

Toronto Symphony Orchestra Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

Yo-Yo Ma, cello Special appearance by Jeremy Dutcher, vocalist

Celebrate 100: A Gala Evening with Yo-Yo Ma







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Land Acknowledgement

Sewatokwa'tshera't (The Dish With One Spoon)

Please join us in acknowledging that the land we are gathered on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit River, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples, and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples.

We further acknowledge that this city, Toronto, is within the territory governed by the Dish With One Spoon treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee, which bound them to share the territory and protect the land, and that subsequent Indigenous Nations and Peoples, Europeans, and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect.

As we celebrate 100 years of community-building and sharing the healing power of art, we are grateful to live and make music on this land.

Invigorating Partnerships



IN THE PAST WEEKS

in the concert hall, we have welcomed back pianists Yefim Bronfman and Yuja Wang, both of whom are great friends of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. To celebrate our

100 years, we enjoyed 100 Years of Epic Film Scores. And we welcomed families and fans for our Hallowe'en weekend concert of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Beyond the stage, the young musicians of the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra came together for their annual Camp Weekend, laying the groundwork for their ongoing development as individual musicians and as an ensemble. Whether in the hall or in the community, our musicians and staff are invigorated by your enthusiasm for *your* orchestra.

For 100 years, we have been a part of our community, bringing beautiful music to Torontonians, educating and training the next generation of musicians, and partnering with others in our community to support health and well-being through music.

I'm excited by our new partnership with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and the Day of Culture in Action led by Yo-Yo Ma, which will launch our Art of Healing program. In collaboration with CAMH's Shkaabe Makwa—the Centre for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Wellness—Métis composer Ian Cusson and members of the Orchestra will work with First Nations, Inuit and Métis CAMH patients to support their healing through musical storytelling and composition, co-creating an original piece of music. This is the kind of meaningful engagement that sustains us as we continue to find new ways to share music with the city we are proud to call home.

A Centennial only comes once, and we're using ours to not only look back on all that we have accomplished, but also look forward to what we can achieve. Together, we can bring more music to more people. Together, we can partner with more organizations throughout our city to harness the healing power of the arts. Together, we can bring music to more classrooms and train more of the next generation of musicians. We are *Toronto's* symphony orchestra, and our next 100 years will be even better than the last. Thank you for celebrating with us.

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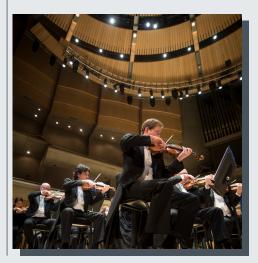
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These extraordinary individuals have been recognized by the Orchestra for their remarkable commitment and service to the TSO. Tom Beck (1926-2016) Catherine Beck & Laurence Rubin Renette Berman Robert W. Corcoran Sheryl L. Kerr Wil Matthews The Honourable Bob Rae Judith (Billie) Wilder (1928 - 2021)

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Gustavo Gimeno Music Director

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An evening to remember

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Musical Interludes South & North Lobby Performances

with music by members of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra, Simon Rivard, conductor

Gala Dinner Reception

5:30pm-6:15pm

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Divertimento in D Major, K. 138

Valerie Coleman: UMOJA

Antonin Dvořák: String Quartet No. 12 in F Major, Op. 96 "American" I. Allegro ma non troppo II. Lento IV. Vivace ma non troppo

Pre-Concert Reception

7:15pm–7:45pm Antonin Dvořák: Serenade for Winds in D Minor, Op. 44 I. Moderato, quasi marcia II. Minuetto. Tempo di minuetto IV. Finale. Allegro molto

Oskar Böhme: Sextet for brass in E-flat Minor op. 30

Post-Concert Reception

10pm-10:35pm (approx)

with music by the Tara Davidson Quintet Tara Davidson, alto saxophone Rebecca Hennessy, trumpet Nancy Walker, piano Dan Fortin, bass Ernesto Cervini, drums

See page 28 for a complete roster of 2022/23 TSYO orchestra members.

TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

10

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Gala Thanks continues on page 28.

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Gustavo Gimeno's TSO début was on February 21, 2018, in a program featuring Johannes Moser in Dvořák's Cello Concerto, Ligeti's *Concert Românesc*, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 4.

Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

Gustavo Gimeno's tenure as the 10th Music Director of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra began in 2020/21. Since his appointment, he has reinvigorated the artistic profile of the Orchestra, engaged with musicians and audiences alike, and brought performances of familiar works as well as some of today's freshest sounds. In leading the TSO through the pandemic and into this vibrant 100th-anniversary celebration, he has overseen renewed community engagement, and sown the seeds for an ambitious program of commissioning new works from emerging and established composers.

During the 2022/23 season, Gimeno and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra continue to celebrate the Orchestra's Centennial with major symphonic works including Bruckner's Symphony No. 4, Prokofiev's Suite from *Romeo and Juliet*, and Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade. Gimeno will share the stage with, among other soloists, Yo-Yo Ma, Yuja Wang, Yefim Bronfman, and Jean-Guihen Queyras. He and the Orchestra will also embark on the first tour of their partnership, including a concert at Ottawa's National Arts Centre, a return visit to Carnegie Hall, and the Orchestra's début at Chicago's Symphony Center.

