



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2019-2020
season of events

James K. Wright, Professor of Music at Carleton University
Louis Applebaum Distinguished Visitor in Film Composition
presents

“They shot, he scored: Eldon Rathburn and the legacy of the National Film Board”

Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 7:30 pm | Walter Hall, 80 Queen’s Park

The Louis Applebaum Distinguished Visitor in Composition was established by Sandra and Joseph Rotman to honour the memory of the Canadian film composer Louis Applebaum (1918-2000).



James Wright is a Professor of Music at Carleton University, Ottawa. A McGill University Governor General’s Gold Medal recipient, Dr. Wright studied music theory and composition with Barrie Cabena, Owen Underhill, Bengt Hambreaus, Donald Patriquin, Brian Cherney and Kelsey Jones, and has taught composition, music history, music perception/cognition, and post-tonal music theory and analysis at McGill University, the University of Ottawa, and Carleton University. His scholarly contributions include two award-winning books on the life and work of Arnold Schoenberg, and *They Shot, He Scored* (Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2019), a monograph on the life and work of Eldon Rathburn, the prolific Canadian composer who wrote more than 250 film scores during a long and distinguished career as a staff composer with the National Film Board of Canada. James Wright is also widely known as a composer whose works have been commissioned, performed

and recorded by artists and ensembles from around the globe. His *Letters to the Immortal Beloved* (for piano trio and baritone or mezzo-soprano) – settings of excerpts from Beethoven’s passionate letters of 1812, to a woman whose identity has been cloaked in mystery – has been performed on five continents, with notable performances in Brazil, Portugal, China, Australia, Canada, the Netherlands, and the USA. Two acclaimed recordings of the work have been issued by the Juno Award-winning Gryphon Trio: on the Naxos label in 2015 (with mezzo-soprano Julie Nesrallah) and on the Analekta label in 2019 (with baritone David Pike). Dr. Wright’s music is published by Warner-Chappell Music (Miami), Da Capo Music (Manchester, UK), Leslie Music (Oakville), Songwright Music (Ottawa), Rhythmic Trident Music (Vancouver), Fairbank Music (Victoria), Cypress Music (Vancouver), and the Frederick Harris Music Co. (Toronto). jameskwright.com

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.
