations. Ricker started painting in 2013. He is a prolific artist and his protest art has been exhibited in Hong Kong, London, Edmonton and Alberta, and Dublin. As a pianist, Ricker has been featured at TSMF's Emerging Artists in Concert at Walter Hall, and with Orff Centre Music Salon at the Glenn Gould Studio. His most memorable performances were at the Berlin Philharmonie's 2500 seat Großer Saal and at Paris' 1000 seat Salle Gaveau.

Lori Lamarche is an Aboriginal First Nations singer who likes to sing all genres of music. From Country to Pop...from Folk to Opera...from Sacred to Soul...and from Classical to Classic Rock. She has been singing for many years across Canada and the USA at talent shows, weddings, graduations, charity events, pub fundraisers, music festivals, and various radio and television appearances. She has performed at Ontario Place, Minkler Auditorium, the Western Fair, Taste of the Danforth, Harbourfront, Koerner Hall, CNE Bandshell, and was a performing Indigenous Artist at the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics. Lori has also had the honour of singing the Canadian and American National Anthems at sporting events including Blue Jay games at Rogers Centre and Boston's Fenway Park. You will be moved when you hear her powerful voice!

Kathleen Penny is a partner at the Canadian law firm of Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP with a full-time practice in corporate income tax law. Kathleen learned piano as a child, sang in choirs and played violin in her school orchestra. After a lengthy gap in her musical education to pursue university degrees in Chemical Physics and in Law, have two children and build her law practice, she resumed serious piano study in 1998. Kathleen earned her diploma in Piano Performance (ARCT) from the Royal Conservatory of Music in 2005, and gave her first full-length solo recital in 2006. She has been a semi-finalist at Boston amateur piano competitions and a finalist and prize winner at Washington piano artist competitions and Toronto musical festivals. Kathleen organizes and performs in charity and community concerts. She is active in the Toronto amateur piano community as the leader of the "Ivory League".

Jelica Mijanović is an award winning, versatile musician with a rich performing and teaching career. She has been invited to more than 30 international festivals in a dozen countries as a soloist, lecturer, or juror. Jelica is originally from Montenegro, but she obtained two Master of Arts degrees (Music Pedagogy and Performance) in Switzerland, where she taught at several conservatories and a university before settling in Ontario in 2020. Since 2021, she is a guitar instructor at Mohawk College. Jelica has won 11 first prizes at international guitar competitions, she was awarded more than 20 artistic scholarships during her studies, and she edited and published two books. Jelica is fluent in French, English, Italian, German, Spanish and Serbian language, and seeks to share her fascination and knowledge about different cultures through her repertoire, her teaching, and her publications.

Annie Cassar is a Toronto-based dance artist where she performs on the concert stage, at events, and in film and television. She has performed and collaborated with renowned dance artists and companies and has choreographed for a multitude of projects such as music videos, stage productions and dance competitions. Annie is an ACTRA member, holds Associate Teaching diplomas through the British Association of Teachers of Dancing, is certified in Progressing Ballet Technique, children's yoga, and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Specialized Honours) in Dance from York University. She created the full Dance Programme and syllabus for Avenue Road Music and Performance Academy and is delighted to enlighten students with all the possibilities the art of dance has to offer.

Melissa Siqueira is a pianist based in the GTA area specializing in solo performance and accompaniment for weddings and special events. She holds certificates with The Royal Conservatory of Music.

Thompson T. Egbo-Egbo. Hailing from Toronto, Canada, Thompson Egbo-Egbo is a pianist with a gift for memorable but harmonically complex compositions that have at their core a deep, abiding groove. With three studio albums out (Short Stories, A New Standard, The Offering) he is set to release another 2 later this year.

Andrew Siqueira is a violinist based in the Mississauga/Toronto/GTA specializing in a variety of events including business events, ceremonies and parties. He teaches students music, and studied through the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Bowed Arts is a collective of like minded musicians who have joined forces to contribute to the evolution of music education. Together they're committed to creating relevant, accessible, diverse, equitable and inclusive high-quality string education. Founding members Amanda Penner, Amber Walton-Amar, Laura C. Bates and Maya Killtron came together through performance and united as teachers with diverse backgrounds. Their lived experience as contemporary string players serves to inform their pedagogical philosophies and open doors beyond traditional classical music education.

Kirill Savransky. People say that music is a language which you can speak to absolutely anyone of any nationality and they will understand you. Kirill Savransky has experienced that personally after living, teaching and performing in the Far East, in Europe, and now in North America. A multi-talented musician, Kirill teaches Percussion, Accordion and Piano. He is experienced in sound production and digital audio workstations and will offer future classes in composing, arranging, and editing. He is a graduate of a Ukraine music college, and holds a diploma in jazz improvisation from Berklee College of music.

The Toronto Children's Chorus is recognized as one of the finest treble choirs in the world. The Chorus is committed to the enrichment of children's lives through the discipline, teamwork and unique camaraderie of fine choral singing. The TCC offers artistic excellence, character-building experiences and leadership opportunities while nurturing musical academic and individual achievement. For more than 4 decades, the TCC has built a musical education structure that includes sight singing, theory training, master classes and workshops with expert clinicians while offering exceptional performance opportunities and collaborations with other musicians such as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. The choir's vast repertoire embraces diverse cultures and traditions and covers an extensive range of musical genres. The TCC has commissioned many new Canadian works that have greatly influenced the treble voice repertoire.

Michael Berkovsky & Coral Solomon-Berkovsky. Prizewinning Israeli- Canadian pianists, Michael and Coral are actively involved in the musical scene through various solo and chamber engagements. In 2019, serving as President and Artistic Director they created a sold-out Canadian concert festival along with the Tradicious Organization (in collaboration with the International George Enescu Festival in Romania) featuring artists such as Jonathan Crow, Barry Shiffman, David Hetherington, Alexandru Tomescu, among others. Dedicated to developing musical talent in the community, they are frequently invited to adjudicate national and international competitions. They have founded the Berkovsky-Solomon Academy of Music in North York which includes several piano and theory instructors, all with the aim of positively enriching the lives of the young generation in a supportive and competitive environment.

Tristan Savella. Based in Toronto, Filipino-American pianist Tristan Savella has been an active performer in the United States, Canada, and Europe, including performances at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall in New York City and the Schloss Mirabell in Salzburg, Austria. In 2013, his Piano Trio was chosen to represent the Eastman School of Music as part of "The Conservatory Project", sponsored by the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.. Furthermore, Tristan is the recipient of multiple prizes at various national and international competitions, including third place at the Concorso Flame in Paris and first place at the Bradshaw and Buono International Piano Competition in New York City. He is currently a candidate for the Doctorate of Musical Arts at the University of Toronto, where he studies with Jamie Parker and Lydia Wong.

COMING UP AT THE ACADEMY

In addition to group classes, you can book private piano, vocal, or dance lessons with one of our outstanding faculty.

Summer Programs

Drop-in yoga	July-August
Dance	July-August
Drama	July-August
Visual Art	July-August

Fall Programs

Piano	September - December
Strings	September - December
Visual Art	September - December
Classical Dance	September - December
Drama	September - December
Drop-in Yoga (Adult)	September - December

To pre-register or learn more about our upcoming programs, visit avenueroadmusic.com

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