This season, Gimeno and the TSO will make their first commercial recording, memorializing Messiaen's *Turangalîla-Symphonie*, with pianist Marc-André Hamelin and ondes Martenot player Nathalie Forget, for the Harmonia Mundi label. This builds on Gimeno's relationship with the label, for whom he has recorded Rossini's *Stabat Mater* and Stravinsky's ballets *The Firebird* and *Apollon musagète* with Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg.

Gimeno has held the position of Music Director with Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg since 2015, and will become Music Director of Teatro Real in Madrid in 2025/26—he currently serves as their Music Director Designate. As an opera conductor, he has conducted at great houses such as the Liceu Opera Barcelona; Opernhaus Zürich; Palau de les Arts Reina Sofia, Valencia; and Teatro Real, Madrid. He is also much sought-after as a symphonic guest conductor worldwide: débuts in 2022/23 include Staatskapelle Berlin and Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France. Gimeno is also regularly reinvited to the Royal Concertgebouworkest, and touring projects have included concerts as far afield as Japan and Taiwan.

Gustavo Gimeno

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New Encounters & Enduring Relationships



to welcome you to our Gala concert with the incredible artist Yo-Yo Ma, celebrating 100 years of your Toronto Symphony Orchestra. When I was appointed TSO Music

IT IS MY GREAT PLEASURE

Director four years ago, I knew the Centennial was just around the corner, and I prepared for it by learning everything I could about the organization's past (distant and recent) to get a sense of the Orchestra's DNA. What I realized very quickly is that, while it's important to regularly revisit the wonderful classic works of the repertoire, we live in times where integrating new and original creations is absolutely essential. Doing so allows us to be faithful to the TSO's history while generating a sense of curiosity about what's to come.

Fortunately, our audience exhibits a refreshing open-mindedness when presented with unfamiliar works and artists, and creating these new relationships is an aspect of my role that I truly love. This is the case even within the Orchestra itself: we welcomed seven exceptional new musicians to our ensemble this year. And though we've just begun the journey of integrating our music-making together, we're all inspiring each other and writing a new chapter in the Orchestra's story.

The introductions go both ways, too—sometimes an enduring relationship for the TSO is a novel one for me. Tonight's concert is a prime example. While Yo-Yo Ma is an old friend of the Toronto Symphony, this is the very first time I have ever had the privilege of collaborating with him. It is also my first opportunity to perform with Tobique First Nation artist Jeremy Dutcher, who has previously partnered with the TSO and is well known to audiences across the country as a JUNO Award and Polaris Music Prize winner.

All of these creative encounters add lavers of nuance to our programs, and so. of course, do the interactions between the pieces. Contrasting though they may be, there is always a clear line connecting them. The vision behind this evening's performance began with Dvořák's immortal Cello Concerto, which Yo-Yo Ma selected. From there, I thought about how the piece was written in New York City-which led me to Bernstein's West Side Story—and then how Dvořák was born in what is now the Czech Republic, which was also the birthplace of Canadian composer Oskar Morawetz. The addition of George Paul's "Honour Song", which Yo-Yo Ma and Jeremy Dutcher have performed and recorded together, completes the circle.

It's a fascinating program I very much hope you enjoy. Thank you for joining us on this momentous occasion. Celebrations like this foster opportunities for the Orchestra to build on existing relationships, and forge new ones in the auspicious years ahead. I'm thrilled to be on this journey with you.

Guntavo Gimeno

Gustavo Gimeno Music Director

Gustavo Gimeno, Music Director

Celebrate 100: A Gala Evening with Yo-Yo Ma

Gustavo Gimeno, conductor Yo-Yo Ma, cello Jeremy Dutcher, vocalist

Oskar Morawetz

Carnival Overture, Op. 2

Leonard Bernstein

Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

- I. Prologue
- II. "Somewhere"
- III. Scherzo
- IV. Mambo
- V. Cha-Cha
- VI. Meeting Scene
- VII. "Cool" Fugue
- VIII. Rumble
- IX. Finale

Intermission

George Paul/arr. Jeremy Dutcher/orch. Owen Pallett "Honour Song"

Antonín Dvořák

Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

- I. Allegro
- II. Adagio ma non troppo
- III. Finale: Allegro moderato

Gustavo Gimeno's appearance are generously supported by Susan Brenninkmeyer in memory of Hans Brenninkmeyer.

Gala Program

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 8:00pm

Oskar Morawetz (1917–2007) *Carnival Overture,* Op. 2

Composed 1945

6 min

CARNIVAL OVERTURE is Oskar Morawetz's earliest surviving orchestral work. Sir Ernest MacMillan conducted the Montreal Symphony Orchestra in its 1947 première; it was MacMillan who coined the title, reacting, in his words, to the music's "tremendous rhythmic vitality and colourful orchestration." The work was performed by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, under Peter Oundjian, in 2017– 100 years after the composer's birth—during the TSO tour of Israel and Europe, including a performance in Smetana Hall in Prague.

