



U of T Contemporary Music Ensemble: *Speak, Be Silent*

Wallace Halladay, *director*

Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:30 pm | Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park

In memory of Roger D. Moore

A familiar face at new music, opera, and many other concerts here and around the city, Roger D. Moore (1939-2019) was a huge supporter of musicians and commissioned numerous new works. He established the Roger D. Moore Distinguished Visitor in Composition in 2000 and played a vital role in growing our annual New Music Festival.

PROGRAM

Foreverdark (2017)

Amahl Arulanandam, *cello*
Lorenzo Guggenheim, *conductor*

Bekah Simms (Canada, b. 1990)

Symphony No. 4: Prayer (1985/7)

Jennifer Routhier, *mezzo-soprano*

Galina Ustvolskaya (USSR, 1919-2006)

Speak, Be Silent (2015)

Mark Fewer, *violin*

Liza Lim (Australia, b. 1966)

INTERMISSION

From the Grammar of Dreams (1988/2002)

Xin Wang, *soprano*

Kaija Saariaho (Finland, b. 1952)

Gougalōn (2009/2011)

Unsub Chin (South Korea, b. 1961)

Scenes from a Street Theatre

- I Prologue (Dramatic Opening of the Curtain)
- II Lament of the Bald Singer
- III The Grinning Fortune Teller with the False Teeth
- IV Episode between Bottles and Cans
- V Dance around the Shacks
- VI The Hunt for the Quack's Plait

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE

Rebecca Moranis, Joey Zhuang, *flutes*
Heather MacDonald, *oboe/English horn*
Marco De Conno, *clarinets*
Ryan Ghassemi, *bassoon*
Augustin Nguyen, *alto saxophone*
Catherine Wang, Anna Ding, *horn*
Daniel Barak, Freddy Abu-Sido, *trumpet*

Nathaniel Jenkins, Benjamin Storm, *trombone*
Tyler Cunningham, Bryn Lutek, Joyce To, *percussion*
Stephen Clarke, Dane Ko, Gina Lee, *piano*
Marie-Claire Cardinal, Jessy Kim, Arlan Vriens, *violin*
Matt Antal, Samuel Edwards, *viola*
Benjamin Louwersheimer, Allison Rich, *cello*
Connor Crone, *bass*

With thanks to Karen Wiseman, *Performance Collection librarian*

BIOGRAPHIES

With tastes ranging from baroque music to death metal, Toronto-based cellist **Amahl Arulanandam** is known for his musical versatility and ability to adapt to many different genres. Feeling at home in studios, small clubs and large concert halls, Amahl hopes to convey that musical expression is beyond genres and labels. Having a proclivity for the music of our time, Amahl has developed a particular fondness for creating a variety of sounds by playing parts of his cello other than the strings. He is a core member of Thin Edge New Music Collective and a founding member of VC2 cello duo, who are thrilled to be Prairie Debut touring artists this season.

Violinist **Mark Fewer** leads a multi-disciplined life in music. Violin soloist, chamber musician, orchestral leader, artistic director, conductor, arranger, teacher, jazz violinist, recording artist and occasional radio host, he has performed worldwide to great critical acclaim. Mark was Artistic Director of the SweetWater Music Festival for 16 years, and in 2019 was appointed Artistic Director of Stratford Summer Music. He has taught for 20 years including on the faculties of the Glenn Gould School, McGill, and recently as Artist-in-Residence at Stanford University. He is currently Associate Professor of Violin at U of T. Mark is a Juno Award and Prix Opus winner.

Lorenzo Guggenheim is recognized for leading opera, new music and orchestral repertoire. He performed in the Teatro Colón at age 23, with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Chile in 2014, with Seattle Symphony's Prokofiev and Shostakovich Festivals in 2016-18, and was twice a Fellow with Music Director Ludovic Morlot. In 2018 Lorenzo moved to Toronto where he co-founded the U of T Campus Philharmonic Orchestra and conducted the North American premiere of Toshio Hosokawa's *The Maiden from the Sea* in collaboration with the composer. Lorenzo holds a Master's degree from the University of Washington and is currently a doctoral student at U of T.

Jennifer Routhier is a rising mezzo-soprano on the Canadian stage. Currently a Graduate Vocal Scholar at the Glenn Gould School, she also holds a Master's in Voice Performance from U of T, studying under American mezzo-soprano Laura Tucker. In concert, Jennifer has sung with the Kingston Symphony, the Toronto Mozart Players, and more. In 2015, Jennifer performed as the soloist in Scott Macmillan's *Celtic Mass for the Sea* with the Canadian Celtic Choir at Carnegie Hall. Equally at home on stage in opera and musical theater, this season Jennifer will be making her Koerner Hall debut singing La Principessa in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*.

St. John's-born, Toronto-based composer **Bekah Simms'** music has been performed and broadcast across Canada, in over a dozen American states, and throughout Europe. Propelled equally by fascination and terror toward the universe, her work is often filtered through the personal lens of her anxiety, resulting in nervous, messy, and frequently heavy musical landscapes. Foremost among her current compositional interests is quotation and the friction between recognizability and complete obfuscation. Bekah has received over 25 awards and prizes, including a 2019 Juno Award nomination for her composition *Granitic*.

Xin Wang was born in Yunnan, China. She arrived alone in Canada at the age of 18 to study singing. Her path took her from Winnipeg to Toronto where she settled and built her home of three beautifully loud children and a charismatic husband with many saxophones. Xin is most interested in the mechanism of the singing body and is most stimulated by the learning of intricate music. This has led her to the world of contemporary repertoire. The learning of complex contemporary repertoire has been a gift. These musical puzzles push her towards her threshold while build her up from within, a similar experience as motherhood.