

# CARLETON UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

SANCTUARY – CARLETON DOMINION CHALMERS CENTRE  
SCHOOL FOR STUDIES IN ART AND CULTURE: MUSIC, CARLETON UNIVERSITY

*Directed by Nicole Presentey*

*Thursday, April 3, 2025, at 7:30pm*

**Barcarolle, from 6 Morceaux Op. 11**.....Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

Jennifer King and Alexa Dansereau, *Piano Duet*

**Dem Aufgehenden Vollmonde, Op. 3, No. 1**..... Eusebius Mandyczewski (1857-1929)  
(J. W. von Goethe)

Jasmine Shepherd, *Soprano*  
Maya Racicot, *Violin*  
Chloe Brown, *Piano*

**Sonata in A Major**.....Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach (1732-1795)  
*I. Allegro*

Alina Hartley and Harry Tchen, *Piano Duet*

**Suite d'amour**.....Rick Debie (1955-)  
*2. De eerste kus*

Jasmine Shepherd and Josh Kuruvilla, *Trombone Duet*

**Sonata in B Minor, Op. 2. No. 6** .....Jean-Baptiste (John) Loeillet (1680-1730)  
arr. A. Beon

- I. Largo*
- II. Allegro*
- III. Adagio*
- IV. Allegro*

Robin Eriksson, *Oboe*  
Erik Tunang, *Cello*  
Elisa Lee, *Piano*

**Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a (selection)**.....Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikowsky (1840-1893)

- I. Overture*
- II. Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy*
- III. March (Trepak)*

Elisa Lee and Amir Nekoufar, *Piano Duet*

PRESENTATION OF SPRING 2025 CHAMBER AWARD

HAPPY SPRINGTIME!

## PROGRAM NOTES

### **Barcarolle from 6 Morceaux, Op. 11, Sergei Rachmaninoff**

Rachmaninoff's 6 Morceaux, Op. 11 for piano 4 hands was written in 1894 before his fall into depression and eventual fame. Among these pieces is the Barcarolle, a work that imitates the gentle rocking rhythm of traditional folk songs sung by Venetian gondoliers. This rhythm is provided by the Secundo (the lower part), while the Primo (the upper part) soars to a dazzling climax, resembling stars under a moonlit sky. This piece has a mysterious, fairy-like atmosphere, with rich powerful chords typical of Rachmaninoff's music. This ethereal work captures the emotional complexities that would appear in much of his later music.

### **Dem Aufgehenden Vollmonde, Op. 3, No. 1, Eusebius Mandyczewski**

*Dem aufgehenden Vollmonde* was composed by Eusebius Mandyczewski and first published in 1885, and through its highly dramatic and moving lyrics and musicality is a quintessential example of the popular Lieder (or art song) of the Romantic era. Mandyczewski (born in the Austrian Empire, today Ukraine) spent most of his life as a composer, conductor and musicologist in the scholarly music circles of Vienna, being both an avid editor of works for composers such as Franz Schubert, and as archivist for the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde for nearly 40 years. Set to a poem by one of the most influential writers of his time, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Dem aufgehenden Vollmonde* "The rising full moon" uses celestial language to describe the heartbreak of someone who yearns for their beloved to be near them once more.

### **Sonata in A Major, Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach**

Composed by Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach, the Sonata in A Major is a sonata for piano four hands that takes us back to the 18th century where the composer was synthesizing the High Baroque style with the newly popular Style Galant that gave rise to the Classical era. Johann Christoph Friedrich Bach was a German composer, harpsichordist, and pianist. He was the youngest son of the famous Johann Sebastian Bach, although due to the vast difference in their ages, their styles are not similar. This is a fast-paced and adventurous piece, which is made apparent immediately. Some of the key changes in this piece create a mournful atmosphere, perhaps inspired by his father passing away when he was only 15.

### **Suite d'amour: No. 2 De Eerste Kus, Rick Debie**

*De Eerste Kus* or *The First Kiss* serves as the second movement of *Suite d'Amour* composed in 2012 by a 20th/21st century Dutch composer named Rick Debie. The uniqueness of having a trombone duet is of its extreme rarity and is not particularly common in most chamber music. This movement explores the hybridity of playing melodically in odd time signatures and the structure of the piece being in ABA format, a commonly used format used by composers in the modern era.

### **Sonata in B Minor Op. 2 No. 6, Jean-Baptiste Loeillet**

This trio in B minor was composed by the Flemish composer Jean-Baptiste Loeillet of London, not to be mistaken for his similarly named cousin Jean-Baptiste Loeillet of Ghent. It was originally written for the viola da gamba (a precursor to the cello), clavichord (an older version of the piano) and violin. After all these years, we have perfected this trio by replacing the violin with our lovely oboist, Robin. The piece is a 4-movement collection from the Baroque era which encompasses the 17th and 18th century of European classical music. It is characterized by a strong sense of beat so that it could accompany popular dances of the time. As such, it has a sense of gravitas, which was the style. Join us as we capture a glimpse into the court of wealthy aristocrats centuries ago.

### **Nutcracker Suite, Op. 71a (selection), Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikowsky**

The *Nutcracker Suite*, Op. 71a, is a symphonic suite arranged by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1892, drawn from his full-length ballet *The Nutcracker*, and has since become one of the most iconic and beloved works in classical music. Comprising eight movements, the suite distills the essence of the ballet into a concert format, showcasing Tchaikovsky's exceptional orchestration, formal clarity, and imaginative use of tone color. Each character dance, reflects the composer's rhythmic inventiveness and melodic richness, capturing the narrative charm of Clara's magical journey. Elena Langer's duet arrangement reimagines these selections for two pianists, emphasizing interplay, nuance, and musical dialogue while retaining the whimsical spirit and technical brilliance of the original orchestral score. This fusion of Romantic expressiveness, compositional innovation, and interpretive versatility has ensured the *Nutcracker Suite*'s enduring place in both concert repertoire and holiday tradition.