Morawetz's style absorbs, in his own distinctly personal way, several trends of the 20th century, but he was never attracted to serial music or to the latest avant-garde styles, such as the use of chance (aleatoric music) or electronic music. Musicologists and critics usually stress the melodic and rhythmic vitality of his music, his sincerity of expression, his sense for building up powerful, dramatic climaxes, and his colourful and imaginative orchestration. Stylistically, he was a selfavowed traditionalist: "Ever since I was a child, music has meant for me something terribly emotional, and I still believe there has to be some kind of melodic line," he once said.

-Program note by Don Anderson

"This overture's name, which is otherwise irrelevant, suggests something of the youthful fire, warm colour and animation which informs every bar. The work's rhythms have many Czech elements, but there is no material derived from folk songs."

-OSKARMORAWETZ.COM

Born in Světlá nad Sázavou, Czech Republic. Oskar Morawetz is one of Canada's most distinguished and most frequently performed composers. After early studies in Prague, Vienna, and Paris, in 1940, he escaped from the growing tide of Nazi terror by immigrating to Toronto. He was appointed a professor at the University of Toronto in 1952 and served there with distinction until his retirement 30 years later. His numerous honours included membership in the Order of Ontario (the first composer to be admitted), the Order of Canada, and JUNO Awards for his Harp Concerto (1989) and From the Diarv of Anne Frank (2001).

He created a substantial catalogue of music in virtually all major forms, from piano solos and songs to chamber music and choral works. His orchestral works have been programmed in North and South America, Europe, Australia, and Asia, by nearly 120 orchestras, and by such outstanding conductors as Seiji Ozawa, Rafael Kubelík, Kurt Masur, Zubin Mehta, and Sir Adrian Boult. Among his most highly regarded compositions are the Piano Concerto and Sinfonietta for Winds and Percussion. both premièred by Zubin Mehta, and his deeply moving creations *Memorial to* Martin Luther King (commissioned by cellist Mstislav Rostropovich) and From

the Diary of Anne Frank, premièred in 1970 by soprano Lois Marshall and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, with Lawrence Leonard conducting.



Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990) Symphonic Dances from West Side Story

Composed 1957-1961

22 min

LEONARD BERNSTEIN COMPOSED the stage musical West Side Story in 1957. This orchestral suite, Symphonic Dances from West Side Story, appeared in the wake of the 1961 film version, which won ten Academy Awards including Best Picture and Music (best score for a motion picture), awarded to Saul Chaplin, Johnny Green, Sid Ramin, and Irwin Kostal. The suite was premièred by conductor Lukas Foss and the New York Philharmonic on February 13, 1961, using the original Broadway orchestrations by Ramin and Kostal, expanded under Bernstein's supervision to full symphony orchestra.

The virtually operatic *West Side Story* is Bernstein's masterpiece of musical theatre, and marked the arrival on the music-theatre scene of Stephen Sondheim, then 27 years old, as librettist. It updates the spirit of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* into contemporary times, placing the star-crossed lovers, Tony and Maria, on opposite sides of a battle, in 1957, between the Jets, a gang of white youths, and the Puerto Rican Sharks, for control of San Juan Hill on Manhattan's Upper West Side.

In the musical's opening scene, Officer Krupke and Lieutenant Schrank break up a brief skirmish, telling the gangs that their conflict is pointless since the neighbourhood will be imminently demolished to make way for the Lincoln Center (which, ironically enough, opened in September 1962 with a performance by Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra).

Dance—dramatic, even violent, in nature—plays a prominent role in the show, providing plentiful material for the suite's symphonic synthesis, which links many of the musical's most familiar themes in a sequence that follows the plot. Even if you aren't familiar with the storyline, it provides grand entertainment and a banquet of memorable melodies.

Here is a synopsis as it appears in the published score:

- I. Prologue: The growing rivalry between the teenage street gangs, the Sharks and the Jets.
- II. Somewhere: In a visionary dance sequence, the two gangs are united in friendship.
- III. Scherzo: In the same dream, they break through the city walls and suddenly find themselves in a world of space, air and sun.
- IV. Mambo: Reality again; competitive dance between the gangs.
- V. Cha-cha: The star-crossed lovers see each other for the first time and dance together.
- VI. Meeting Scene: Music accompanies their first spoken words.
- VII. "Cool" Fugue: An elaborate dance sequence in which the Jets practice controlling their hostility.
- VIII. Rumble: Climactic gang battle during which the two gang leaders are killed.
- IX. Finale: Love music developing into a procession, which recalls, in tragic reality, the vision of Somewhere.

-Program note by Don Anderson



1

W. 63rd St., San Juan Hill, 1956. Site of the future Lincoln Center. Source: Committee on slum clearance, Lincoln Square.

George Paul (b.1961) arr. Jeremy Dutcher/orch. Owen Pallett **"Honour Song"**

Composed 1983

5 min

THE COMPOSER WRITES: I travelled out west to Alberta in 1983 to visit a wise Elder (Spiritual healer) named Buffalo Child, most commonly known as Albert Lightning. Albert had been conducting ceremonies for our people here in the East Coast a few years before; this time we were going to attend ceremonies out there.

Our first ceremony was a Sundance, conducted by Harold Cardinal and his family, which was being held at the Alexander Reserve, 40 miles north of Edmonton, in a wooded area. Above the Sundance Lodge, and hanging from a roughly constructed structure, were many different coloured cotton cloths hanging from the ceiling. This was my first experience in a ceremony of that type, but it was at this ceremony where I saw a vision.

What I saw in this vision was a green rolling hill and dancing up and over this hill were thousands of Native people of all tribes. As they came closer into view I could see that it was the Mi'kmaq leading the dance. I didn't tell too many people about this, because of ridicule.

Shortly after, we went to Kootenay Plains, somewhere near Two O'Clock Creek. Albert Lightning was conducting ceremonies and there were many people from different parts of the world attending. There were people from my home area that had grown akin to Albert and his ceremonies. Around the campfire at night, the talk was about reviving our culture. I had a feeling in my heart—to fast for an understanding. To learn why my people lost so much, and the question: "What did we do so wrong, to have lost our songs, our ceremonies, our dances?" During my fast this feeling hit me and it weighed heavy on my heart. I couldn't help but cry. I cried until the crying turned into a chant and it was this chant that gave the message of unity: My people, let us work together toward that unity, be proud of who you are, believe in the power of the creator, believe in yourself. *Tahoe*!

Text and translation of "Honour Song" follows on page 23.

Born on the Red Bank Indian Reservation along the Miramichi River in New Brunswick, George Paul was a student at Shubenacadie Residential School from 1960 to 1966. He has been involved with the Aboriginal traditional movement in reviving Mi'kmaq songs, chants, and ceremonies for more than 30 years and is known in his community of Metepenagiag, New Brunswick, throughout the Maritimes, and across Canada for being an important voice on Indigenous issues. With the Red Ochre Band, he won the 2001 Indigenous Artist of the Year award from the East

Coast Music Association (ECMA), and he was presented with the Golden Jubilee Medal in 2004.



Photo: © Mike Heenan/CBC

"There's a spirit that moves with the song and touches the soul of the people that hear it. We all have emotions. We all have feelings. And this is where it targets, this is where the spirit goes." —GEORGE PAUL

Antonín Dvořák (1841–1904) Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104

Composed 1894-1895

40 min

"I HAVE ALSO WRITTEN a cello concerto, but am sorry to this day I did so, and I never intend to write another." So said Dvořák in 1865. about his early A-major cello concerto. It is good that he relented. He began writing the B-minor concerto late in 1894, soon after the triumphant Carnegie Hall première, by the New York Philharmonic, of his "New World" Symphony. He completed the work in February 1895, in his Lower East Side New York apartment, just months before the end of his final term as head of the National Conservatory of Music of America. He was. he said, worn down by the pestering of compatriot virtuoso cellist Hanuš Wihan, to whom the work was dedicated. He was also likely inspired by the 1894 première of a cello concerto by Victor Herbert, a composer colleague at the National Conservatory.

Of the "New World" Symphony, a future New York Philharmonic conductor, Leonard Bernstein, observed in 1954 that Dvořák had arrived in New York filled with the spirit of new-found Czech nationalism, and applied that excitement to the American scene, "setting an example with his own 'New World' Symphony—and what a beautiful Old World symphony it turned out to be."

If so, one could say that the Cello Concerto reapplies that American excitement back to the Old World, tempered by the loss of Dvořák's beloved sister-in-law, Josefína Čermáková, who had written him a letter in November 1894 saying she was seriously ill, and who died in May 1895. The impassioned middle section of the *Adagio*, specifically the slow, wistful section before the triumphant ending, quotes his song "Kéž duch můj sám" ("Leave Me Alone"), a favourite of hers. Back in Bohemia, in June 1895, he made further revisions, including a new ending to the *Adagio* that he likened to "a sigh."

Dvořák places his soloist before a large orchestra, yet he sidesteps problems of balance with great imagination. Passages for the full orchestra are relatively rare—they serve as punctuation—and episodes featuring the cello are generally scored with a subtlety and transparency akin to chamber music. There is little dazzle in the solo part: Dvořák vehemently rejected the idea of any cadenza (let alone the two that Wihan was asking for). Throughout, he tends to treat the soloist more as a singer than a virtuoso.

The concerto is a work of symphonic scope, in which each movement evolves organically, as Dvořák indulges his gift for thematic variation and development: like Brahms, his hero and champion, he was scarcely capable of repeating an idea without showing it in some surprising and profound new light.

-Program note by Kevin Bazzana

66 Why on earth did I not know that one could write a Violoncello Concerto like this? If I had only known, I would have written one long ago!

-JOHANNES BRAHMS, 1897



JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS

- APR 3, 1979: TSO début (Elgar Cello Concerto) at Massey Hall with Victor Feldbrill conducting.
- OCT 23, 1982: First recital under TSO auspices following the move to Roy Thomson Hall.
- MAR 9, 1987: The "Great Gathering", a star-studded evening marking Walter Homburger's retirement as TSO Managing Director.
- JAN 13, 1993: The Canadian Première of Oskar Morawetz's Memorial to Martin Luther King. (Hugh Wolff, conductor)
- MAY 24, 2000: World Première of Peter Lieberson's *The Six Realms* (for amplified cello and orchestra). Jukka-Pekka Saraste, conductor.
- MAY 29, 2015: The Elgar Cello Concerto again, this time honouring Sir Andrew Davis's 40-year association with the TSO.
- NOV 16, 2022:
 Celebrate 100: A Gala
 Evening. The relationship continues.

Yo-Yo Ma, cello

"I've said before that Toronto is almost like a second home, a city of memories and connections around every corner, from Roy Thomson Hall to Massey Hall to the wonderful Music Garden. It is a joy to be back here and to celebrate this Gala evening with music by Dvořák, the composer who taught his students always to listen, not to him, but to the world around them. And it is an honour—and fitting—to be with my friend Jeremy Dutcher. His ability to sing songs of nature and human nature, to share meaning and understanding that stretches far across the generations, is a model for us all."

Yo-Yo Ma's multi-faceted career is testament to his enduring belief in culture's power to generate trust and understanding, whether performing new or familiar works from the cello repertoire, collaborating with communities and institutions to explore culture's role in society, or engaging unexpected musical forms.

In 2018, Yo-Yo set out to perform Johann Sebastian Bach's six suites for solo cello in one sitting in 36 locations around the world that encompass cultural heritage, our current creativity, and the challenges of peace and understanding that will shape our future. And last year, he began a new journey to explore the many ways in which culture connects us to the natural world.

Both endeavours continue Yo-Yo's lifelong commitment to stretching the boundaries of genre and tradition to explore how music not only expresses and creates meaning, but also helps us to imagine and build a stronger society and a better future. It was this belief that inspired Yo-Yo to establish Silkroad, a collective of artists from around the world who create music that engages their many traditions.

In addition to his work as a performing artist, Yo-Yo has partnered with communities and institutions from Chicago to Guangzhou to develop programs that advocate for a more humancentred world. Among his many roles, Yo-Yo is a UN Messenger of Peace, the first artist ever appointed to the World Economic Forum's board of trustees, and a member of the board of Nia Tero, the USbased non-profit working in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and movements worldwide.

Yo-Yo was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began to study the cello with his father at age 4, and three years later moved with his family to New York City, where he continued his cello studies at The Juilliard School before pursuing a liberal arts education at Harvard. Yo-Yo and his wife have two children.



Jeremy Dutcher, vocalist

Jeremy Dutcher is a Two-Spirit, classically trained Canadian Indigenous vocalist, composer, musicologist, performer, and activist from New Brunswick who currently lives in Montreal, Quebec. A Wolastoqiyik member of the Tobique First Nation in Northwest New Brunswick, Jeremy is best known for his début album, *Wolastoqiyik Lintuwakonawa* (*The Songs of the People of the Beautiful River*), recorded following a research project on archival recordings of traditional Wolastoqiyik songs at the Canadian Museum of History. Jeremy transcribed songs sung

by his ancestors in 1907 and recorded onto wax cylinders, transforming them into "collaborative" compositions. The album earned him the 2018 Polaris Music Prize and the 2019 JUNO Award for Indigenous Music Album of the Year. His 2019 NPR Tiny Desk Concert has over 85,000 views.

Jeremy has toured the world, from Australia and Norway to Italy and the Philippines. He has worked with and performed for iconic artists such as Buffy Sainte-Marie, Joni Mitchell, and cellist Yo-Yo Ma, who featured him on his 2021 album *Notes for the Future* with a reimagining of a traditional Mi'kmaq Honour song. Building upon Jeremy's first EP in 2017, "Honour Song", which fused Jeremy's voice with strings, piano, hand drum, and electronics for a stirring and contemporary work, the 2021 collaboration with Yo-Yo Ma added a layer of gritty, solemn depth to the anthem. Jeremy is regularly sought out for his perspectives on queerness, Indigeneity, language revitalization, and fashion, including a 2022 appearance as a guest judge on *Canada's Drag Race*.

Jeremy studied music and anthropology at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. After training as an operatic tenor in the Western classical tradition, he expanded his professional repertoire to include the traditional singing style and songs of his community. Jeremy's music transcends boundaries: unapologetically playful in its incorporation of classical influences, full of reverence for the traditional songs of his home, and teeming with the urgency of modern-day resistance.

→ Jeremy Dutcher & Yo-Yo Ma.



Honouring the Song Jeremy Dutcher in Conversation

The first time I heard you perform was in early 2017, in a Toronto Consort concert titled Kanatha/Canada; sesquicentennial fervour was just setting in at the time. Looking back, I see that George Paul's "Honour Song" opened that concert!

There are so many stories behind every piece of music, right? For me, "Honour Song" goes way, way back, ever since I was a kid. It's a Mi'kmaq song and they are our neighbours we're the Wolastoqiw, the people of the Wolastoq [Saint John] River. But for me, to be honest, I never even realized it wasn't our song because the way I first heard it, it was already translated into Wolastoqey in the '80s. My own grandmother was part of that translation team.

So it's a song that has always been in my constellation. I was born in 1990, you know, the year of the Oka Crisis, and some of my earliest memories are what was going on with Donald Marshall and the DFO [Department of Fisheries and Oceans] over fishing rights in Mi'kmaq territory. So going to some protests and being involved in celebration when our rights were affirmed in the courts, I was hearing that song at gatherings all the time. Not just the Mi'kmaq coming together, or the Wolastoqiw coming together, it was when we *all* came together. It's kind of anthemic—it grips you and it stays with you.

But I really started to learn and hear it through Maggie Paul. She's a Maliseet elder, teacher, and song carrier from the East. She kept a lodge in her backyard, back in the day—brought a lot of people there, taught and shared songs. She's fostered a whole generation. So, I first heard it in her lodge as a child, and to hear her sing that song in our language was so beautiful. It was only in my teenage years, maybe even my college days, before I heard George Paul singing it in Mi'kmaw. So my story with the song is it's been



← Jeremy Dutcher & Maggie Paul.

ever-growing and changing. I started to learn it in both languages while living in Halifax, in Mi'kmaq territory. I was like, "well I can't *just* be singing this song in Wolastoqey—I'm gonna get something thrown at me!" [laughs]

Halifax was where you went to music school?

Yes, so at the same time I was starting to sing it in both languages, I was sitting down at the piano and trying to find a harmonic language that made sense for me. It's been harmonized and contextualized by lots of other people. But for me, there were other chords that I was hearing. I put it out as a bit of a dance track you can find on Spotify or YouTube. It's got a beat to it, you know, and I love doing it that way. But also I could hear a lot of orchestral underpinning I wanted to marry, to weave in-two disparate aesthetics in conversation, to show the power that lives underneath it all. So contextualizing it for orchestra has been building for me. And then when Yo-Yo came on board, that just took it in a whole different direction

And that happened how?

Oh my gosh, how does *any* of this happen? This was just after the Polaris Prize and I was touring and stopped in Toronto, doing some photoshoots—a very busy time—but you know, when a phone call comes in from Yo-Yo Ma Incorporated, you take the call and change your flights and you figure it out! He was on a world tour, doing the complete Bach solo cello suites. Wherever he went, he would ask local musicians to be the encore with him after the suites—a real improvised collaboration. So they say, he is doing a concert in Montreal at Maison symphonique, and do I want to be that guest artist?

And you say, "Just give me a sec while I see if there's room on my calendar"?

And truly there *wasn*'t! [laughs] But I *made* room. It was just such a deep honour to be asked, especially to be asked "What do *you* want to share?" And it was, yeah, I think this song is right for this time; it's about bringing our gifts to each other, and honouring who we each are. And Yo-Yo is such an ambassador for humanity. It's not just about playing beautiful music, it's also, always, about "what can that music do?"

So we shared that beautiful moment on stage in Montreal, and then came *Notes for the Future*, the album that he put out this past year, a selection of those encore collaborations. I was just finishing a tour in the States, and was asked to come to a small recording studio in the Berkshires. We had this funky arrangement going that was just so cool. I had my shaker there, he had his cello...the collaborative spirit was just so present, open to whatever the moment brought. →

"HONOUR SONG" BY GEORGE PAUL TEXTS AND ENGLISH TRANSLATION

Verse 1: Mi'kmaq

Kepmite'tmnej ta'n teli l'nuwulti'kw Ni'kma'jtut mawita'nej Kepmite'tmnej ta'n wettapeksulti'kw Ni'kma'jtut apoqnmatultinej Apoqnmatultinej ta'n Kisu'lkw teli ika'luksi'kw Wa wskitqamu eya eya

Chorus

Way-yoh-way-hi-yah Way-yoh-way-yoh-way-hi-yah Way-yoh-way-hi-yah Way-yoh-way-hi-yah Way-yoh-way-hi-yah Way-yoh-way-hi-yah-hay-yoh

Verse 2 (repeat): Wolastoqey*

Kulasihkutmonen eli-skicinwohltiyaq, Ktolnapemnuk maqahatine. Kulasihkutmonen tan wetapekhsultiyaq, Ktolnapemnuk wicukhemtulhtine. Wicukhemtulhtine eli pawatok Kisi yulinaq, yut skitkomiq.

English translation

Let us greatly respect our being L'nu (the People) My relatives, let us gather. Let us greatly respect our way of life. My relatives let us help one another Let us help one another as the Great Spirit wants, And puts us on the earth to do.

*Wolastoqey translation team: Raymond Nicholas, Carol Scott, Mildred Paul, Spike Moulton, Molly Moulton, Marina Moulton, Rosanne Clarke, Ron Trembley

And now it gets its orchestral underpinning!

Yes! Getting to tell a broader and broader story all the time and the song seems to be, you know, gathering wonderful moss as it rolls down the proverbial hill!

Mostly, I'm excited that more people get to hear this song and understand that our Indigenous languages and melodies are really beautiful and they belong in spaces like concert halls built to honour music. So let's incorporate all kinds of different musical ways. And I think now we're at a moment where institutions and places are picking up seriously on this—how do we get different kinds of voices in the door that haven't been?

So, which language are you going to sing in?

Bilingual. Here's my big chance! [laughs] I think I'm gonna start in Mi'kmaq to give a tip of the hat to George, and to the original language of the song, and then do the second verse in Wolastoqey—my mom's language, and the one that feels best in my mouth—to honour Maggie Paul, who I learned the song from and who put me on my path. You have to pay homage to where things come from.

It's not just an encore piece this time. How do you hope the audience will receive it?

It's a good question: In an oral tradition, songs are passed down for reasons other than public performance. Even the idea of "a song" means something different. I hope that people receive it in a spirit of "oh, I've never heard that before"—as something new that puzzles their ears. And realize that there's a reason they don't recognize the sounds of these languages: it's because they have been removed from this place. What I hope to do with my work, in any space I enter, is to put our language forward and say, "See? This belongs in this space." I'm not trying to, you know, burn down the concert hall. I believe in these spaces, in the beauty of these ways, too. But to lift our way up and say, "Isn't this beautiful?"

Whenever we can put both ways in dialogue with each other, wow, all the better, all the better.

-Interviewed by David S. Perlman





TORONTO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Memories & Connections Yo-Yo Ma's Toronto

"Memories and connections around every corner," is how Yo-Yo Ma describes his relationship with the City of Toronto. The same could be said of the memorial website **oskarmorawetz.com**, lovingly curated by composer Oskar Morawetz's daughter, Claudia Morawetz, and full of stories by and about the many musicians Morawetz invited into his musical world—Ma among them.

"I got to know Oskar on one of my first visits to Toronto, probably in 1959," wrote pianist Anton Kuerti on the website, "and we remained good friends ever since. On several subsequent visits I stayed with him, including the very night when his daughter was born!"

It was Kuerti who gave Yo-Yo Ma, then only 19 years old, what was likely his first concert engagement, in 1976, in a Kuertiprogrammed chamber music series at Hart House. And it was Kuerti who introduced Morawetz and Ma the following year. Morawetz, as was his wont, invited Ma into his home and musical world.

Much later, in 1991, Ma premièred one of Morawetz's seminal works, his Memorial to Martin Luther King, with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, with Morawetz, as was his custom, travelling to Boston to attend the rehearsals as well as the performances, and recalling being astounded when, at the first rehearsal, Ma invited Morawetz to sit next to him and tap him on the shoulder if he did anything the composer didn't like. There was, Morawetz remembered, nothing to not like.

The Music Garden

Ma himself was no stranger to travelling back and forth between Boston and Toronto, especially in the years leading up to the opening of Toronto's Music Garden in 1999.

The story of how Ma helped bring the Music Garden to Toronto is well known:

Ma had approached landscape architect Julie Messervy with the idea of creating a garden in Boston, where they both lived, inspired by one of Bach's solo cello suites. The original plan didn't work out and, instead, by dint of hard work by a group of local donors, it ended up in Toronto, on a forlorn 2.5-acre plot between the Lake Ontario shoreline and Queens Quay West.

Not as well known, though, is the role Ma played in turning the Music Garden into a place where music can be made. The initiative almost got stopped in its tracks, because of major opposition to the idea of live music there from a condo building nearby. "There was one condo owner in particular who was very vocal," says



Yo-Yo Ma & Oskar Morawetz, Boston 1991. Photo: © OskarMorawetz.com

Don Shipley, creative director at Harbourfront Centre from 1988 to 2001, who initiated the Summer Music in the Garden series.

"A major benefactor and fundraiser for the Garden had the brilliant idea of asking Yo-Yo Ma himself to meet with the condo owner. So when Yo-Yo Ma was in town to play a concert, arrangements for a meeting and private concert at the condo were made. After that, the opposition magically melted away and the music series went ahead."

The Glenn Gould Prize

1999 brought with it another Toronto accolade for Ma: being named the fifth Glenn Gould Prize laureate, in the footsteps of R. Murray Schafer, Yehudi Menuhin, Oscar Peterson, and Toru Takemitsu. "Yo-Yo Ma, Fifth Laureate of the Glenn Gould Prize, Bridging East and West cultures with the Silk Road Ensemble to Create Universal Harmony" the citation on



At peace with the condos. The Toronto Music Garden Photo: © Tamara Bernstein the Glenn Gould Foundation website reads. The city's contribution to the Award is the funding for what is known as the Protégé Prize. The Laureate bestows it, at a time of their choosing, to someone whose work they value.

Fittingly, Ma named pipa player Wu Man, a founding member of the Silk Road Ensemble, to receive it.

Silk Road

In September 2015, Ma made a long-delayed return to Massey Hall, with his beloved Silk Road Project, to be followed days later by the world-première screening of the documentary *The Music of Strangers: Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble* at the Toronto International Film Festival. He was asked, by Brad Wheeler of *The Globe and Mail*, about his return to Massey, the Music Garden, and what was special about his relationship to Toronto.

"I used to play Massey Hall all the time, with the Toronto Symphony and recitals and such. But I don't believe I've played Massey since the Symphony moved to Roy Thomson in 1982. I loved those experiences and I look forward to seeing it again. I feel like Toronto is almost a second home. Even before the TSO. when I was in college, Anton Kuerti invited me to play with him in Toronto. And there's Rhombus Media, with [film producer] Niv Fichman, and the many wonderful directors who directed the Inspired by Bach film series. We spent like five years working together. And through the Music Garden I really got to go deeper into the community. It's an incredibly enlightened city, and my relationship continues, with so many great memories."

This event, and the initiatives arising from it, will doubtless add another fond memory to the store.

-Story by David S. Perlman







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VIOLAS

Adria (Yat-Hei) Lai Angelina Sievers Ji-A Choi Lucas Chen Marija Ivicevic Mobin Naeini Omiyo Hossain Ruby Jackson Sofia Moniz Timothy Maksimenko

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FLUTES/PICCOLO

Tyler Evans-Knott Xudong (Ray) Zheng Yelin Youn

OBOES

Aidan Taylor Chelyn Yoo Clara Aristanto

CLARINETS

Andrew Neagoe Jerry Han Sarah Darragh

BASSOONS

Abigail Minor Cian Bryson Kelton Hopper

HORNS

Christopher Fan Ethan Chialtas Julia Fowell Sarah Bell Taylor Krause

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Andrew Mendis Elias Doyle Jayang Kim Justin Ko

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Ethan Whitlow Ilan Mendel

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lan Tong

TUBA

Umberto Quattrociocchi

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Beyond 100 Years The Critical Role Philanthropy Plays

Thank you for joining us for *Celebrate 100: A Gala Evening with Yo-Yo Ma* in support of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Tonight we acknowledge the critical role philanthropy plays in realizing our mission. Annual donations from our patrons, funding from government and foundation partners, corporate sponsorships, and special events like this all contribute critical revenues that enable the TSO to inspire, connect with, and transform our community through the power of music.

When our world has the tendency to seek division and isolation, we need to find and create bold ways of unifying our communities—being *of and for* Toronto, using our art form to help develop social connection, belonging, and well-being. We believe that music is for everyone, and we must continue to build on that belief with a new legacy of performances, education initiatives, and outreach programs that resonate with people of all ages, backgrounds, and circumstances. Your support is fundamental to achieving this.

Under the leadership of Music Director Gustavo Gimeno, the vigour, excellence, and excitement of our music-making will remain undiluted for the tens of thousands of patrons who attend our core concert series each season. That remains our primary task. But philanthropy also gives us the extra capacity to invest in the talent and growth of our musicians, and in the development of next-generation artists and creators, through the tuition-free Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra, our Resident Conductor and Affiliate Composer positions, our partnership with Women in Musical Leadership, and our commissioning of new works by composers, local and international, at every level of mastery of their craft.

Toward a Better Future continues on page 32.



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Assistant Concertmaster Etsuko Kimura, at a Relaxed Performance. Photo: © Jag Gundu **Scotia Global Asset Management** is proud to support the TSO's 100 Years!

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Beyond 100 Years Toward a Better Future

As our work continues to extend beyond our main stage, a more profound connection is already being forged between the musicians of our Orchestra, and an ever-widening circle of young people and communities whose faces we do not see often enough in our concert halls. There is now so much more we can do. We have an excellent foundation for the important communitybuilding tasks ahead.

Among our successful and longstanding music-education programs are French and English School Concerts for students in kindergarten to grade 12; Young People's Concerts for children and parents; and "Morning with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra" Open Rehearsals for students in high-school music classes.

More recently, we have expanded our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through **health and well-being, and community-access initiatives** that will reach more age groups, people with different abilities, and more diverse communities in the city.

Launched in 2019, Relaxed

Performances are designed to be more welcoming for neurodiverse patrons, including those on the autism spectrum, and those with sensory and communication disorders, ADHD, and dementia.

Developed during pandemic shutdowns, **TSOUND Connections** uses music and technology to connect seniors in care with TSO musicians to reduce social isolation and support well-being. In partnership with the Toronto Public Library, **Symphony Storytime** expands access for families and children to literacy and music education by featuring TSO musicians performing live alongside the reading of a children's story.

And this very week, an exciting partnership with the **Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)** will unite the two organizations with a program that provides multi-year storytelling and composition workshops for First Nations, Inuit and Métis CAMH patients.

With Yo-Yo Ma's Culture in Action Day on November 17 as a catalyst, our first **Art of Healing** program begins this winter, in collaboration with CAMH's Shkaabe Makwa ("Spirit Bear Helper" Centre for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Wellness). This program will create a culturally safe space for patients to share stories and experience the healing powers of music, while cocreating an orchestral piece that reflects the patients' journeys and supports their mental health and wellness. Participants will work with Métis composer Ian Cusson and TSO musicians on a piece that will be premièred by the TSO in 2023.

Thank you again to our philanthropic partners at all levels of giving, both yearround and as part of this special evening. We look forward to sharing the joy of beautiful music with you, tonight and in the years to come, and, with your support, spreading that joy far and wide.

To further support the TSO's important work, visit TSO.CA/Support.

"Music, like all of culture, helps us to understand our environment, each other, and ourselves. Culture helps us to imagine a better future.... And these things have never been more important."

-YO-YO MA

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